

Topic: Technology

Let's get started...

Think about the different kinds of technology you used today. (For example, cars, cell phones, elevators, ATM machines, credit card machines, computers) What kinds of technology did you use? Where did you use them? When did you use them?

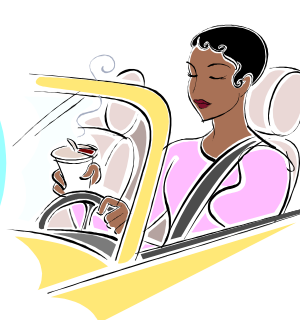
Background:

Everyday, we use many different kinds of technology. Most people in America rely on technology such as cars, computers, telephones, street lights, microwaves, and televisions everyday. Most people cannot imagine life without technology because technology is so important to our everyday life!



In pairs for 5 minutes, ask and answer these questions:

- What kind of technology do you use everyday?
- How often do you use this kind of technology?
- Why is this kind of technology important to you?
- What can you do with this kind of technology?
- If you didn't have this kind of technology, would your life be different? How?



Share your partner's answers with the group.

Discussion Questions:

What are some good things about technology?

What are some bad things about technology?

Do you like using the computer? Why or why not? How did you learn to use a computer?

Do you have a cell phone? How often do you use it?

Do you use the same technology in America that you use in your native country?

What kind of technology do you never use? (For example, cars, radios, televisions)

What kinds of technology do you dislike? Why?

How many hours a day do you spend using technology? (For example, talking on the telephone, watching TV, driving a car)

If you didn't have a telephone, how would you communicate with other people?

How do you like to communicate with people? Do you prefer using the telephone, computer, speaking in person, or writing a letter?

How would cooking be different if you had no oven, microwave, refrigerator, freezer, or faucet?

What is your favorite kind of technology? Why? Can you imagine life without this kind of technology?

Which statement do you agree with? Why?

- Technology makes life easier.
- Technology makes life harder.

What do you think about people who listen to music while walking down the street?

What do you think about people who talk on their cell phones loudly?

Do you think children should play video games or play outside? Why?

Are there any famous inventors in your native country? What did they invent?

Would you prefer: too much technology, or not enough technology? Why?

Which is more important: making new technology or protecting the environment? Why?

Do you like being on the "cutting edge" of technology?

Is the technology in your native country different or similar to the technology in America?

New words and Idioms:

Elevator, rely, video games, inventors, inventions, "cutting edge," "high-tech," "techie," wireless,