

Topic: Technology

Let's get started . . . tell about a time when the electric power to your home or work was turned **off**. What did you dislike about it? Did you like anything about it? Explain.

Story: One day, Mary got a call from her daughter's cell phone. Her daughter, Jenna, was studying at a university in New York. But it was **not** Jenna on the phone. It was someone working at a mall in New York. The mall worker said, "This cell phone was lost at our mall today. You were listed as 'mom' in the address book." "Oh no!" thought the mother. "How will I let my daughter know that her phone was found? I can't call and tell her! If I call her cell phone, I'll only reach this mall worker. How can I help my daughter get her phone back?" **What advice would you give to Mary?**



In pairs for 5 minutes, tell each other a story about one of these things.

Tell about a time when you lost or forgot your cell phone.

Tell about a time when you tried to do something new on a computer.

Share one of your partner's stories with the group.

The Rest of the Story: Mary called Jenna's roommate at college. She gave Mary the cell phone# of Jenna's boyfriend. Mary called Jenna's boyfriend and learned that he was with Jenna at the mall. So he told Jenna about her lost phone, and they went to get it.



Interview 3 people about technology they use. Write their names in the left column, and then write yes or no for each one. Say, "Do you use these? If you have a problem with the technology, do you solve it yourself, or do you ask someone else for help?" Ask them to explain.

Name	Email 	Cell Phone 	TV 	Car 	Appliances 

Discussion Questions - talk in pairs or small groups. Change groups from time to time.

The word **"technology"** often means modern things such as cell phones, computers and airplanes. **"Technology"** can also mean **any** tool, or **any** method, or **any** practical knowledge or invention from the beginning of human history.

Give examples of technology used in your home culture or in the U.S.

2000 years ago

200 years ago

in the 20th century (1900 - 2000)

that is **agricultural** (growing plants or raising animals)

that is **industrial** (manufacturing, mining)

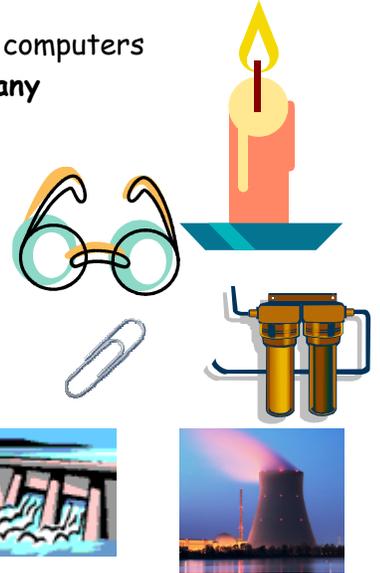
that is used in **sports**

that is used in **medicine**

that uses **fire**

that uses **water**

that uses **human or animal strength**



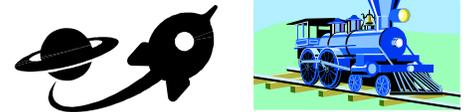
What technologies are **most important**

to you?

to your family?

to your native country?

to the world?



What technology do you use most often? What technology are you good at? What technology is your family good at?

Email may be a good thing; but when someone sends out spam or viruses, it may become a bad thing. Are some technologies good and some bad? Why or why not? Give examples.

When you use a new technology or try to fix something do you read an instruction manual? Is it helpful? Does your spouse, a family member or a friend read the instruction manual for you?

Do you work in, or know someone who works in an IT (Information Technology) department? Do you think this is a good kind of job? Why or why not?

New vocabulary: technology, electric power, mall, address book, found, reach, advice, solve, modern, invent(ed), agricultural, industrial, fire, strength, spam, virus, instruction manual

Keep talking about it this week: Ask friends what technology is most important to them. Write down their answers and be ready to share with the group in the next Talk Time.

More: Read a story about a lost cell phone at

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/technology/2008/10/cellphone-lost.html>