

5

Technology



READING

Before You Read

a) Match the objects with their names.



1. a CT scanner
2. a microwave oven
3. an air conditioner
4. a computer
5. a washing machine
6. a blood pressure monitor
7. a digital audio player
8. a vacuum cleaner
9. a blender
10. a digital camera

b) Work with a partner to answer the following questions.

1. In what ways do the devices above help people? Write the names of these modern devices next to their uses.
 - a. For entertainment _____
 - b. For storing data and images _____
 - c. For recording data and images _____
 - d. For cleaning and washing _____
 - e. For preparing and cooking food _____
 - f. For medical diagnosis _____
 - g. For keeping the air cool _____
2. Do you think people's lives can be enjoyable and comfortable without modern equipment?

Reading Text

Read the text and do the tasks that follow.

Now is the year 2040. My name's Ben and I'm working for ABC Computer. I have to work only three days a week, and I spend the rest of my time doing whatever I like. My grandparents always say they were not as lucky as I am – they used to work six days a week!

A typical day of mine starts at 7. As soon as I wake up, Rosa – my maid robot – is ready with a multifunctional machine which is then placed over my head. Within 3 minutes, the machine brushes my teeth, cleans my face, and combs my hair. After that, Rosa helps me get dressed and tells me that it is time for breakfast.

Bob – my cook robot – is waiting for me in the kitchen with a tester fixed to a scale. I stand on the scale and put my hand on the tester. Instantly, all values of my blood pressure, cholesterol, and weight appear on the LCD screen of the machine. Bob prints out the results on a slip of paper and inserts it into a slot on top of the smart refrigerator nearby. Pretty soon, a long beep sound is heard after all my health values have been checked, and my breakfast comes out of an opening on the left side of the fridge. My meals have always been prepared in this way – just to keep me in good health.

Today is not my working day, so I can do what I like. My favorite pastime is browsing the Web. I just need a screen and touch the icons on it with my fingers. My grandpa is quite envious of all the modern technology I'm enjoying. In his time, a CPU used to be connected to a monitor, a mouse, and a keyboard – unbelievable!

In fact, I'm not as happy as my grandparents think. I have all the machines around me to make my life comfortable, but I don't have many friends to talk to or go shopping with. I envy my grandparents, whose life used to be busy but full of fun.

a) Choose the best title for the reading passage.

1. Home of the Future
2. Living with Modern Technology
3. Future Technology

b) Answer the following questions.

1. What is a multifunctional machine, as described in the passage?
2. What are Ben's health values taken for?
3. What does Ben usually do when he is not working?
4. How does Ben's grandfather feel about modern technology?
5. Pick out words and expressions in the text that depict Ben's grandparents' life in the past.

c) Read the text again and interpret the sections after or between dashes. Choose the appropriate implied meanings given in the box and write them in the blanks.

- the writer's comment or attitude
- apposition to nouns; referring to the previous noun
- an explanation

1. Paragraph 1
“they used to work six days a week” _____
2. Paragraph 2
“my maid robot” _____
3. Paragraph 3
“my cook robot” _____
4. Paragraph 3
“just to keep me in good health” _____
5. Paragraph 4
“unbelievable” _____

d) Discuss in groups.

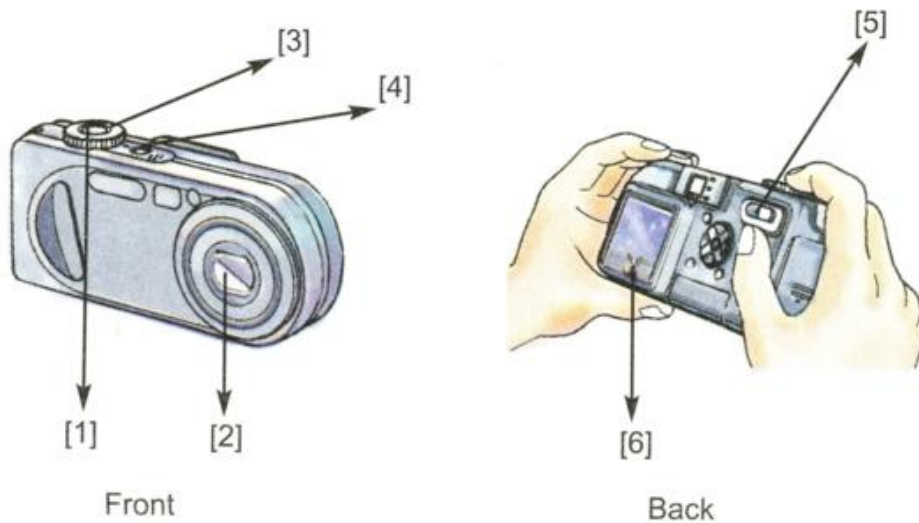
Do you think Ben’s life is enjoyable? Why or why not?



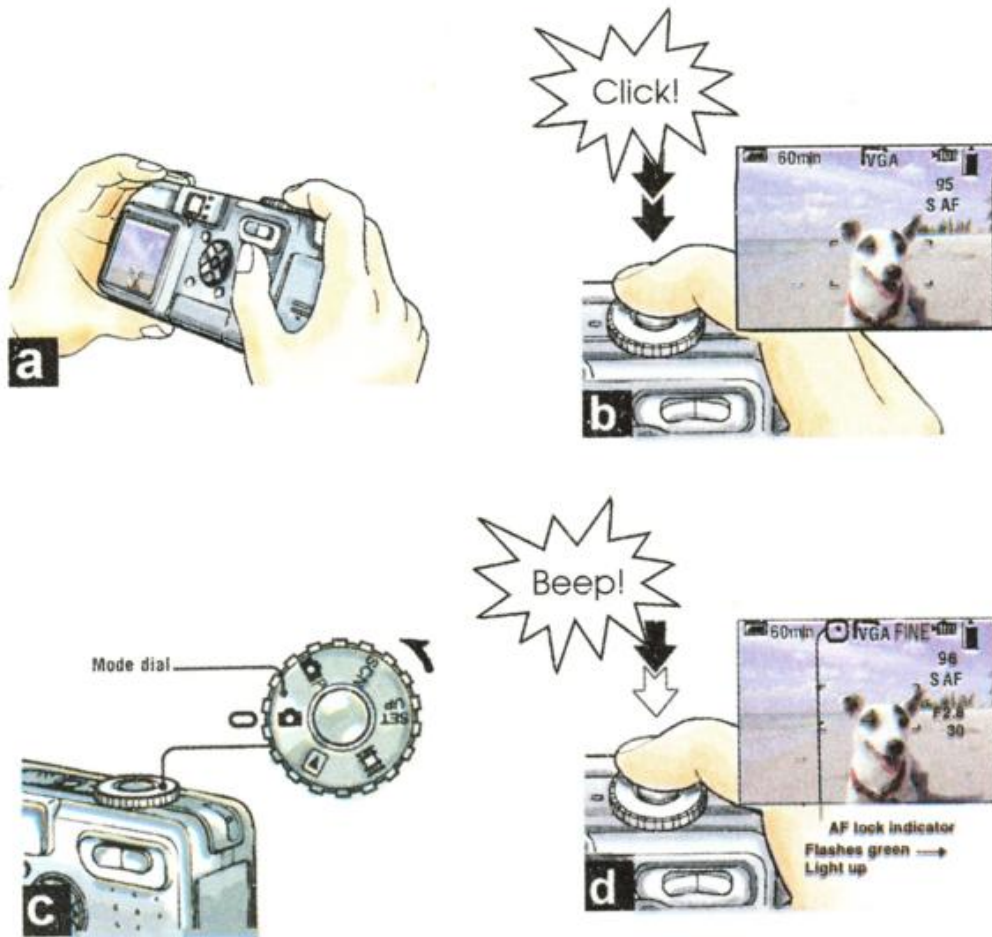
LISTENING

a) Name different parts of a digital camera, using the words and phrases in the box.

power button	lens	mode dial
shutter button	zoom button	LCD screen



b) Lisa is asking John how to use a digital camera. Listen to their conversation and put the pictures in the order of the steps John suggests.



c) Listen again and answer the following questions.

1. Who gave Lisa the digital camera?
2. Whose photo do Lisa and John want to take?
3. What does John advise Lisa to do before pressing the zoom button?
4. What sound does Lisa hear when the image is recorded?

d) Work in pairs. Look at the pictures again and tell your partner how to take photos.



SPEAKING

Giving Opinions

a) Nam and his friends are talking about modern equipment. Complete the blanks with the words in the box below.

see	believe	would	in
mind	wouldn't	don't believe	

_____ my opinion, the microwave oven helps reduce housewives' cooking time.

Nam

I _____ say that the computer has revolutionized our life.

Hoà

To my _____, the washing machine helps lighten women's hard work.

Tuan

I _____ (that) the digital audio player is good for the ears. People may become deaf if they play music too loud.

Peter

As I _____ it, the blender is a necessary appliance in the preparation of soft food (for babies and old people).

Alice

I _____ say the air conditioner is not good at all. It makes people sick!

Nga

b) Work with a partner. Talk about other kinds of devices, using the prompts below.

1. cell phone / convenient / make phone calls / small and portable
2. cell phone / annoying / speak too loud / in public
3. digital camera / record / happy moments / friends' and relatives' images

4. electronic calculator / do calculations / quickly and accurately
5. washing machine / not suitable / *ao dai*'s and men's suits

c) Think of a device (e.g. refrigerator, TV set, fax machine, ...) and tell your partner your opinion on its use.

WRITING

Giving Instructions

a) Kim borrowed a vacuum cleaner from Carol, her roommate, who was away for a month. Carol left a note on how to use it. Put the sentences in the correct order.

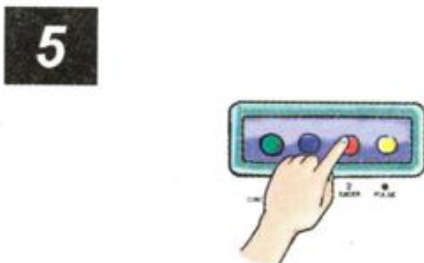
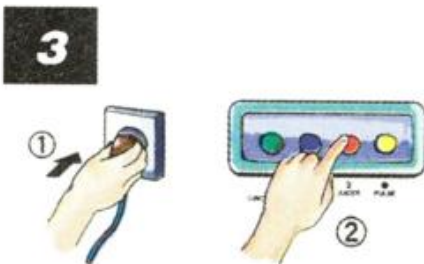
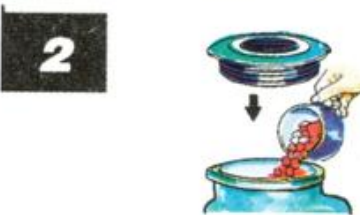
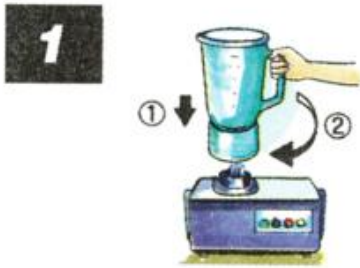
1. Start cleaning the floor and furniture.
2. Don't forget to remove large or sharp objects from the floor to avoid damage to the machine.
3. Make sure to unplug the unit after use.
4. My vacuum cleaner is very easy to use.
5. Plug in the unit and turn the power button on.



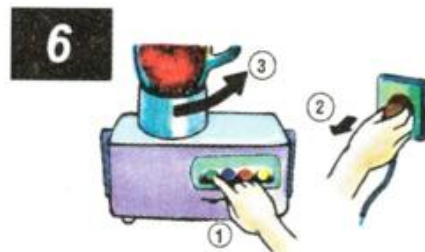
b) Insert the following expressions in Carol's note where appropriate.

First, ... Next, ... Then ... Finally, ...

c) Look at the following pictures and write the instructions on how to use a food blender. Use the prompts below.



1. place / container / base / turn / clockwise
2. put / food / container / cover / cap
3. plug in / select low speed button / press higher speed button
4. remove cap / add sugar or salt / cover / cap
5. press / low speed button / mix / ingredients
6. press stop button / unplug / turn / container / counterclockwise / remove



d) Write the instructions on how to use an electrical device you have at home (or at school).

 **LANGUAGE FOCUS****Word Study****Prefixes**

a) Match the prefixes in column A with their corresponding words in column B.

A	B
1. multi- 2. counter- 3. un-	a. clockwise b. believable c. functional d. plug e. lock f. media g. comfortable

b) Complete the following sentences with the new words you have found in task a).

1. _____ shoes will make your feet painful.
2. Many schools now have _____ rooms to help students study foreign languages better.
3. Don't forget to _____ the vacuum cleaner after use.
4. Turn the key clockwise to lock the door and turn the key _____ to _____ it.
5. Your story is _____. Did you make it up?
6. This _____ device can operate as a blender, juicer, and grinder.

Grammar

a) The Present Perfect Passive

Examples

- My meals *have* always *been prepared* in this way.
- A long beep sound is heard after all my health values *have been checked*.

Make meaningful sentences from the cues, using the appropriate active or passive verb form. The first one has been done as an example.

1. bridge / damage / last week, and it / not repair / yet.
That bridge was damaged last week, and it hasn't been repaired yet.
2. I / not find / digital camera. It / steal.
3. old buildings / just / knock down / build / new supermarket / here.
4. washing machine / not work / yesterday / but / OK / now. It / repair.
5. An unknown actor / choose / star / a new movie.
6. new employee / always / tell / not / play games / at work, but / he / not seem / change.

b) Used to + Base Form of Verb

Examples

- They *used to work* six days a week.
- In his time, a CPU *used to be connected* to a monitor, a mouse, and a keyboard.
- *Did* they *use to wear* clothes made from animal skin?

Make meaningful sentences about people around a hundred years ago, using the cues below. The first one has been done as an example.

1. Vietnamese men / wear / ao dai's / formal occasions / one hundred years ago
Vietnamese men used to wear ao dai's on formal occasions one hundred years ago.

2. travel / horses

3. work very long hours / a week / but / get / low pay

4. grind rice / stone grinder / make / rice flour

5. build houses / mud and straw / because / not have / cement

6. Vietnamese women / dye / teeth / black
