TECHNOLOGY GENERATIONS: BB, X, Y OR Z ?

Université Virtuelle de Côte d'Ivoire

Table des matières

III - **PRODUCTION PHASE**   16

Solutions des exercices   17

Objectifs

By the end of this lesson, student should be able to :

-identify technology generations

-decide whether a statement is true of false

-answer open questions

-guess words from their definitions and their first or last letters

-turn active sentences into passive

-use the present perfect

-write the characteristics of the perfect technology generation

Introduction

The sight of these devices triggers in the head of technology fans a variety of ideas among which technology generations. Actually, each device represents a specific generation in technology history and evolution. From the Post War period up to now, technology has gone through various stages. Each has its generation of people. The hobbies and lifestyles of people from 1945 up to those of 2018 differ deeply. Theorists have divided people from 1945 to 2018 into four (4) generations according to their openness and addiction to technology. This lesson will sort out the characteristics of each generations for a deeper understanding of each one of them.

GENERATIONS IN TECHNOLOGY

I

1. BABY BOOMERS

This was the original 'generation'. And it was a useful label because, initially, it described those born in the immediate years after World War II, when there was – thanks to soldiers returning home – a significant spike in births.

These are the men and women who swung in the sixties and became hippies in the seventies. Some, like Bill Clinton, made it to the White House. Idealistic and uncynical, this was the generation that fought the Cold War and smashed the Berlin Wall. They lack technical skills. Boomers do learn about technology from their children.

2. Exercice : answer with three words
[solution n°1 p.17]

After which event were Baby Boomers born ?

3. Exercice : answer with one or two words
[solution n°2 p.17]

What skills do Baby Boomers lack ?

4. Exercice : answer with one word
[solution n°3 p.17]

What do their children teach Boomers ?

Mon université avec moi, partout et à tout moment.

5. Exercice : select characteristics of Baby Boomers

From the list of characteristics below, select those of Baby Boomers

☐ They lived in the years 1960s and 1970s

☐ They lived in the period of total peace

☐ They gave birth to many babies

☐ They were guided by ideals and romantism

☐ They were trustworthy

☐ They built up the Berlin Wall

☐ They know technology quite well

☐ Boomers teach technology to their children

☐ Boomers learn technology from their children

6. GENERATION X

Generation X or Gen X are those born between the early 1960s and the early 1980s. This generation has been characterized as being saddled with permanent cynicism. Too young to have fought in any major war, old enough to have enjoyed a free education – they have spent too much of their adulthood sitting around in coffee shops trying to set the world to rights. They tend to seek balance between their work and personal lives and are motivated by consistent work values. Having grown up in the presence of computers, Xers are adept with technology, synthesizing diverse information to gain knowledge and understanding.

7. Exercice : CHOOSE THE RIGHT STATEMENTS   *[solution n°5 p.18]*

From the text about Gen Xers, choose the correct statements about them.

☐ A person born in nineteen seventy one belongs to Gen X

☐ Gen Xers are not trustworthy

☐ Gen Xers fought in major wars

☐ Gen Xers did not enjor free education

☐ Gen Xers thought of reordering the world

☐ Gen Xers thought of their personal happiness

☐ Gen Xers lack qualities at work

☐ Gen Xers are contemporary with computers

☐ Gen Xers are keen on making synthesis to get knowledge

8. Exercice : Some words from the text on generation X are not fully written in the exercise below. From the definitions and the suggested letters, find them.   *[solution n°6 p.18]*

1-c _____ = belief that people are generally selfish and dishonest

2- _____ d = placed under a burden ; placed an onerous responsibility on a person or group

3- _____ d = state of being fully developed and mature

4- s _____ = a building or room where goods and services are sold

5- _____ e = equilibrium, stability, counterpoise

6- g _____ = obtain, get, have

9. Generation Y

Generation Y (also often referred to as Millemnials or as the Next Generation)

Generation Y is the first "global" generation. The people from Generation Y have similar characteristics and attributes irrespective of their country of origin. Generation Y refers to people who were born between 1980 and 1995. Members of Generation Y are not prepared to work as many hours as baby-boomers or traditionalists do. Generation Y grew up with technology and rely on it to perform their jobs better. This generation prefers to communicate through e-mail and text messaging rather than face-to-face contact. Generation Yers prioritize family over work. The following is said of Generation Y : (1) they are 'connected' 24 hours a day; 7 days a week (2) for them, work is just

one priority in life, not the priority; (3) they want minimal rules and bureaucracy; (4) they prefer openness and transparency; (5) they favour an inclusive style of management, team orientation; (6) they expect to be empowered; (7) they want daily feedback and thrive on a rush of new challenges, opportunities and being pushed to the limits; (8) they seek a portable career and greater degrees of personal flexibility; (9) they want education and development, but it needs to be relevant, interactive, personalized and entertaining; (10) they want a positive work climate; (11) they are positive, polite and energetic.

10. Exercice : MATCH THE CHARACTERISTICS OF GEN Yers WITH THEIR DEFINITIONS [solution n°7 p.18]

characteristics

1-digital

2-open-minded

3-transparent

4-inclusive

5-trusted

6-dynamic

7-flexible

definitions

a-being honest, not keeping any secret

b-always active or changing ; showing a lot of energy

c-using or characterized by computer technology

d-adaptable, changeable ; able to do different things

e-willing to consider different ideas or opinions

f-a person in which confidence is placed

g-open to everyone : not limited to certain people

MAKE THE CHARACTERISTICS AND THE DEFINITIONS CORRESPOND

1-_____ ; 2-_____ ; 3-_____ ; 4-_____ ; 5-_____ ; 6-_____ ; 7-_____

11. Exercice : DECIDE WHETHER THESE STATEMENTS ARE TRUE OR FALSE

Gen Yers are ready to work as long as BBers.

Gen Yers are born with technonlogy.

Gen Yers can do without technology.

Gen Yers communicate face-to-face.

Gen Yers make use of electronic mails.

Gen Yers value family ties.

For Gen Yers, priority is given to work over family ties.

12. Generation Z

Generation Z are those people born between 1995 and 2010, roughly. They are also referred to in literature as the mobile generation. They have grown up with technology, the world-wide web, mp3 players, short messages, mobile phones, PDAs, YouTube, IPads, and other media technologies. Generation Z are self-confident, happy, fit into the team spirit and are more interested in social activities than the previous generations. Generation Z are also (1) well-integrated with technology; they are often referred to as "digital natives"; (2) social media savvy; (3) multitaskers; (4) concerned about the environment; (5) influenced by their friends about products and brands; (6) smart, with the ability to process a lot of information quickly.

13. Exercice : ANSWER THIS QUESTION WITH THREE WORDS

How is generation Z referred to in literature ?

14. Exercice : ANSWER THIS QUESTION WITH TWO WORDS

How do people often referred to Generation Zers ?

GRAMMAR SPOT

II

1. THE PASSIVE VOICE

Here are some excerpts from the text on Gen X :

This generation *has been characterized* as being saddled with permanent cynicism.

They *are motivated* by consistent work values.

The verbs of the sentences are passive.

A passive verb is a form of *be* (at the tense of the active and the number of the passive subject) + *a past participle*

	ACTIVE	PASSIVE
Present simple:	We *bake* the bread here.	The bread *is baked* here
Present continuous:	We *are baking* the bread.	The bread *is being baked*.
Present perfect:	We *have baked* the bread.	The bread *has been baked*.
Past simple	We *baked* the bread yesterday	The bread *was baked* yesterday
Past continuous	We *were baking* the bread.	The bread *was being baked*.
Past perfect:	We *had baked* the bread.	The bread *had been baked*.

Let's go deeper.

Active : I eat three eggs every morning

Passive : *Three eggs are eaten*.

In this sentence, the subject of the passive sentence is *three eggs*. The subject is plural and the plural of be is *are*. Then we add the past participle of eat that is *eaten*.res_verbes irréguliers.pdf (cf. res_verbes irréguliers.pdf)

Mon université avec moi, partout et à tout moment.

2. Exercice : REWRITE THE ACTIVE SENTENCES INTO PASSIVE SENTENCES

[solution n°11 p.20]

REWRITE THE ACTIVE SENTENCES INTO PASSIVE SENTENCES. Pay attention to the tenses of verbs.

1-They built the Tower in 1827. ⬚ .

2- Bardale Council was using the Hall. ⬚

3- Bell invented the telephone. The telephone ⬚ by Graham.

4- She likes peanuts. ⬚ by she.

3. THE PRESENT PERFECT

THE PRESENT PERFECT

The present perfect tells us about the past and the present.

1-FORM

1-1 : FULL FORM

The present perfect is the present tense of *have + a past participle*.

I have washed.

You have washed.

He has washed.

Hhe has washed.

It has washed.

We have washed.

They have washed.

1-2 : CONTRACTED FORM

I've washed.

You've washed.

He's washed.

She's washed.

It's washed.

We've washed.

They've washed.

1-3 : NEGATIVE FORM

I haven't washed.

You haven't washed.

He hasn't washed.

She hasn't washed.

It hasn't washed.

We haven't washed.

They haven't washed.

1-4 : INTERROGATIVE FORM

Have I washed ?

Have you washed ?

Has he washed?

Has she washed?

Has it washed?

Have we washed ?

Have they washed ?

1-5 : REMINDER

Regular past participles end in *"ed"*, e.g. washed, landed, finished.

We've *washed* the dishes.

Have you *opened* your letter?

The aircraft has *landed* safely.

1-6 : IRREGULAR FORMS

Some participles are irregular.

I've *made* a shopping list.

We've *sold* our car.

I've *thought* about it a lot.

Have you *written* the letter?

2-USE OF THE PRESENT PERFECT

When we use the present perfect, we see things as happening in the past but having a result in the present.

We've washed the dishes. (They're clean now.)

The aircraft has landed. (The aircraft is on the ground now.)

We've eaten all the eggs. (There aren't any left.)

Mon université avec moi, partout et à tout moment.

They've learnt the words. (They know the words.)

You've broken this watch. (It isn't working.)

3-THE PRESENT PERFECT WITH JUST, ALREADY, YET; FOR and SINCE

3-1 : JUST, ALREADY, and YET

We can use the present perfect with just,already and yet.

Just means 'a short time ago'. Example : We've just come back from our holiday..

Already means 'sooner than expected'. Example : It isn't a very good party. Most people have already gone home.

We *use yet when we are expecting something to happen. Example* : It's eleven o'clock and you haven't finished breakfast yet. / Has your course started yet?

N.B : *Just and already come before the past participle (heard, sold). Yet comes at the end of a question or a negative sentence.**

3-2 : PRESENT PERFECT WITH "FOR" and "SINCE"

We can use the present perfect with for and since.

Examples : Vicky has only had that camera for three days.

Those people have been at the hotel since Friday.

I've felt really tired for a whole week now.

We've lived in Oxford since 1992.

Here, something began in the past and has lasted up to the present time. We use *"FOR"* to say how long this period is {for three days). We use *"SINCE"* to say when the period

began (since Friday).

3-3 : PRESENT PERFECT AND HOW LONG

We use how long in questions. And the answers will include *"For"* or *"Since"*

Examples :

-How long has Vicky had that camera? ~ Since Thursday, I think.

-How long have Trevor and Laura been married? ~ Oh, for about three years.

We can also use the present perfect with for and since when something has stopped happening.

Examples :

I *haven't seen* Rachel *for* ages.

She *hasn't visited* us *since* July.

Mon université avec moi, partout et à tout moment.

4. Exercice : Write sentences at the present perfect using the suggested words (no contracted form) *[solution* n°12 p.20*]*

1 You (wash) the car? example : Have you washed the car ?

2 He (eat) very much.   .

3 They (open) a new supermarket.   .

4 You (write) it with a pencil.   .

5 I (make) the sandwiches.   .

6 We (have) our lunch.   .

7 Our players (win) the cup.   .

8 The balloon (land) in a field.   .

9 She (break) this glass?   ?

5. Exercice : Write sentences with the present perfect and "for" or "since". *[solution* n°13 p.20*]*

Example : He/be / at his computer / six hours. He's been at his computer for six hours. OR He has been at his computer for six hours.

1 She/not / have / any fun / a long time.   . OR   .

2 Andy/have / a cold / a week.   . OR   .

3 David/not / see / his friends / ages.   .

4 They/not / do / any sport / last year.   . OR   .

5 Bush / be / busy with his studies / months.   .

Mon université avec moi, partout et à tout moment.

PRODUCTION PHASE

III

1. WRITING A PARAGRAPH : FORM A WORKGROUP OF ABOUT FIVE STUDENTS TO PRODUCE A PARAGRAPH ABOUT THE FOLLOWING TOPIC

TOPIC : You've read many texts about the different generations that have succeeded one another in the history of technology. Write a paragraph in which you will mention the generation you belong to. Also, select the qualities from the different texts to make the perfect technology generation. Find a noun for the generation that you will create. (10 lines maximum ; do not forget to mention the names of your group members.)

Mon université avec moi, partout et à tout moment.

Solutions des exercices

> **Solution** n°1

After which event were Baby Boomers born ?

World War II

> **Solution** n°2

What skills do Baby Boomers lack ?

technical skills

> **Solution** n°3

What do their children teach Boomers ?

technology

> **Solution** n°4

From the list of characteristics below, select those of Baby Boomers

☑ They lived in the years 1960s and 1970s

☐ They lived in the period of total peace

☑ They gave birth to many babies

☑ They were guided by ideals and romantism

☑ They were trustworthy

☐ They built up the Berlin Wall

☑ They know technology quite well

☐ Boomers teach technology to their children

Mon université avec moi, partout et à tout moment.

☑ Boomers learn technology from their children

> **Solution** n°5

From the text about Gen Xers, choose the correct statements about them.

☑ A person born in nineteen seventy one belongs to Gen X

☑ Gen Xers are not trustworthy

☐ Gen Xers fought in major wars

☑ Gen Xers did not enjor free education

☑ Gen Xers thought of reordering the world

☑ Gen Xers thought of their personal happiness

☐ Gen Xers lack qualities at work

☑ Gen Xers are contemporary with computers

☑ Gen Xers are keen on making synthesis to get knowledge

> **Solution** n°6

1-`cynicism` = belief that people are generally selfish and dishonest

2-`saddled` = placed under a burden ; placed an onerous responsibility on a person or group

3-`adulthood` = state of being fully developed and mature

4- `shop` = a building or room where goods and services are sold

5- `balance` = equilibrium, stability, counterpoise

6- `gain` = obtain, get, have

Mon université avec moi, partout et à tout moment.

> **Solution** n°7

characteristics

1-digital

2-open-minded

3-transparent

4-inclusive

5-trusted

6-dynamic

7-flexible

---

definitions

a-being honest, not keeping any secret

b-always active or changing ; showing a lot of energy

c-using or characterized by computer technology

d-adaptable, changeable ; able to do different things

e-willing to consider different ideas or opinions

f-a person in which confidence is placed

g-open to everyone : not limited to certain people

MAKE THE CHARACTERISTICS AND THE DEFINITIONS CORRESPOND

1-c ; 2-e ; 3-a ; 4-g ; 5-f ; 6-b ; 7-d

> **Solution** n°8

Gen Yers are ready to work as long as BBers. F

Gen Yers are born with technonlogy. T

Gen Yers can do without technology. F

Gen Yers communicate face-to-face. F

Gen Yers make use of electronic mails. T

Gen Yers value family ties. T

For Gen Yers, priority is given to work over family ties. F

> **Solution** n°9

How is generation Z referred to in literature ?

Mon université avec moi, partout et à tout moment.

the mobile generation

> **Solution** n°10

How do people often referred to Generation Zers ?

digital natives

> **Solution** n°11

REWRITE THE ACTIVE SENTENCES INTO PASSIVE SENTENCES. Pay attention to the tenses of verbs.

1-They built the Tower in 1827. `The Tower was built in 1827.`

2- Bardale Council was using the Hall. `The Hall was being used`

3- Bell invented the telephone. The telephone `was invented` by Graham.

4- She likes peanuts. `Peanuts are liked` by she.

> **Solution** n°12

1 You (wash) the car? example : Have you washed the car ?

2 He (eat) very much. `He has eaten very much.`

3 They (open) a new supermarket. `They have opened a new supermarket.`

4 You (write) it with a pencil. `You have written it with a pencil.`

5 I (make) the sandwiches. `I have made the sandwiches.`

6 We (have) our lunch. `We have had our lunch.`

7 Our players (win) the cup. `Our players have won the cup.`

8 The balloon (land) in a field. `The balloon has landed in a field.`

9 She (break) this glass? `Has she broken the glass ?`

Mon université avec moi, partout et à tout moment.

> **Solution** n°13

Example : He/be / at his computer / six hours. He's been at his computer for six hours. OR He has been at his computer for six hours.

1 She/not / have / any fun / a long time. `She's not had any fun for a long time.` OR `She has not had any fun for a long time.`

2 Andy/have / a cold / a week. `Andy 's had a cold for a week.` OR `Andy has had a cold for a week.`

3 David/not / see / his friends / ages. `David has not seen his friends for ages.`

4 They/not / do / any sport / last year. `They've not done any sport since last year.` OR `They have not done any sport since last year.`

5 Bush / be / busy with his studies / months. `Bush has been busy with his studies for months.`

Mon université avec moi, partout et à tout moment.