

SPEAKING

The digital revolution

LEVEL

Upper-Intermediate
(B2)

NUMBER

EN_B2_3044S

LANGUAGE

English

A woman with short blonde hair, wearing a light pink sweater, is seated and using a white VR headset. She is looking upwards and to the right with a slight smile. The background is a blurred indoor setting with a computer monitor and some books.

Learning outcomes

- I can talk about technology and daily life in detail.
- I can discuss the skills people will need in the future and express my opinion on the topic.

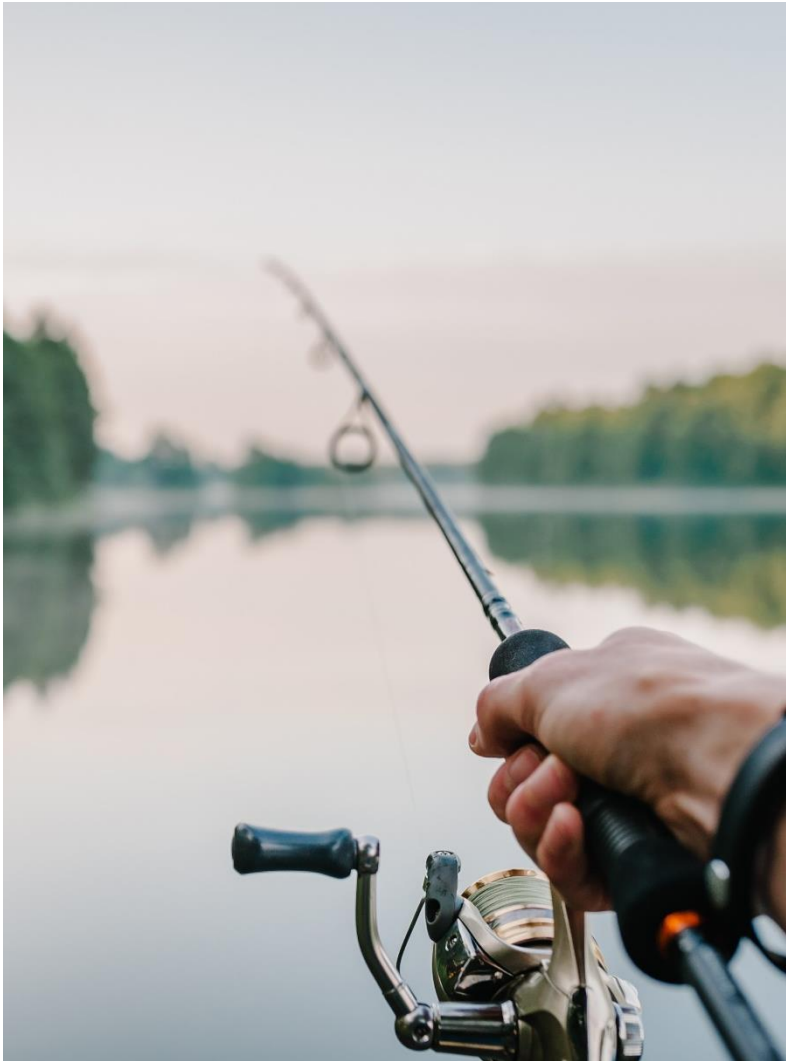


Warm-up

Review vocabulary from the chapter.

Choose one word or phrase and give a brief definition.





More and more people find it necessary to do a **digital detox** once in a while.

Have you heard the term **digital detox**?
Does it sound easy or difficult?

What might be some pros and cons to doing a digital detox?

Have you ever gone on a **digital detox**?
Describe your experience.



Technology in everyday life

Make a list of all the technological developments you can think of from the past century in these areas. How many do you own or use? Pick three that **you couldn't live without** and say why.

Communication

Entertainment

Household
appliances

Transport

Travel

Learning



How long has it been around?

How long have these things been around? Take a **guess!**
Go to **p.20** to find out how close you were.



Electric
toothbrush

MRI scanner

Penicillin

Bluetooth

Blender

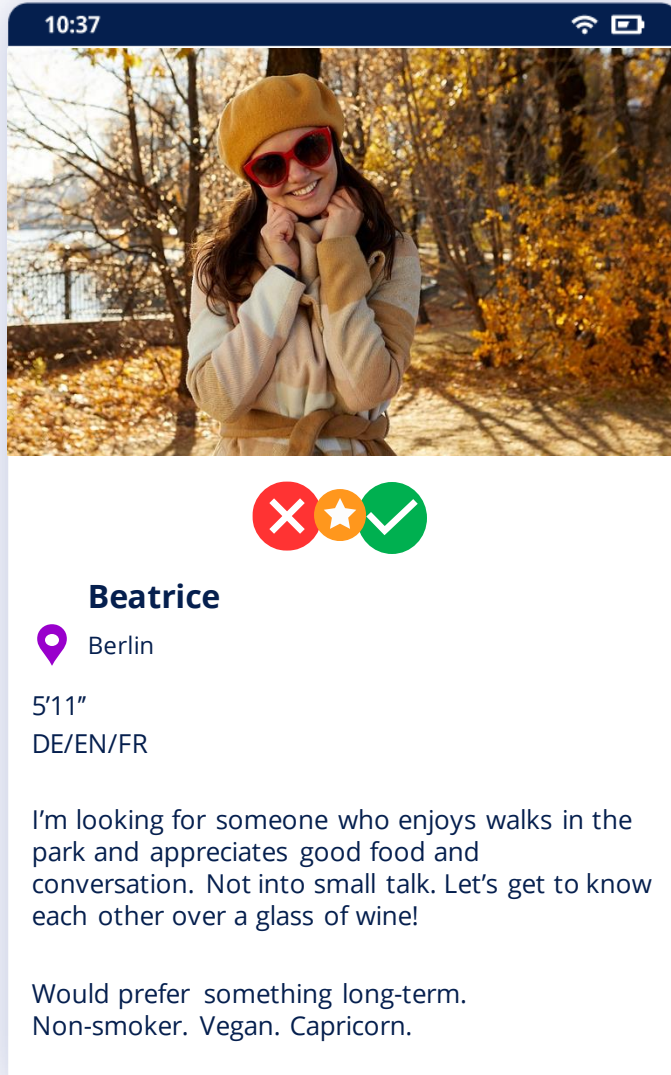
Colour films

Hairdryer

Ballpoint pen

Barcode

Technology in everyday life



Do you know many people who have met their partner through a dating app?

What are some of the pros and cons of dating apps, in your opinion?

Do you think dating apps make dating life easier?

Technology in everyday life

How has your technology use changed in the last five years?



To what extent do you believe children's technology use should be monitored?

Discuss the quote

The quote below is from Steve Jobs.

Read and **discuss it** as a class, using the questions as a guide.

“Technology is nothing. What’s important is that you have faith in people that they are basically good and smart, and if you give them tools, they’ll do wonderful things with them.”

Do you know who Steve Jobs is? What is he famous for?

What do you think the quote means? Do you agree with it?

Would you describe your relationship with technology as positive? Give a reason for your answer.



Education in a digital world

Online teaching and learning is developing at a rapid rate.
How do the following **compare** to the face-to-face, classroom learning experience?
How do they benefit teaching and learning?



MOOCs

Blended learning

Learningapps

Gamification



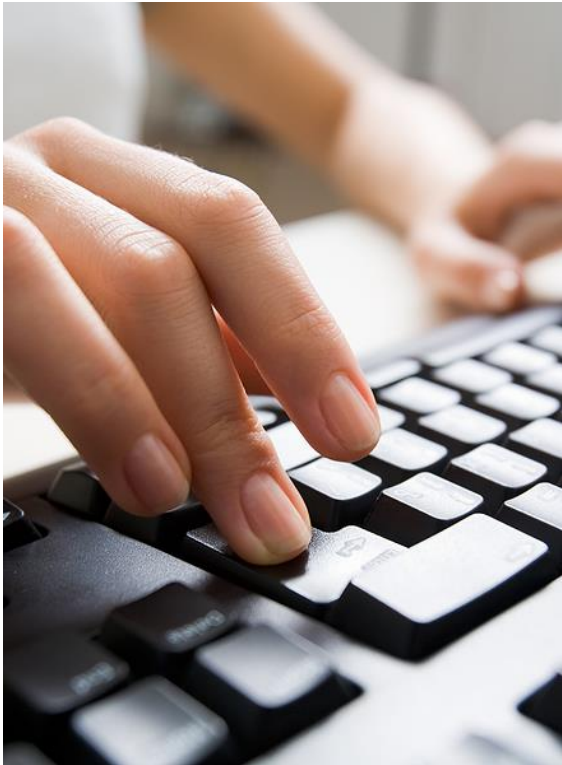
If you're unfamiliar with any of the above, see answer key for definitions.



Digital skills

More and more companies are looking for a wider **skill set** and broader **experience** in their new employees. Below are some examples.

What kind of skills do you have? Which skills do you think are the most important?



Programming

UX/UI design

Project
management

Fluency across
social media
channels

Experience
working with an
international
team

Digital marketing

Data analysis

Multilingualism

Strategic
planning





Digital skills

How has work in these fields changed as a result of digitalisation?
Will there be more changes in the future?

Customer
support

Banking

Agriculture

Architecture

Accountancy

Restaurants
and cafes



End of the lesson

Idiom

A bad workman blames his tools

Meaning: Use this when someone tries to put the blame for failure somewhere other than themselves.

Example:

A: I sounded awful last night... It's this new violin, I'm not used to it yet.

B: A bad workman blames his tools...



Additional practice



Vocabulary test

Choose ONE of the words or phrases below.

Take 2 minutes to write down as much vocabulary related to your chosen item as you can.

Share your list with the class. Can your classmates guess which item you chose?

Social media

E-learning

E-commerce

Digitalisation





Technology in everyday life

Discuss the questions below as a class.

Would you be able to do a full digital detox?

Can you think of other, less extreme, measures to help you switch off every now and then?





Fill in the gaps

- 1 The _____ is a large shift from mechanical and analogue devices to a wireless and digital world
- 2 While the dress code is relaxed, the _____ in the workplace is high.
- 3 The _____ of the recent introduction of a lower national tax rate should benefit everyone in society.
- 4 Most of us are completely technologically _____.

professionalism

dependent

socio-economic
impact

digital revolution



Answer key

P.10

MOOCs: stands for Massive Open Online Course and refers to online courses which are free for all, sometimes from prestigious universities

Blended learning: a type of learning which involves both online and face-to-face, or traditional, learning

Gamification: Using game design elements in learning, in order to make the learning experience more engaging

P.18: 1. digital revolution: 2. professionalism: 3. socio-economic impact: 4. dependent

Answer key

Penicillin: Dr. Alexander Fleming discovered this drug in 1928, but it would take another two decades for a patient to be successfully treated by it.

Colour films: There are different definitions for what constitutes the term 'colour film', but the first film ever made in colour is thought to be a short film called 'A trip to the Moon,' 1902, directed by George Melies.

Hairdryer: The first hairdryer was invented by Alexander Godefroy in 1890, a French hair stylist. It was a seated contraption that attached to a chimney pipe.

MRI (Magnetic Resonance Imaging) scanners: were made commercially available in the 1980s, though the technology that led to their invention was being explored as early as the 1930s.

Barcode: The first product to be scanned using barcode technology was a pack of chewing gum, in 1974.

Bluetooth: The first version of this wireless technology was released in 1999.

Blender: This common kitchen appliance came on the market in 1937 though it was first invented in 1922 for the purpose of blending malt for milkshakes in American soda shops.

Electric toothbrush: The first version of this was invented in 1954, and it was mainly for orthodontic patients.

Ballpoint pen: This type of pen, which works by releasing ink over a metal ball, as opposed to the fountain pen where ink flows out through a metal nib, hit shops in America in 1945.



Summary

Technology in daily life:

- *digital detox*
- *communication; entertainment; dating apps*
- *More and more people find it necessary to do a **digital detox** once in while.*

The future of education:

- *MOOC; blended learning; gamification*
- *multilingualism*
- *I really like **blended learning** because I can interact with my teacher but also learn at my own pace at home.*



Vocabulary

digital detox

MOOC

blended learning

gamification

multilingualism

