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# Technical English

LSIRC (1st year)

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**P.PORTO**

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## UNIT 1: Why learn English?

Read the following text and answer the questions below.

### THE FUTURE OF ENGLISH

It has long been accepted that English is a global language, used in all corners of the world as a means of communication.

In many parts of the world, English is regarded as a basic skill, which children learn at an early age so they can study through English later. The latest statistics tell us that these days around eighty per cent of spoken English is spoken between non native English speakers. A Japanese businessman and his French client will conduct their communication in English.

But while English is accepted as being the language of science and technology, what does the future hold for everyday speakers of English? While linguists agree that the situation of English today is at a global all time record, they do not necessarily agree on where the language is heading. Two of the world's leading experts on the English language, David Crystal and David Graddol, disagree on the path that English is likely to take.

Mr. Graddol points out that although the number of people speaking English as a first language is rising, it is not rising as fast as the number of people speaking other languages around the world. He believes that English will soon be relegated to second place after Chinese and will be equal in dominance to Arabic, Hindi and Urdu. With twenty five per cent of the world's population speaking English as a second language, David Crystal suggests that Graddol has underestimated the future dominance of English. He is keen to point out that nobody really knows what the future holds for English because at no other time in History has a language been in such a position. He draws attention to the escalating growth in the use of English between non native speakers and sees no reason for this trend to stop.

Graddol thinks otherwise. While he does not dispute the fact that the number of people speaking English in the world is growing, he emphasizes the fact that this is a recent trend. He disagrees with the idea that English will become a dominant world language to the exclusion of other languages. Just because people are learning English, it does not mean to say they are abandoning their own languages. They are instead becoming multilingual. He continues by suggesting that the growth of English is responsible for the spread of multilingualism and those native English speakers who are monolingual will necessarily become disadvantaged.

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Regardless of which David you agree with, one thing is certain; the future of English is just around the corner and whichever direction it chooses to take, it will be difficult to ignore its impact.

1. What are the consequences of a language disappearing?
2. What may happen to English in the future?
3. Why has English become the most widespread world language?
4. Which other major languages will continue to be widespread in the world? Which do you think may decline?
5. How important is to you to be able to speak English? Do you think it will become more or less important to you as you get older?

II. Discuss the following questions in small groups. Be ready to report back your ideas to the class.

1. When you meet people from other countries, which language do you speak: you're own, theirs, English or another language?
2. Does the language spoken influence the outcome of the meeting?
3. Would you like to receive more training (e.g. in other languages)?
4. How would this be useful for you?
5. Will English be overtaken as the language of business?

III. Complete the following article by writing the missing words. Use ONLY ONE word for each space. The exercise begins with an example (0).

#### BRITISH AND AMERICAN ENGLISH

Students of English all over the world are aware that (0) there are differences (1) ..... British and American English. But how great are the differences really?

The varieties (2) ..... English have historical roots. Since pilgrims left England in the seventeenth century, the language has evolved, giving rise to changes (3) ..... vocabulary, grammar and spelling. Many of the (4) ..... obvious differences are in the vocabulary used in the two countries (5) ..... many of the words in common use in the twentieth century (6) ..... not exist in the seventeenth century. "Pavements" in Britain, and "sidewalks" in the USA, only become common later, (7) ..... example.

The two countries (8) ..... also borrowed words from different sources: courgettes (9) ..... imported to Britain from France while zucchini were brought to America (10) ..... Italian immigrants. Printing was a relatively new invention in the seventeenth century and the spelling of (11) ..... words had not yet been formalised, which accounts for many of the differences in spelling.

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IV. Read the following short texts and answer the questions below.

Jake (USA): Global English is definitely a good thing. Communication is much easier when everyone speaks the same language. I don't understand what the fuss is about. Nowadays you find almost everything on computers is in English, it's used in business, travel and in medicine.

Cairen (Eire): I'm 18 and I live in a small village in the west of Ireland. I speak Irish Gaelic, but many people of my age only speak English. It's a pity because it's part of our heritage and if we lose our language then we'll lose part of our culture. I think there are only about 250.000 people who speak Irish Gaelic.

Franz (Germany): Languages have been disappearing for thousands of years, it's just a natural thing. For example, people in ancient Egypt used hieroglyphs but nobody uses them now. I've heard there are almost 7.000 languages in the world and that about half of these will disappear in the next 20 years! Well, you can't stop progress, can you?

Moira (England): My grandparents came here from Russia in 1945 and when they arrived they spoke no English. To get jobs they had to learn and I think this is part of integrating into a new country. I think it's silly when people insist on keeping their own language when they move to a new country.

Raul (USA): Although I live in the USA and I use English at school my mother tongue is Spanish. My parents were immigrants from Mexico and so at home we speak Spanish. For me language is part of my cultural identity.

Ravi (India): One of the consequences of global English is that some languages are disappearing. In my country there are 415 different languages, but many of these are endangered. If you want a good job, you usually have to learn English.

COMPREHENSION

1) What do these numbers refer to?

- a) 415 \_\_\_\_\_
- b) 18 \_\_\_\_\_
- c) 250.000 \_\_\_\_\_
- d) 7.000 \_\_\_\_\_
- e) 20 \_\_\_\_\_

2) Complete each sentence with the correct name.

Example: Ravi comes from India.

- a) ..... doesn't think there's any problem with English as a Global Language.

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- b) ..... speaks one language with his family and another when he is at school.
  - c) ..... and ..... think that language is an important part of who they are.
  - d) ....., ..... and ..... mention learning English because of work.
  - e) ..... says that about 50% of the languages in the world now will soon disappear.
  - f) ..... lives in a country where there are lots of languages.

#### VOCABULARY

1) Find the words in the texts with the following meanings.

- a) The results of effects of something
- b) Something that may not exist much longer because there are not many left in the world
- c) Worry for nothing
- d) People who come to live in a country from another country
- e) What makes you who you are
- f) An unhappy feeling because something has happened that you don't like
- g) The things that people think are important parts of history or culture
- h) Becoming a full member of a society
- i) To say that something must happen or be done

#### Writing

I. Write an essay of about 300 words responding to the following questions.

- 1. What are the advantages and the disadvantages of English as a global language?
- 2. "When people succeed, it is because of hard work. Luck has nothing to do with success." Do you agree or disagree with the quotation above? Use specific reasons and examples to explain your position.

## Grammar – Revision exercises on verb tenses

Choose the correct tense for each sentence !

- 1 After Jonathan \_\_\_\_\_ his degree, she intends to work in an office.
- 2 Lola looked down to discover a snake at her feet. When she saw it she \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 I borrowed four books on gardening the last time I \_\_\_\_\_ to the library.
- 4 By the time I go to bed tonight I \_\_\_\_\_ my work for the day
- 5 Mark Twain \_\_\_\_\_ up in a small town in Mississippi.
- 6 When my parents \_\_\_\_\_ tomorrow, they will see our new baby for the first time.
- 7 Until you learn how to take a break, you \_\_\_\_\_ your ability to speak English.
- 8 My grandfather \_\_\_\_\_ in an airplane before, so this is his first time.
- 9 I \_\_\_\_\_ in this city since I was a small child.
- 10 While I \_\_\_\_\_ TV last night a small mouse ran across the room.
- 11 Jane isn't here yet. I \_\_\_\_\_ since noon but there is no sign of her.
- 12 By the time my brother finally graduated from high school, he \_\_\_\_\_ seven different schools.
- 13 On June 20<sup>th</sup> I returned home. I \_\_\_\_\_ for almost two years.
- 14 \_\_\_\_\_  
When I got to the party, many people \_\_\_\_\_.
- 15 Before I started the car, all of the passengers \_\_\_\_\_ their seat belts.
- 16 Right now we \_\_\_\_\_ a heat wave. It's been so hot for almost a week.
- 17 When I go and see the doctor this afternoon I \_\_\_\_\_ him to take a look at my throat.
- 18 I sent you the money almost a week ago but I still \_\_\_\_\_ any confirmation.
- 19 After they \_\_\_\_\_ the race the celebrations began.
- 20 Our football team \_\_\_\_\_ a football match until last season, when the new coach came.
- 21 I \_\_\_\_\_ all the questions correctly since I began the course.
- 22 It's against the law to kill whales. They \_\_\_\_\_ extinct.
- 23 Jim, why don't you take some time off. You \_\_\_\_\_ too hard lately.
- 24 Next month I have a week's vacation. I \_\_\_\_\_ on going on a trip to the Rockies.
- 25 I'll be right with you as soon as I \_\_\_\_\_ my keys.

will finish – will have finished – finished – is finishing
screamed – was screaming – had screamed - screams
go – went – had gone – have gone
will finish – have finished – will have finished - finish
was growing up – had grown up – grew up – has grown up
will arrive – arrive – will have arrived – arrived
haven't improved – aren't improving – don't improve – won't improve
never flies – had never flown – has never flown – never flew
have been living – am living – had been living – lived
watched – have watched – watch – was watching
have waited – am waiting – wait – have been waiting
attended – was attending – had attended – had been attending
was away -have been away – am away – had been away
were already dancing – already danced – had already danced – have already danced.
will buckle – will have buckled – had buckled – buckle

have – have had – have been having – are having
will ask – asked – will have asked – ask
hadn't received – didn't receive – haven't received – am not receiving
won – have won -win – had won
never wins – has never won – had never won – never won
had answered – have been answering – have answered – answered
have become – become – became – are becoming
are working – were working – had been working – have been working
am planning – have planned – will plan -will be planning
will find – found – find – will have found



**Choose A, B, C or D that best completes each sentence:**

1. I will see him when he \_\_\_\_\_ here tomorrow  
A. comes                      B. will come                      C. has come                      D. had come
2. The boys broke a window when they \_\_\_\_\_ football.  
A. played                      B. were playing                      C. have played                      D. are playing
3. What \_\_\_\_\_ to you yesterday?  
A. happened                      B. did happen                      C. had happen                      D. was happening
4. It was the most exciting film I \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. never saw                      B. ever saw                      C. had ever seen                      D. have ever seen
5. He said that he \_\_\_\_\_ his work since 7 o'clock.  
A. Did                      B. has done                      C. had done                      D. would do
6. I \_\_\_\_\_ about him when suddenly he came in.  
A. talk                      B. talked                      C. am talking                      D. was talking
7. We \_\_\_\_\_ "Alexander the Great". It's very interesting!  
A. see                      B. saw                      C. have seen                      D. would see
8. "When \_\_\_\_\_ to London? - In 1998  
A. he moved                      B. was he moved                      C. did he move                      D. does he move
9. They have been in love with each other \_\_\_\_\_ they were young  
A. while                      B. until                      C. for                      D. since
10. Do you know what \_\_\_\_\_ there yesterday?  
A. she is doing                      B. was doing                      C. did she do                      D. she did
11. At present, that author \_\_\_\_\_ a historical novel.  
A. is writing                      B. was writing                      C. has written                      D. had written
12. By next month, I \_\_\_\_\_ my first novel.  
A. will finish                      B. am going to finish                      C. finish                      D. will have finished
13. When he worked here, Simon \_\_\_\_\_ mistake.  
A. always made                      B. made                      C. was always making                      D. was making always
14. Don't make noise. My mother \_\_\_\_\_ with her friend.  
A. is talking                      B. was talking                      C. talks                      D. talked
15. \_\_\_\_\_ the teacher gave me a passing grade.  
A. After taking the test                      B. After I take the test                      C. After I took the test                      D. After I had taken the test
16. No sooner \_\_\_\_\_ the office than the phone rang  
A. was he leaving                      B. he was leaving                      C. he had left                      D. had he left
17. How many times \_\_\_\_\_ there so far? - A few times.  
A. have you been                      B. would you be                      C. were you                      D. had you been
18. It's at least a month since \_\_\_\_\_ Tom.  
A. I last seen                      B. I last see                      C. I have last seen                      D. I last saw
19. Up to now, I \_\_\_\_\_ such a big fire.  
A. have never seen                      B. had never seen                      C. never seen                      D. never see
20. I \_\_\_\_\_ her since I \_\_\_\_\_ a student.  
A. know/ am                      B. knew/ was                      C. have known/ am                      D. have known/ was

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## Unit 2 – Technology: then and now

Every day, I have to press a little button on a small remote controller so the gate at home opens by itself. It seems normal nowadays, but some years ago I had to open the gate by myself. I am now 17 years old and I have seen a continuous technological evolution over the years. When my parents were in primary school, they used to play outside, ride bicycles or create their own games. ‘Smartphones’ or ‘video games’ were words that they did not know. Even tablets were just medicines and not a computer device that looks like a small flat screen. Technology is evolving day by day. These days, people are always using something that is related to ICT (Information and Communication Technology). But does advanced technology make life more convenient? Or was life better when it was simpler?

If we think of education, students born in the 21st century have the chance to do their schoolwork with help from the Internet. My parents could not surf the Net when they were at school. All the information they gathered for their projects was just what they got from books or by asking people questions. Modern technology has created amazing tools and resources, putting exact information at your fingertips. Through your mobile devices or your computer, you can do almost anything in the twinkling of an eye, from doing calculations to getting access to the latest information and research. Or you can watch a fiction film or documentary or online lesson for your English class!

Furthermore, the advances in technology have made communication unbelievably fast and convenient. In the past, writing a letter, sending a telegram or fax, or finding a wired telephone were the best ways to communicate remotely with someone. To connect with someone today, you have many more efficient options. You can contact your family or friends by message on social media, SMS text, video chat, email, or phone call. In the time of the Covid-19 pandemic, millions of people have worked or studied safely at home instead of giving up their jobs or their courses.

Modern technology has had a profoundly beneficial effect on every field of life. Things that seemed impossible in the past are now easily done. People in the past who used less advanced technology had more difficulties and faced bigger challenges. Thus, I believe that modern ICT, despite its dangers, makes life much more convenient, interesting, productive and enjoyable.

<https://www.123helpme.com/essay/Has-Technology-Changed-Our-Lives-for-the-351903> (adapted)

A) Now answer the following questions:

1. In the first paragraph, what does the writer illustrate by giving examples?
2. What is the main difference between student life of the past and of the present?
3. What is the main idea in the third paragraph?
4. What is the writer’s opinion about modern technology?



B) Find the expressions in the text that mean the following:

- 1) gradually and progressively (para.1)
- 2) convenient and easy to find (para.2)
- 3) very, very quickly (para.2)

## Technological lives



### Twitter, email, texts: we don't talk any more!

*Michelle and her sons communicate in a silent world of messages and texts. Will they forget how to speak altogether, she wonders?*

It's 7.28 am. I'm not out of bed yet but it's simple to reach for my MacBook and take a peek at my emails. I click onto my Facebook page. That's when I notice my 13-year-old son (and FB friend) is online doing exactly the same thing. **Get off** the computer and go downstairs for breakfast. NOW!!!! I message. What has happened to my family? The night before, as my other son sat in his bedroom and his food sat on the kitchen table, I had texted: 'Dinner ready now! Get down here!!!' Two minutes later, he was sitting at the table.

A 2008 report warned, 'If a child is exposed to a relentless diet of TV and computer games and deprived of interaction at home, that is very damaging.' It's falling on deaf ears in our house. I sometimes worry my sons will lose the power of speech entirely. When I was a teenager, I spent hours with friends discussing clothes, boys and other urgent matters. My children just stay in their rooms and converse by keyboard.

And it's not just speech that is disappearing. My boys rarely use a pen, doing their homework on the computer; handwritten notes left for me are therefore no more than a scribble. It's a worry.

Last month I asked my eldest son to email me his latest English homework. It was beautifully crafted, thoughtful, and moving, nothing like the usual language I get in his texts and emails. I realised that they can write, they can express themselves, they still have a language – they just don't use it the same way we do. So I didn't **hold back** when I told my son what I thought of his essay: 'It's really lovely,' I texted.

*Adapted from: The Guardian*

Read the text. Are the following statements true or false?

- 1 Michelle is concerned that her sons will forget how to talk to other people. \_
- 2 The report says too much TV and computer gaming and not enough talking is bad for children. \_
- 3 Michelle's children hardly ever write with pens. \_
- 4 She felt more worried about her son's writing after reading his schoolwork. \_

B) Chose the correct option according to the text.

- 1 Michelle checked her email
  - a on her son's computer.
  - b before she got up.
  - c and found an email from her son.
- 2 Michelle texted her other son because
  - a his dinner was getting cold.
  - b his breakfast was ready.
  - c he was having dinner in his bedroom.
- 3 Michelle's children
  - a prefer to meet up with their friends to share news.
  - b haven't got any friends to share gossip with.
  - c prefer chatting on the internet from their bedrooms.

c) Find words or phrases in the text mean the same as these given.

1. asks herself \_\_\_\_\_
2. never stopping \_\_\_\_\_
3. faculty speaking \_\_\_\_\_
4. careless writing \_\_\_\_\_
5. Quickly look at \_\_\_\_\_
6. Nobody is listening \_\_\_\_\_
7. completely \_\_\_\_\_
8. Emotional \_\_\_\_\_

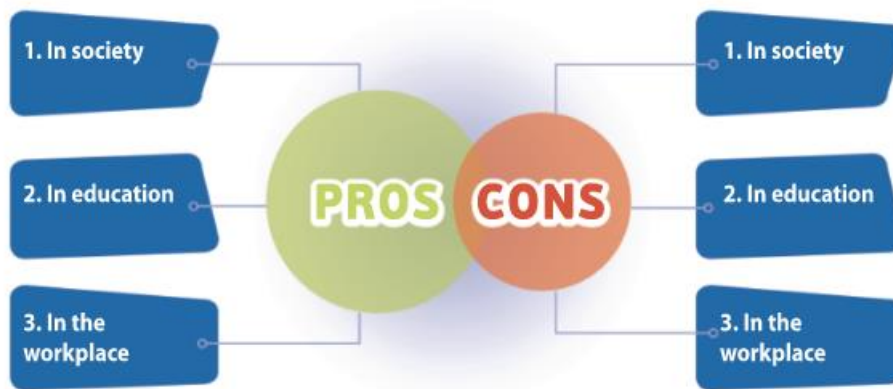
### Pros and cons of technology

What are the pros and cons of technology?

Put the items below into the right category. Some items may be repeated.

Work in small groups.

Compare and discuss your answers. Add at least one idea to each category



- a) Education gets fun and enjoyable
- b) Loss of social skills
- c) Increased job opportunities
- d) Dependence on technology
- e) Easy access to medical care and services
- f) Privacy concerns
- g) Improved housing and lifestyle
- h) Laziness and lack of physical activity
- i) Fast transport
- j) Fast communication (video chat/text messaging applications)

- k) Malfunctions
- l) Job loss and unemployment
- m) Increased loneliness and inequality
- n) More entertainment (video games, films, etc.)
- o) Better preparation for careers of the future
- p) Efficiency and productivity (computers, technological tools)
- q) Easy access to information (the Internet, mobile devices)
- r) Less paper and less waste

Writing an essay.

Arguments for and against

Phrases/linking words		
<b>Introducing advantages/disadvantages</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One advantage/disadvantage of</li> <li>• Another advantage/disadvantage of</li> <li>• The main/greatest advantage/disadvantage of</li> </ul>	<b>Giving examples</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• for example/instance</li> <li>• such as; namely</li> <li>• to illustrate</li> </ul> <b>Concluding</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To sum up,</li> <li>• To conclude,</li> </ul>	<b>Expressing contrast</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• but</li> <li>• while</li> <li>• however</li> <li>• On the one hand,</li> <li>• On the other hand,</li> </ul>
<b>Style</b> Most essays are written in a formal or neutral style.		

Example:

There is no doubt that we live in the age of technology. Today people cannot live without devices such as televisions, mobile phones, computers and others. These technologies have slowly taken an essential part in our day-to-day lives and changed our lifestyles, with both positive and negative consequences.

One advantage of technology is that it saves time. As we are able to complete a task in less time, we can use the time saved in an enjoyable way. With the help of technology, a lot of activities such as cooking, cleaning, working, travelling are accomplished faster. Another advantage is better communication. Today the world has come closer and we can easily connect with a person in another corner of the world, all thanks to technology.

On the other hand, there are also negative consequences. For instance, relationship with family members is being weakened due to excessive use of various devices. In addition, people have adopted an unhealthy lifestyle. They prefer playing video games or watching films to going outdoors or doing any work which requires physical activity.

To sum up, technology can have advantages and drawbacks. Personally, I think technology has made our lives more convenient. However, we have to learn to use it wisely.

Computers and the internet

A) Complete Katy's email with the words below.

screen • modem • memory stick • headphones • keyboard • speakers • webcam • printer

Hi Diana  
 I'm sending you this from my new computer. I'm so excited. It's got a 22-inch <sup>1</sup> screen – it's huge, like a television! The <sup>2</sup> speakers is wireless and has different coloured lights on the keys – it's really cool. The first thing I did was **plug in** the <sup>3</sup> headphones so I can listen to music. They're very powerful so I think I'll have to buy some new <sup>4</sup> speakers so I can listen without bothering the neighbours! It was easy to connect to the internet with the <sup>5</sup> modem. Will you be online later? I've got a <sup>6</sup> webcam so now you can see me while we chat! The <sup>7</sup> printer is great quality – it scans and copies too. How are you doing with the presentation? If you send me the stuff, I'll **print it out**. I've already put the slide presentation on my <sup>8</sup> memory stick to bring in tomorrow.  
 Let's chat later. Bye,  
 Katy

B) Complete the crossword:

ACROSS

- 1 Every time I click on this link, a pop-up window with phone ads appears. It's so annoying!
- 3 My new laptop is much lighter to carry around than my old one.
- 6 (+ 5 down) Check out Emma's album. It's got lots of photos and she updates it every week.
- 7 Right-click on the context menu to get the cut and paste menu.
- 9 You need an anti-spam filter, so you don't receive so many unwanted emails.
- 10 My uncle sent me a clip to a clip of him playing the guitar. He's really bad!
- 11 Do you think Google is the fastest search engine on the internet?

DOWN

- 2 My computer has two USB ports at the front and three at the back.
- 4 I can't open this page. Maybe Simon gave me the wrong web address.
- 5 See 6 across.
- 8 Plug in the grey cord that goes from the monitor to the CPU.

				1	P	O	2	P	-	U	P
			3	4					5		
								6			
7							8				
				9							
							10				
	11										

C) Circle the correct word.

- 1 To turn the computer on, press / *click* this button.
- 2 When I email homework to my teacher, I sometimes forget to print out / *attach* the file.
- 3 *Press* / *Click* on this icon on the desktop to open the file.
- 4 I failed my essay, because I copied and *inserted* / *pasted* from *Wikipedia*!
- 5 I'm having a problem *attaching* / *inserting* the photos on the blog. Can you help?
- 6 Xavi sent me photos of the party so I *attached* / *saved* them on my hard drive.
- 7 Help! I wanted to send this email but I *deleted* / *pasted* it by mistake.
- 8 He says he's got the hyperlink we sent him but he can't *open* / *find* it.

D) Complete these sentences with a word from the box.

browser • joystick • screen • speakers • surfing the net

- 1 When my dad bought his first video game the controls were on a joystick. It looks very old-fashioned now.
- 2 We sometimes spend hours \_\_\_\_\_. You can find some amazing websites.
- 3 Emma got some new \_\_\_\_\_ for her birthday. Now when she plays music, the sound quality is much better.
- 4 My brother and I don't agree on the best web \_\_\_\_\_ to use. He uses *Chrome* and I use *Firefox*.
- 5 I discovered the other day that the best way to clean my computer \_\_\_\_\_ is to use one of those cloths for cleaning your glasses.

## Compound nouns

Choose a word from each box to make compound nouns to complete the sentences. Do not forget to check the spelling: one word or two?

search • desk • home • ~~mouse~~ • operating • hard • key • net • pass • screen

word • ~~mat~~ • top • engine • saver • board • page • system • work • drive

- 1 My mouse mat is on the left side of my desk because I'm left-handed.
- 2 Click on the little house icon to go to the \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 I typed in the username but then I forgot my \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 Do you use another social \_\_\_\_\_ apart from Facebook?
- 5 The \_\_\_\_\_ on my computer broke yesterday so I've lost all my files.
- 6 I spilt a cup of coffee on my \_\_\_\_\_ and all the keys are sticky!
- 7 Kim's \_\_\_\_\_ comes on if she doesn't use her computer for ten minutes.
- 8 He typed his name into a \_\_\_\_\_ to look for other people with the same name as him.
- 9 I've got about ten icons on my \_\_\_\_\_ that I never use.
- 10 Did you know the *Linux* \_\_\_\_\_ runs the ten fastest super computers in the world?



A) Circle the correct phrasal verb in each sentence.

## What a waste of time!

*We asked you to give us examples of how you or someone in your family has wasted time recently. Here are a selection of your replies.*

- 1 I'm looking for a summer job as a waitress, so I went round lots of places to hand in / *get into* my CV. Most of them gave it back and told me to send it to their website!
- 2 I spent 15 minutes *logging onto* / *filling in* all my details on a ticket website but when I clicked on 'enter' it wouldn't accept them. I tried three times before I gave up.
- 3 We wanted to make a cake so we *tapped into* / *looked up* a great recipe on the internet. Then I forgot to put the sugar in and it tasted HORRIBLE!!
- 4 Yesterday my dad got to work before he realised he'd forgotten to *turn off* / *get back to* the shower. He had to go all the way home and then go back to work again.
- 5 My sister spends ages *finding out* / *writing out* lists of things to do. Then she loses the lists immediately.
- 6 My computer wasn't working so I *turned to* / *turned on* my brainy brother for help. After an hour of trying to fix it, he said it was impossible. Then my mum fixed it in two minutes!
- 7 When you ring the computer help line, you have to answer all these stupid questions. The one that really annoys me is 'Are you sure your computer is *picked up* / *turned on*'?
- 8 Lots of people go to the UK in the summer to learn more English but then they *hang out* / *turn to* with other Spanish people and spend the whole day speaking Spanish!

B) Complete the text with the correct form of the verb below.

switch on • find out • ~~get off~~ • go back to • hold back • plug in (x2)

The other day I was doing an urgent assignment when I couldn't get the printer to work, so I decided to ring the help line. I had to wait ages first for my sister to

1 get off the phone. 'Use Messenger!' I said. Anyway, the first thing the help line man asked was, 'Are you sure it's 2 \_\_\_\_\_?' 'Yes, of course!' I said, without checking, 'but it doesn't 3 \_\_\_\_\_!' 'Well,' he said, 'we need to 4 \_\_\_\_\_ what the problem is. You'll have to bring it to the shop here so we can look at it.' 'OK!' I said. I 5 \_\_\_\_\_ the printer to disconnect it and discovered ... it wasn't 6 \_\_\_\_\_ after all! Oops! How embarrassing! When I told my sister, she didn't 7 \_\_\_\_\_. 'You're an idiot!' she said, 'Next time, check before you ring!!'



- C) Complete the texts with the correct form of the verbs below. All these verbs go with *out* give the idea to *exhaust* or *extinguish*.

blow out • ~~go out~~ • phase out • put out • sell out • tire out

The other night, when supper was cooking, all the lights <sup>1</sup> *went* out. There was a power cut in our street! We lit candles but they kept <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ out, so we went to a local bar for supper. When we got back, the flat was full of smoke. My mum had forgotten to turn off the gas so the casserole was on fire! Luckily, we managed to <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ it out quickly, but it was a bit scary! Then, we had to get rid of the smoke and clean up the kitchen, which took a couple of hours. We were all <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ out when we went to bed.

We have a lot of videos so, when our video player broke, we wanted to buy a new one. We tried several shops, but they all said that video players had been <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ out and that they had <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ out of the ones they had left in stock. Luckily, we found a machine which records videos on to DVD instead.

- D) Complete the text with the words in the box. (TIP: read the whole email first!)

hard drive • laptop • webcam • screen • webpages • port • speakers • operating system

Hi Jake,  
Help! I SO need a new computer - I'm still using Mum's old <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ ! The <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ is full and it's really slow and the <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ is out-of-date and not compatible with the best <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ or my friends' computers. I haven't got a <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ for chatting, and there's only one USB <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ , so I can't plug in more than one thing at a time. I'd like a PC with a flat-monitor <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ too, so I have more space on my desk, and more powerful <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ so the music sounds better. How can I convince Mum and Dad to buy me a new one?  
Your desperate brother,  
Sam

- E) Finish the third sentence using a compound adjective.

- 1 I paid him twenty euros. I paid him with a note. I paid him with \_\_\_\_\_ .  
2 We watched a film. It was three hours long. I watched \_\_\_\_\_ .

- F) Circle the correct phrasal verb in each sentences.

- 1 Facebook helps people to *link up* / *look for* with old friends.  
2 Would you mind *turning on* / *turning off* the TV? I want to watch the news.  
3 Before Gates and Allen *set up* / *picked up* Microsoft, no one imagined PCs in every home.  
4 The first thing you have to do is *log onto* / *fill in* the website.  
5 James really likes Maria. I think he's going to *ask her out* / *turn to her*.

G) Make sentences in the past using the prompts and the words in brackets.

1. He / download the film / realise / he / run out of memory (when)
2. She / have a brilliant idea / have a shower (as)
3. They / clean up after the party / find Karen's MP3 (while)

H) Write the questions with the correct question words and the words in brackets. Use the answer to help you.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (Bill Gates / be / at Harvard?)

Only two years.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ (mobile / you / choose / in the end?)

This one, it's great!

3. \_\_\_\_\_ (she / save / it / on your pen drive?)

Because we're presenting it together in class tomorrow!

4. \_\_\_\_\_ (I / can / delete / my spam?)

It's easy! Just right click on the mouse and you'll see the menu.

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### Phrasal Verbs for Technology and Computers

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Write meaningful examples for each phrasal verb.

Phrasal Verb	Meanings	Example
log in sign in sign-in	v. connect to a computer using a username and password /n. page or act of registering permission to use a program	
hook up	to connect wires from machines to a power source or other machines	
power up turn on	provide power to a machine	

boot up start up	begin running a computer system	
set up	<i>v.</i> to install a new computer program or assemble a computer system <i>n.</i> the process of adding information using a computer program	
pull down pulldown	<i>v.</i> choose from a menu of options in a computer application extending down from the action bar like a window blind <i>n.</i> a menu of options	
click on	move a mouse over an item and press to select	
scroll up scroll down	to move slowly to the top or bottom of a text	
run out of	exhaust a supply of something	
back up backup	<i>v.</i> make an extra copy of a file <i>n.</i> an extra copy of a file	
print out printout	<i>v.</i> send an electronic document to a printer <i>n.</i> a printed document	
hack into	enter a computer or network illegally	
go down	stop operating properly	
wipe out	completely erase or delete files	
pop up popup	<i>v.</i> to appear suddenly <i>n.</i> an advertisement that appears suddenly on a computer screen	
plug in plug-in	<i>v.</i> insert a cord into an outlet or port <i>n.</i> an addition to a software program that performs a certain task	
sign up	register with a service	
key in	type or enter characters using a keyboard	

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opt in / out	choose to receive advertising or messages	
filter out	remove unwanted email messages	
turn off shut down power down	end a session on the computer by closing an application or removing power	
go online/offline	to use the Internet / not use the Internet	