

In 1960, I could open the garage with a remote, but I couldn't use a cell phone.

My mom could download music on the computer in 2000, but she couldn't do it on the phone.

My great-grandparents could travel by train in 1920, but they couldn't travel by plane.



a. She could watch / couldn't watch TV, but she could use / couldn't use a remote control. In 1950, the Zenith Radio Corporation created the very first television remote control.



b. She could use / couldn't use a wireless phone or a cell phone, but she could make / couldn't make phone calls. Martin Cooper made the first cell phone in 1973.



c. She could heat / couldn't heat her food in a saucepan, but she could heat / couldn't heat it directly on her plate. Microwave ovens appeared in 1946.



Challenge

Find out how much time people spend on their cell phones every day on average. And, how about you?

Challenge

Based on your answer in the Challenge box above, how many days a year do you spend on your phone on average?

Fun Fact

Some inventions are accidental, like the microwave oven. Standing next to a device that produced electromagnetic waves, its inventor Percy Spencer, saw that his candy bar started to melt.

