Keith Speaking Academy

Live Lesson Notes

Technology

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Part 1   Part 2

Part 3

_____
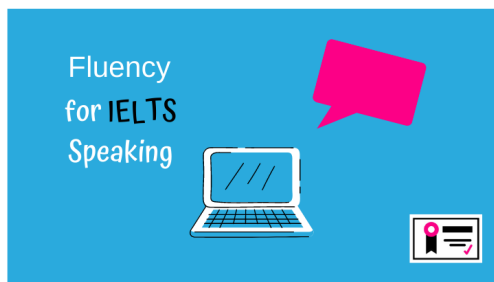
What you will learn in this worksheet:

Useful Links
Warm up questions
Technology-related Topics
Tips for IELTS Speaking Part 3 Questions
Essential Vocabulary
What are the 'new' technologies?
Technology - a good or bad thing?
Role of A.I. in our lives
Idioms about technology

Useful Links

Find out about **emerging technologies**
https://connectedworld.com/ranking-influential-emerging-technologies-for-2020

More about **The Internet of Things**
https://www.analyticsvidhya.com/blog/2016/08/10-youtube-videos-explaining-the-real-world-applications-of-internet-of-things-iot/

Different types of **robots**
https://robots.ieee.org/learn/types-of-robots/

Click to get a complete **Mock IELTS** Test.
https://takeielts.net/the-path-to-success-in-the-ielts-test/

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Introduction

In this free IELTS Speaking lesson on the topic of Technology, you will learn how to talk about different kinds of technology and how they impact our lives

Watch the complete video about this topic of Technology here; Part 1 and Part 2.

Topics where technology might be discussed

Technology appears in many IELTS Speaking topics, especially when we talk about the impact of technology and how it has changed our lives. You may find questions about technology in any of these topics:

Skills
Education
Children
School subjects
Workplace
Business
Generation Gap
Modern homes
Buildings
Cities
Communication
Phones
Social Media
Computers
Video Games

Tips for IELTS Speaking Part 3 Questions

A common question in IELTS Speaking Part 3 is

How has technology changed our lives?

*For this kind of Part 3 questions, don't just give a list like the one above, but rather choose **one** topic and **develop** it. You could use some phrases like the following:*

If we are talking about EDUCATION, then I think…

Let me pick one area, for example EDUCATION. I reckon…

Let's take for instance EDUCATION, it seems to me…..

Essential vocabulary

Here is some essential language to talk about the IELTS Speaking topic of Technology

Technology (n.) Countable and Uncountable

Technology is powerful (uncountable)

A.I. is a powerful technology (countable)

Tech = art, skill, craft. **- ology** = subject of study

What is 'technology'?

"Scientific **knowledge** used to solve problems"

We can use it to…

create **tools**…..(a pen, an i-phone)
improve **processes** (communication)

These tool / process / systems are also called technology!

Collocations

All of the following more or less mean 'new'

New technologies
Latest technologies
Emerging technologies
Modern technologies

The following are also common collocations with 'technology'

Disruptive_____
Cutting edge _____
State-of-the-art _____
Upcoming _____
Old-fashioned_____
Out of date_____

Verbs + technology

Introduce / adopt / develop / exploit / use new technologies

Word Family

Technology (n.)

Technical (adj.)

Technical skills / knowledge

It's a bit **technical** (difficult to understand)

Say it **in layman's terms** (=simple English)

Emerging technologies

Artificial Intelligence (AI)
Machine Learning
5G
The Internet of Things (IOT)
Augmented Reality (AR)
Virtual Reality (VR)
Blockchain
Biometrics
Robotics

AI = the simulation of human intelligence in machines that are programmed to think like humans and mimic their actions.

VR is a computer-generated environment with scenes and objects that appear to be real (e.g video games, pilot simulation)

IoT = refers to a system of internet-connected objects that are able to collect and transfer data over a wireless network without human intervention (e.g. energy management, water distribution, contactless payments, smart homes)

Biometrics identifies and authenticates individuals based on their physical or behavioural characteristics. (e.g. Fingerprint recognition, voice recognition, face recognition)

Robotics = developing **robots** that substitute for (or replicate) human actions (e.g Roomba vacuum, car manufacturing)

IELTS Speaking Tip

If you don't know much about technology, you can also use these phrases to still show off your English!

Technology **is not really my thing, but I think…**

I'm by no means an expert, but I would say…

I'm a **bit of a** technology **buff, and the way I see it…**

I'm far from an expert, but as I see it…

Is technology a good or a bad thing?

On the positive side……

It allows us to _____
It means we have been able to_____
It's enabled us to_____

communicate more effectively
develop stronger economies
improve our quality of life

At the same time, there have also been _____

side effects
unexpected outcomes
unwanted by-products
undesirable consequences

Such as pollution / depletion of natural resources /

Technology is great, but we might lose our privacy or get unsolicited
(unwanted) advertisements, but maybe that's the price we pay!

The role of A.I. in our lives today

Alexa
Siri
Amazon
Google Maps
Face recognition
Driverless cars
Chat bots
Facebook

Idioms to talk about Technology

The technology behind a pen is **not rocket science** = *It's simple*

My computer is **running like clockwork** (= *working perfectly*)

The iPhone **was ahead of its time** (=*too advanced to be fully understood at that time in the past*)

You've **hit the nail on the head** (= *you are exactly right*)

I've no more ideas, I have **run out of steam** (= *lost all energy and enthusiasm*)

My boss **has a screw loose** = (*crazy*)

New technologies **cost an arm and a leg** (=*expensive*)

to hit the **panic button** (=*take emergency measures*)