Reading 4

Skills:

- Vocabulary in context

Getting started: If you use a laptop, do you need to use a mouse or is it easy for you to operate your computer with the touchpad (the incorporated mouse)?

MOUSE ACTIONS

| click | double-click | drag | grab | select | move | control | scroll |

A mouse allows you to (1) .... the cursor and move around the screen very quickly. Making the same movements with the arrow keys on the keyboard would take much longer. As you (2) .... the mouse on your desk, the pointer on the screen moves in the same direction. The pointer usually looks like an L-bar, an arrow, or a pointing hand, depending on what you are doing.

A mouse has one or more buttons to communicate with the computer. For example, if you want to place the insertion point or choose a menu option, you just (3) .... (press and re lease) on the mouse button, and the option is chosen.

The mouse is also used to (4) ... ... text and grab select move control items on the screen. You can highlight text to be deleted, copied or edited in some way.

The mouse is widely used in graphics and design. When you want to move an image, you position the pointer on the object you want to move, press the mouse button, and (5)..

the image to a new location on the screen. Similarly, the mouse is used to change the shape of a graphic object. For example, if you want to convert a square into a rectangle, you (6) .... one comer of the square and stretch it into a rectangle.

The mouse is a/so used to start *a* program or open *a* document: you put the pointer on the file name and (7) .... on the name - that is, you rapidly press and release the mouse button twice.

The mouse also has a wheel, which you can usually fin between the two buttons. With this wheel you can (8) .... up and down. This means you can move text on a computer screen up or down so that you can read different parts of it.

Adapted from Infotech. Cambridge University Press.

What do you think?

If you could create your own mouse, what would you incorporate to your design?