

SPEAKING

# Talking about new developments

**LEVEL**

Upper-Intermediate  
(B2)

**NUMBER**

EN\_B2\_2104S

**LANGUAGE**

English



## Learning outcomes

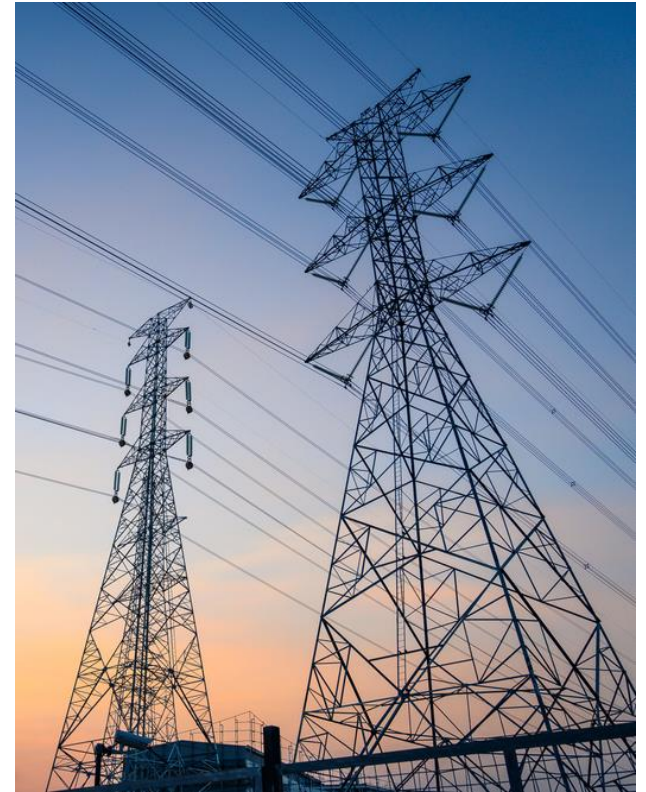
- I can talk about new medical research and how science affects my life in detail.
- I can discuss artificial intelligence and express my opinions on the topic.



## Warm-up

**Can you name any  
scientific breakthroughs  
which have changed the  
way we live?**

**Share your answer with the  
rest of the class!**





# Complete the sentences

In breakout rooms or together as a class, **complete** the sentences with your own ideas.

- 1 An invention that has had a profound impact on my life is...
- 2 I think (*name of invention or discovery*) has revolutionised the world because...
- 3 When I was a child, (*name of invention or discovery*) was considered innovative.
- 4 I hope that in the future, there will be notable developments in the field of ... because ...







# What's your opinion?

Research and medical advancements mean that people are living longer. However, the conditions listed below are becoming more common.

1. **Why** do you think this is?
2. **What** can we do to prevent their growth?

sleeping  
disorders

burnout

social anxiety

obesity





**Quiet quitting** is spreading throughout the office.

The term **quiet quitting** can be a bit misleading. It doesn't involve quitting your job. It means completing only the tasks your job requires and not working longer hours. The goal of **quiet quitting** is to set clear boundaries, avoid burnout, and improve one's work life balance.

What do you think of **quiet quitting**?



# Discuss

Answer the questions below.

**Do you think patients in need should be given access to experimental drugs?**



**Do you think people were happier 50 years ago? Why or why not?**

# Scientific developments

1. **Discuss** the discovery and impact of the scientific developments below.
2. As a class, **choose the 3** that you think have had the biggest influence on today's world. You may have to disagree with your classmates!
3. **Present** your **top 3** to your teacher.

*In my opinion, I think  
\_\_\_\_\_ has had one of  
the biggest influences on  
today's world because...*

antibiotics

electricity

radio

*I have to disagree with you  
because...*

internet

aviation

vaccination

*That's an interesting point.  
However...*

photography

the Higgs boson

the automobile





# Do you agree or disagree?

1. **Read** the statements below.
2. **Say** if you *agree* or *disagree*.
3. **Explain** why.

1 We can solve most of the planet's problems through technological progress.

2 Technological progress will continue to accelerate in the coming century.

3 Technological innovation cannot be sustained without harming our planet and ourselves.





## Discuss

Answer the questions below.

**How might your day-to-day life be different if the internet didn't exist?**



**How has technology changed the way you communicate with people?**

**Do you think it's possible to have a friendship with artificial intelligence?**

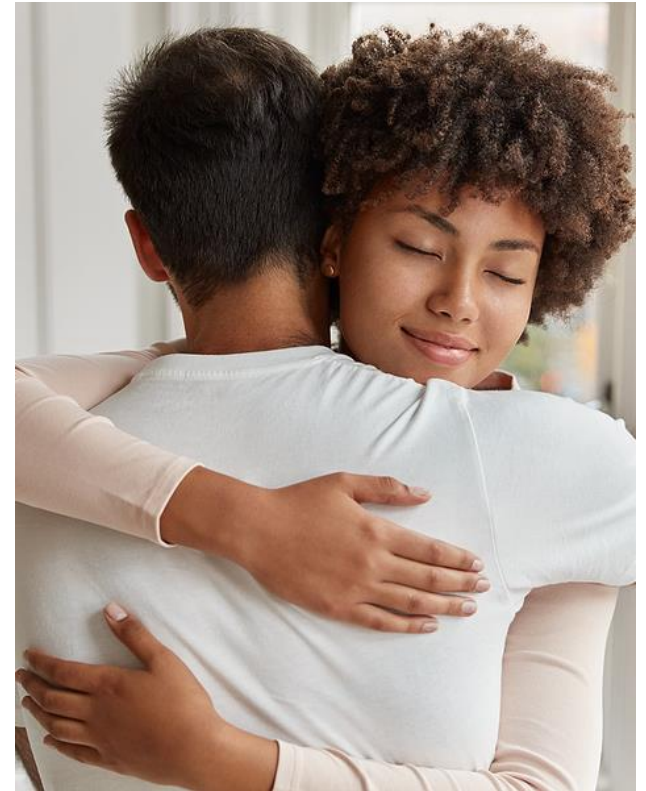


# Discuss

**Answer** the question below.

**What human qualities  
are impossible for  
artificial intelligence  
to learn?**

**Share your ideas with the rest  
of the class!**







# End of the lesson

Idiom

***to be in two minds***

**Meaning:** to experience indecision or have conflicting emotions

**Example:** I am in two minds about whether to move or stay.



# Additional practice



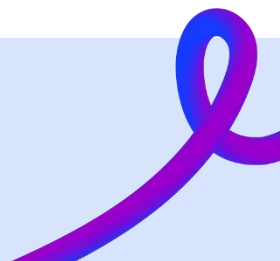
# Discuss

Answer the questions below.

**Which industries do you think will benefit the most from artificial intelligence?**



**How does technology make your job easier?  
More difficult?**





# Discuss

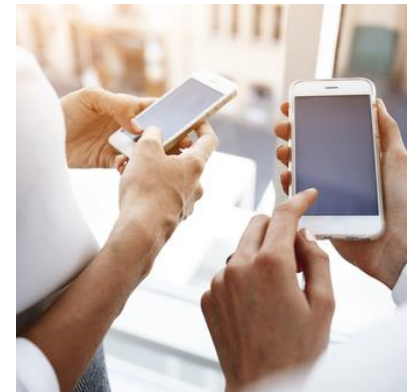
**Answer** the questions below.

**Which technologies are available to you today that weren't available for your parents when they were your age?**

Can you imagine your life without these technologies?

Do you think these technologies have made our lives better?

Do you think anything has been lost because of these technologies?







## Discuss

**Answer** the questions below.

**In Japan, an AI program and its human assistants wrote a book that was nominated for a literary prize.**

**What do you think about AI creating art?**

**Can AI be creative?**





## Answer key





# Summary

## New developments

- *breakthrough; profound impact; innovate; disorder; burnout; anxiety; quiet-quitting; experimental*
- **Quiet quitting** is spreading throughout the office.
- Scientific **breakthroughs** have had **a profound impact** on our daily lives.



# Vocabulary

to revolutionise

disorder

burnout

anxiety

quiet quitting



