

12 THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY



ABOUT YOU

08 Watch the video, then ask and answer the questions in pairs.

What technology do you use?

How many hours a day do you spend online?

How often do you chat to your friends online?

VOCABULARY

AND

READING

Technology

1 Match the photos A–L to the words in the box.

EP

e-reader fitness tracker games console
headphones keyboard laptop mouse
printer screen smartphone speaker tablet



Listen and check. Then repeat.

2 In small groups, ask and answer these questions.

- How many things with screens are there in your home?
- What are they, and whose are they?
- How many printers/speakers/games consoles are there? Where are they in your house?
- Have you got a smartphone? If so, what kind?

3 Read the facts about technology. Write *K* if you *knew* the information already, *S* if the information *surprises* you and *W* if it *worries* you. Then compare your answers with a partner.

4 In pairs, ask and answer the questions.

- Which of the facts surprises you the most?
- Which of the facts worries you the most?



DID YOU KNOW...?

The most popular games console of all time is the PlayStation 2.

Having problems falling asleep? Looking at the screen on your smartphone, laptop or tablet before bed is one of the worst things you can do. The blue light keeps you awake.

South Korea has the fastest internet in the world. That means it's the best place to watch a movie on your smartphone!

The world's earliest mouse was made of wood and had two wheels. You moved it with your hand.

IMDb is probably the oldest website on the internet. It began in 1990 and now has information on about 3.5 million movies.

Your keyboard is one of the dirtiest things in your home. Clean it often and wash your hands before you start typing!

Today, almost all of us have a smartphone for calling people or sending texts, and even the smallest ones are more powerful than the computers used to send Apollo 11 to the moon.

The world's largest and widest screen can show pictures up to 12 metres high and 50 metres across!



- 1 Look at the examples of superlative adjectives. Read *Did you know ... ?* on page 72 again and find all the superlatives.

the **fastest** internet in the world

the **most popular** games console

Short adjectives				Long adjectives
one syllable	one syllable ending in e	two syllables ending in y	one syllable ending in vowel consonant	use <i>the most</i>
add -est	add -st	change y to -iest	double the last letter and add -est	use the most + adjective
quiet - quiet est	nice - nice st	dirty - dirti est	big - big gest	expensive – the most expensive

GRAMMAR REFERENCE AND PRACTICE PAGE 149

- 2 Read the rules above and complete the table with comparatives and superlatives.

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
Regular		
big	<i>bigger</i>	<i>the biggest</i>
famous	<i>more famous</i>	<i>the most famous</i>
early		
thin		
beautiful		
young		
Irregular		
good		
bad		

- 3 Complete the sentences with the superlative form of the adjectives.

- My dad has the _____ (good) computer in our house.
- My laptop is the _____ (light) one you can buy.
- The _____ (popular) website among my friends is YouTube.
- This smartphone has the _____ (big) screen of all the ones in the shop. Do you like it?
- The _____ (bad) thing about my computer is the mouse. It doesn't work properly.
- My mum's phone is the _____ (old) one in our family.

- 4 Correct the mistakes in the sentences.

- 1 Football is the famous game in the world.
 2 The better time to come to my house is 5.30.
 3 The easier way to travel there is by bus.
 4 Wear the older clothes you've got to do this job.
 5 My room is the bigger in the house.



PRONUNCIATION

Stress in superlatives

5 Listen and repeat the words. Then put them into the correct column of the table.

the biggest the cleverest
 the friendliest the most exciting
 the most expensive the nicest
 the quickest the worst

o0	o0o	o0oo	ooo0o
	<i>the biggest</i>		

89 Listen again and check.

- 6 Look at the three mobile phones. In pairs, compare them. Use some of the adjectives in the box.

big/small cheap/expensive good/bad
 heavy/light thick/thin

- A: *The High Star's battery is better than the Cloud 7's battery.*
 B: *The Bluebird's battery is the worst.*

	High Star	Bluebird	Cloud 7
Price	£299	£355	£450
Size	115 x 58 x 9 mm	116 x 61 x 12 mm	135 x 67 x 17 mm
Weight	130 g	142 g	155 g
Easy to use	★★★★	★★★	★
Camera	★★	★★★★	★★★
Battery	★★	★	★★★

- 7 >> Work with a partner. Go to page 124.

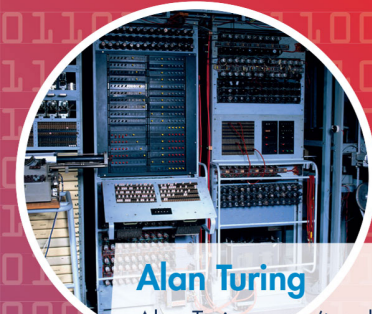
The history OF COMPUTERS



205BCE

The Antikythera Mechanism

In 1900, a group of people diving near the Greek island of Antikythera found this machine on the sea floor. For many years, no one understood what it was or how it worked. Scientists now say it was used to find out the positions of the sun, moon and stars. Many people call it the world's earliest 'computer'.



Alan Turing

Alan Turing wasn't well known when he was alive, but he's now one of the most famous scientists of the 20th century. His ideas on computer science changed the world. He worked on the first digital computer – it was called Colossus, weighed 30 tonnes, and was as big as a large living room.

1940s

From the 1950s

Modern computers

From the 1950s, computers got smaller, faster and cheaper. Today, the smallest mobile phones have more memory than the biggest early computers. And computers are getting better all the time. However, they are not perfect. One of the worst problems is computer viruses. You can lose a lot of information when one gets on your machine. Be careful about what you download from the internet.

around 2,700 BCE to today

The abacus

People still use abacuses today in many parts of the world, especially to teach maths to children. Of course, they are very different from modern computers, but the idea is the same – to answer difficult maths questions much more quickly than a human can.



1791–1871
and 1815–1852

Charles Babbage and Ada Lovelace

The modern computer was Charles Babbage's idea. The machine he wanted to build, called a 'difference engine', was special because it had all the parts that a modern computer has. It could save information and was also a kind of printer. Ada Lovelace was the first computer programmer. She had the idea for 'software' – a way of telling a computer to do different things.



READING

- 1 Do you know the names of any early computers? Read the article once and check your ideas.
- 2 Complete the sentences with one or two words from the article.
 - 1 Some children use an abacus to learn how to do
 - 2 Charles Babbage's computer had several different
 - 3 The first person to program a computer was
 - 4 Colossus was as big as a
 - 5 Modern are small but can do more than the biggest computers of the past.



TALKING POINTS

Computers can now do a lot of clever things. But are they more intelligent than us? Why / Why not?

VOCABULARY

Computers and the internet

- 1** Look at the article again and find the words in the box. Match them to the definitions.

EP

digital download machine memory
save software virus

- This has moving parts and helps humans to do work.
- This is a part of a computer – it holds information.
- This is a dangerous computer program.
- You do this to make sure the computer keeps your work.
- This describes cameras, computers and clocks that record information as 0s or 1s.
- This means to copy information from the internet onto your computer.
- This is all the programs that make a computer do different things.

- 2** Match the verbs to the nouns. Then make sentences.

EP

buy
chat
download
go
play
surf
visit
watch

friends
clothes
games
the internet
music
online
videos
websites

I often chat online with my cousins.

- 3** Read the survey. Choose three or four questions and write two more of your own. Walk around the class asking your questions.

COMPUTER SURVEY

- ☐ What sort of things do you download from the internet?
- ☐ Do you know how to stop a virus from getting onto your computer?
- ☐ How much memory has your phone got? Is it enough?
- ☐ Do you ever forget to save your work?
- ☐ How often do you chat to friends online?

- 4** Write some sentences about what you found out.

*Everybody downloads music and half the class downloads games from the internet.
Four people sometimes forget to save their work.
Most people chat to friends online every day.*

LISTENING

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- 1** Listen to and read the first part of the conversation and look at Question 0. Which is the correct answer: A, B or C? Why are the other two answers wrong?

Ella: Nice new laptop Andy! When did you get it?

Andy: Yesterday. My old one broke a month ago, and last week Dad agreed to buy me this.

- 0** When did Andy get his new computer?

A yesterday **B** last week **C** a month ago

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- 2** Listen to the whole conversation. For each question, choose the correct answer.

- Andy's dad bought the computer from
A a website. **B** a shop. **C** a friend.
- How much did it cost?
A £150 **B** £250 **C** £2,000
- What does Andy want to buy for the computer?
A a camera **B** a mouse **C** a printer
- Andy doesn't use his computer to
A do homework. **B** chat to friends.
C play games.
- What does Andy like most about the computer?
A the keyboard **B** the screen **C** the speakers

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In pairs, compare your answers. Then listen again and check your answers.

WRITING



PREPARE TO WRITE

An email

GET READY Read the email from your friend Morgan. Why did Morgan write the email?

🔍 🏠

My laptop broke yesterday, and I need to get a new one. Tell me about your new computer. When did you get it? How much did it cost? What's the best thing about it?

Best wishes,
Morgan

PLAN Think of an answer to each of Morgan's questions.

- WRITE** Write an email to Morgan with answers to all his questions. Begin your email with *Hi Morgan*, or *Dear Morgan*, and end it with *See you soon*, or *Best wishes*, and your name. Write 25 words or more.

IMPROVE In pairs, read your email and your partner's. Check that all three questions have an answer. Give your partner two ideas to make their email better. Use your partner's advice and rewrite your email.

UNIT 12 SUPERLATIVE ADJECTIVES

SEE GRAMMAR REFERENCE, UNIT 11, COMPARATIVE ADJECTIVES, PAGE 148

Adjective	Superlative
One syllable	
young →	the youngest
Two syllables with consonant + -y	
heavy →	the heaviest
Two syllables or more	
famous →	the most famous
Irregular	
good →	the best
bad →	the worst
far →	the farthest / furthest

- We use superlative adjectives to compare one thing with two or more other things.
The Hopper computer is one of the fastest in the world.
- We use **the** before the superlative adjective.
This is the smallest smartphone anywhere in the world.
- We usually use **in** to talk about a place with the superlative adjective.
This is the most expensive laptop in the world / in my city / in my town, etc. (not of the world)

Spelling

SEE GRAMMAR REFERENCE, UNIT 11, COMPARATIVE ADJECTIVES, SPELLING, PAGE 148

- The spelling rules for superlative and comparative adjectives are the same.
- One-syllable adjectives:**
 - mostly add **-est**.
small → smallest, cheap → cheapest
 - One-syllable adjectives ending in **-e**, add **-st**.
nice → nicest, late → latest
 - One-syllable adjectives ending in consonant + vowel + consonant (except **w, x** or **y**), double the consonant and add **-est**.
big → biggest, fat → fattest
 - Two-syllable adjectives** ending in consonant + **-y** change the **-y** to **-i** and add **-est**.
busy → busiest, happy → happiest
 - Adjectives of two or more syllables** add **most**.
expensive → most expensive

Practice

1 Write the comparative and superlative forms of the adjectives.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| 0 slow <i>slower, the slowest</i> | 6 beautiful |
| 1 near | 7 good |
| 2 large | 8 bad |
| 3 thin | 9 far |
| 4 friendly | |
| 5 happy | |

2 Complete the sentences with the superlative form of the adjectives in brackets.

- My sister's got _____ (long) hair in my school.
- Cristiano Ronaldo is one of _____ (famous) football players in the world.
- You can eat _____ (good) burgers in my town in Ray's Burger Bar.
- Mrs Peters is _____ (friendly) teacher in my school.
- My house has got _____ (big) garden in my street.
- Last night we watched _____ (funny) video online. I laughed a lot!

3 Write sentences using superlative adjectives.

- The supermarket / busy shop / my town
The supermarket is the busiest shop in my town.
- My sister / fast person / our school
_____.
- Russia / large country / world
_____.
- Salad / healthy food / this café
_____.
- I / bad singer / my class
_____.
- My brother / good player / his team
_____.

4 Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

- I think history is *more* / *the most* interesting than science.
- Travelling by plane is *faster* / *the fastest* than travelling by bus.
- Oranges are *healthier* / *the healthiest* food in the cupboard.
- Jonny bought *better* / *the best* smartphone in the shop.
- A printer is *more* / *the most* expensive than a mouse.
- The Torre de Cristal is *taller* / *the tallest* building in Spain.