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New Basic English for **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

Student's Book

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Listening

Speaking

Writing

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A personal story	Questions in past	An experience	Project: A video tutorial
A podcast	Technical support	A review	Get more technical: Internet address symbols and domain names
An Erasmus interview	A job interview	An email cover letter Europass CV	Project: Presenting a tech startup

Vocabulary: Types of computers; peripherals
Reading: Spatial computing

Grammar: Comparatives and superlatives
Listening: Characteristics of computers

Speaking: Buying and selling a computer
Writing: Describing a gadget

Types of computers

1 Take a look at the different kinds of computers. Which ones do you have at home?



desktop computer



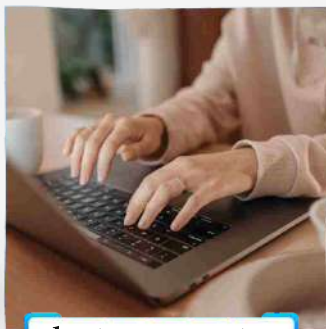
tablet



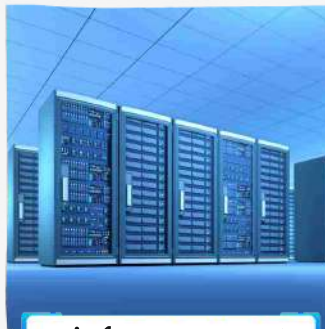
smartphone



gaming console



laptop computer



mainframe computer



wearable computer



kiosk computer

2 Read the sentences and decide if they are true or false. Correct the false ones.

- A tablet is a handheld device.
- A desktop PC is the most powerful computer.
- The devices that you can wear on your body are called kiosk computers.
- You can find laptop computers in public places.
- Smartphones have touch screens.
- You can only play videogames on a gaming console.

3 Read about embedded computers. Can you think of other devices that contain this type of computer?

Did You Know?

Many of the devices we use at home and in industry have small computing systems integrated. They are called embedded computers and control gadgets like smart TVs, microwaves or washing machines. In industry, we can find embedded computers in manufacturing robots, medical devices or ATMs.

4 Work in pairs. Ask and answer the questions.

- Have you ever seen a kiosk computer? Where?
- Do you prefer a gaming PC or a gaming console? Why?
- Do you have any wearable computers? Which ones? What do you use them for?

Peripherals

5 Label the pictures with the words in the box.

monitor · speakers · headset · graphic tablet · keyboard
wireless mouse · webcam · printer · projector



b



c



d



a



e



f



g



h



i

DON'T FORGET

The plural of mouse is mice when we talk about an animal. For a computer mouse, both **mouses** and **mice** are correct.

6 Write the name of the correct peripherals. Use the words in exercise 5.

- It allows users to draw by hand and transfer the images to the computer.
- It transfers text and images to paper.
- It shows images, video and text on the screen.
- It captures video for video conferencing or recording.
- It shows the computer content on a bigger screen.
- It is used for typing text.
- They generate sound.
- It combines headphones and a microphone in one device.

7 Complete the table with the words in exercise 5. Then add more examples to each category.

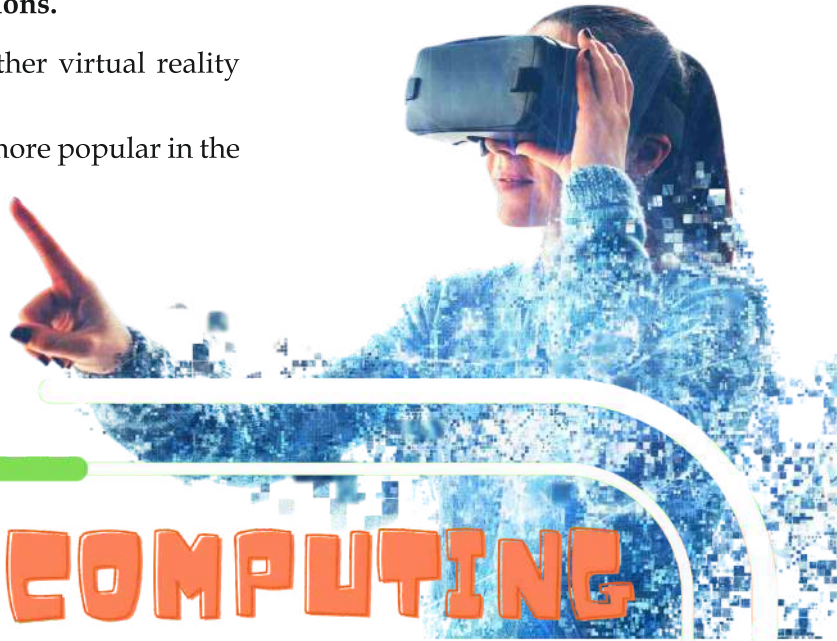
Input	Output

8 Work in pairs. Ask and answer these questions.

- When is a mouse more useful than a touchpad?
- Do you have a printer at home? What kind of printer is it? Does it have a scanner?
- Do you prefer a wired mouse or a wireless mouse? Why?
- Describe a peripheral that you have.

 **1 Work in pairs. Ask and answer the questions.**

- a) Have you ever used virtual glasses or other virtual reality peripherals? Where? What for?
- b) Do you think virtual glasses will become more popular in the coming years? Why or why not?



SPATIAL COMPUTING

These days, we are living in the era of spatial computing. Spatial computing refers to the way in which computers interact with the real world in a natural way, combining the virtual and the physical world.

This is possible thanks to headsets such as the ones created by Apple, the Apple Vision Pro, which display the virtual world, and at the same time, incorporate real objects into the scene. They use computer vision, sensor fusion, and spatial mapping to create a realistic view of the environment and to place virtual content in the most precise way possible. For example, if you are thinking of redecorating your house, you can place a piece of furniture in your living room virtually before you buy it and see how it looks. Or if you are assembling a machine or a gadget, you can do it while reading the instructions directly from the manual projected in front of you. Isn't that great?

The Apple Vision Pro also features an advanced system that tracks your eyes, gestures and voice. With the eye-tracking technology, you only need to look at objects to activate them, and with the hand-gesture detection you can move objects around by pinching your fingers or flicking your wrist. If you are in an environment where you cannot use your hands, for example in manufacturing, it supports voice commands. This allows you to do the things you love or need in ways never before possible.



Reading comprehension

2 Decide if the following sentences are true (T) or false (F) according to the information in the text. Correct the false sentences.

- a) In spatial computing all the elements are virtual and there is not connection with the real world.
- b) If you want to decorate your house, you can buy pieces of furniture using the Apple Vision Pro.
- c) If you're wearing these glasses, you can use your voice, eyes and movements to send commands.



3 Answer the questions according to the information in the text.

- a) What is spatial mapping used for in spatial computing?
- b) How do Apple Vision Pro glasses help you assemble an object?
- c) How can you move objects with the hand-gesture detection system?
- d) In which situations is it useful to use the voice commands?



4 Find synonyms in the text for these words.

- a) age
- b) putting together
- c) guide
- d) follows
- e) instructions



5 Work in pairs. How can spatial computing be used in each of the following areas? Take a look at the pictures below to help you.

- a) Games and entertainment
- b) Education and training
- c) Architecture and design
- d) Healthcare





Comparatives and superlatives

1 Read the rules.

COMPARATIVE FORM	SUPERLATIVE FORM
<p>Short adjectives add “-er (than)”:</p> <p>- Tablets are lighter than laptops.</p> <p>Long adjectives add “more... (than)”:</p> <p>- Online games can be more interesting than offline games.</p>	<p>Short adjectives add “the -est”:</p> <p>- Your laptop is the fastest in the office.</p> <p>Long adjectives add “the most...”:</p> <p>- My husband has the most expensive mobile phone on the market.</p>

Spelling rules

Adjectives ending in -e add -r or -est: **safe - safer (than) - the safest**

Adjectives ending in -y change to -i and add -er or -iest: **heavy - heavier (than) - the heaviest**

Short adjectives ending in CVC double the last consonant: **big - bigger (than) - the biggest**

Irregular adjectives

Good - A big screen is **better than** a small screen.

Bad - My new PC is **worse than** your old PC.

Good - I need **the best** antivirus for my PC.

Bad - Your PC has **the worst** graphics.

2 Complete the sentences with the comparative form of the adjectives in brackets. Which sentences are true and which are false?

- Smartwatches are (sophisticated) basic watches.
- A wired connection is usually (fast) a Wi-Fi connection.
- Tablets are (thin) laptops, so they're (easy) to carry.
- Kiosk computers are (powerful) mainframe computers.
- Modern gaming consoles have (good) graphics old gaming consoles.
- Updates make our computers work (slow).
- Short passwords are (safe) long passwords.
- The Wi-Fi signal can be (bad) if you are far from the router.
- New phones are (thick) old phones.

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

- Tim is (efficient) technician in the company.
- Our internet connection is (strong) in the neighborhood.
- My phone is (cheap).
- I have (new) version of the programme.
- I'd like to buy (big) smart TV in the store.
- (bad) thing about my smartphone is its battery.
- Maintenance is (interesting) subject that we have.

4 What is your opinion? Complete the sentences with the names or words and the superlative form of the adjectives in brackets.

- is (difficult) subject.
- is (good) mobile app.
- is (funny) TV programme.
- is (safe) antivirus software.



5 Take a look at a brochure from a computer shop. Which device would you like to buy for yourself?

CYBERSYSTEMS



Gaming PCs

Desktop PCs

Laptops

Gear Store

Sales & Promotions



PRODUCT CODE: #876545

HP LAPTOP COMPUTER

Processor: Intel Core i7
Weight: 1.67 kg
Screen size: 15.6 inches
RAM: 16 GB
Hard drive: 1TB

769€

★★★★★ 56 reviews



PRODUCT CODE: #876545

ASUS CHROMEBOOK

Processor: Intel Core i3
Weight: 1.48 kg
Screen size: 14 inches
RAM: 8 GB
Hard drive: 256 GB

479€

★★★★★ 84 reviews



PRODUCT CODE: #876545

APPLE IPAD AIR

Processor: Apple M1
Weight: 461 g
Screen size: 10.9 inches
RAM: 16 GB
Hard drive: 1TB

725€

★★★★★ 147 reviews

6 Write sentences about the computers in exercise 5. Use the comparative and the superlative forms of the adjectives in the box.

powerful · heavy · good · cheap · popular · light · expensive · bad

- a)
- b)
- c)
- d)
- e)
- f)
- g)
- h)

7 Work in pairs. Ask and answer these questions.

- a) What type of computer would you like to buy?
- b) What are the key characteristics of modern computers?
- c) What are the characteristics of the computer that you have?
- d) What specific brands or models are currently the trendiest in the computer market? Why are they popular?



Characteristics of a computer

1 Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

inches · GB · screen · card · speed · slots



- a) I need to upgrade my computer with a new graphics
- b) The computer mouse helps me to move the arrow on the
- c) The of my computer is slow; I need to make it faster.
- d) The laptop has a compact design with a screen size of 15
- e) The motherboard has three expansion for additional components.
- f) My new smartphone has 32 of storage space for apps, photos and videos.

2 Listen and complete with the missing information. Then match the descriptions (1-4) with the pictures (A-D).

<p>1.</p> <p>Brand: Acer</p> <p>RAM memory: GB</p> <p>Screen size:"</p> <p>Price:</p> <p>128GB: £.....</p> <p>256GB: £.....</p>	<p>2.</p> <p>Brand:</p> <p>RAM memory: GB</p> <p>Other information:</p> <p>- keyboard</p> <p>- mouse</p> <p>Price: £.....</p>
<p>3.</p> <p>Brand: Lenovo</p> <p>RAM memory: GB</p> <p>..... network connectivity</p> <p>Price: £.....</p> <p>Other information:</p> <p>- Available in black, red, and</p>	<p>4.</p> <p>Brand:</p> <p>Price: £.....</p> <p>Response time: ms</p> <p>Other information:</p> <p>- One-year</p> <p>- Ideal for any type of</p>



3 What is the most important characteristic for you in a computer? Order these elements (1-7). Then, explain why they are important or not important to you.

- a) Processing speed
- b) Design
- c) Screen size
- d) Graphics card
- e) Brand
- f) Storage capacity
- g) RAM memory



Buying and selling a computer

1 Read the dialogue between a shop assistant and a customer and translate the highlighted expressions.

Shop assistant: Good morning, welcome to Cyber Tech, how can I help you?

Customer: Hi! I'm looking for a computer for my home office. I'd like something good for multitasking.

Shop assistant: Alright, do you have any specific requirements?

Customer: Well, I do a lot of graphic design, so I need a good graphics card and enough storage.

Shop assistant: We have a few options. Let's have a look at our catalogue. Please follow me.

Shop assistant: What is your budget?

Customer: Around 800€.

Shop assistant: Excellent. I recommend this HP desktop computer. It comes with an Intel i7 processor, a powerful graphics card, an SSD with 1TB and 16GB of RAM.

Customer: That sounds good. How much is it?

Shop assistant: It is 700€.

Customer: How about the monitor? Is it included in the price?

Shop assistant: Yes, it is. The mouse, the keyboard and the speakers are included too.

Customer: Perfect! Does it have any warranty?

Shop assistant: Certainly. All our desktops come with a one-year warranty.

Customer: That's perfect. I think I'll take it. Can I pay by credit card?

Shop assistant: Absolutely.

Customer: Here you are. Thank you for your help.

Shop assistant: My pleasure! Enjoy your new desktop!



2 Work in pairs. Role-play these situations.

Situation 1

Student A

You are a shop assistant in a computer store. A customer is looking for a gaming computer. Recommend an option with a powerful graphics card, enough RAM and a fast processor.

Student B

You are a passionate gamer looking for a gaming desktop computer. Talk about your gaming preferences and your budget, and ask for recommendations.

Situation 2

Student B

You are a shop assistant in a computer store. A customer is looking for a desktop computer. Recommend an affordable option. Talk about specifications and warranty options.

Student A

You are a student looking for a desktop computer for basic tasks like writing assignments, sending email, and using the internet. Ask about affordable options and warranty details.

USEFUL LANGUAGE

Shop assistant

- How can I help you?
- Do you have any specific requirements?
- I recommend...
- What is your budget?
- We have a few options.
- It comes with...
- Let's have a look at...

Client

- I'm looking for...
- I'd like...
- I need...
- Is/Are the ... included in the price?
- Does it have any warranty?
- How much is it?
- I'll take it.
- Can I pay by credit card?



Describing a gadget

1 Read the description of a tablet. What does each paragraph refer to? Complete with the words from the box.

technical details · audience · material · use

a

This tablet is a portable device which is used for different tasks like reading content, watching videos, checking emails, taking notes or playing games. It has wireless connectivity for downloading content and applications.

b

It is designed for students, professionals or casual users who want to browse the internet, run applications and use media, but don't have much space to carry a laptop.

c

The structure is made of plastic and stainless steel, so it is strong but very thin and light. The touchscreen display is made of scratch-resistant glass.

d

The tablet is 11.5 mm thick, weighs 460 g, and features a 10,4" display. It has 8GB of RAM, 128GB of storage, and comes with a slot for a Micro SD. It has a high-resolution touchscreen display, a built-in microphone, two cameras, dual speakers and a virtual keyboard. The device has a powerful 2.2GHz processor and a battery life of up to 36 hours.



2 Find examples in the text for each category. Then add three more words to each category.

Materials

Adjectives

Units of measurement

3 Turn to page 73. Describe the objects to your partner using the expressions of the table below.

USEFUL LANGUAGE

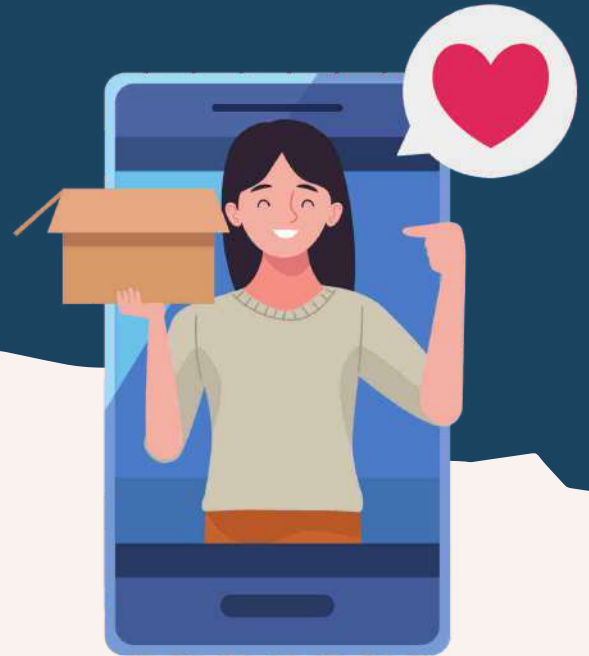
- You can... with it.
- It is used for...
- It is designed for...
- It features...
- It comes with...
- It is made of...

4 Write a description of a gadget. Use the structure in exercise 1.



PROJECT

A TECH UNBOXING PRESENTATION



An **unboxing** is the act of opening a new product and showing what is inside. People often record videos to share their first impressions and details about the item on the internet. They talk about what they see and how they feel about it. This helps others learn more about the product before they buy it.

 **1 Work in pairs. Ask and answer these questions.**

- Have you ever watched an unboxing video? What was it about?
- What do you like about unboxing videos?
- What kind of products do you think are the most interesting to unbox? Why?

PROJECT

1 TASK

You are going to give a presentation or create a video showing the unboxing of a technological product.

2 RESEARCH AND IDEATION

Gather information about your product and plan your unboxing:

- Introduce yourself and the product.
- Describe what you see as you unbox the product.
- Explain the main features and technical specifications.
- Share your opinion about the design, quality, and any other observations.
- Mention if you would recommend this product.

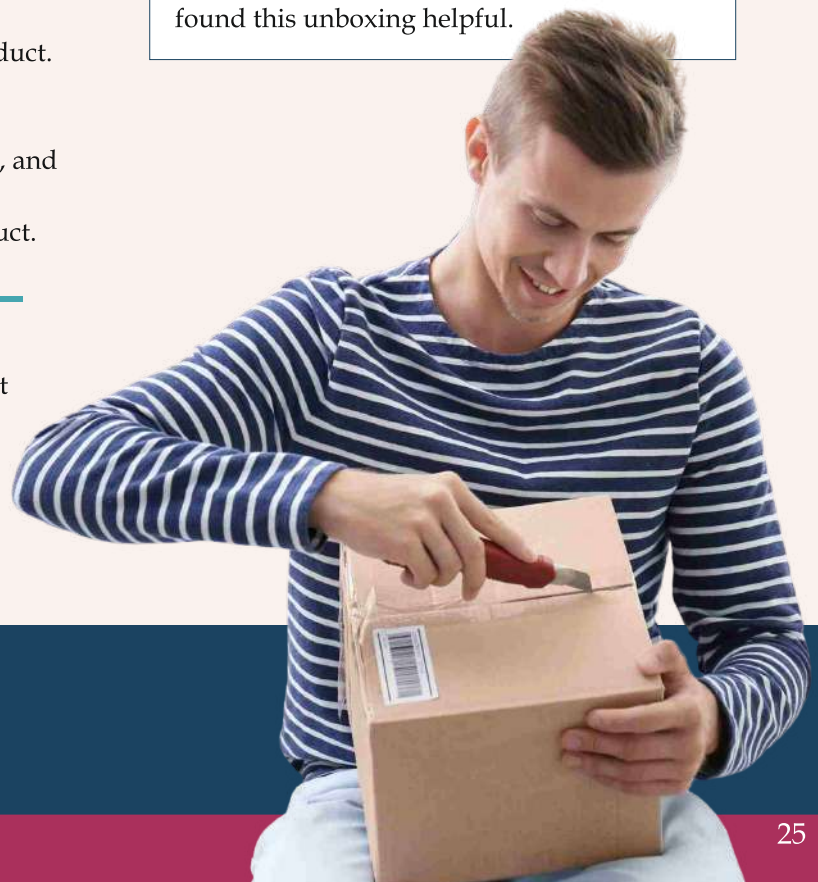
3 ACTION!

Use a camera or a smartphone to record your unboxing presentation, or prepare to present it in front of the class.



USEFUL LANGUAGE

- Let's open the box and see what's inside.
- The first thing we see is the...
- Here is the (item), it looks (adjective).
- This is the (item), it feels (adjective).
- There is also a (item) in the box.
- I would recommend this product because...
- Thank you for watching, and I hope you found this unboxing helpful.

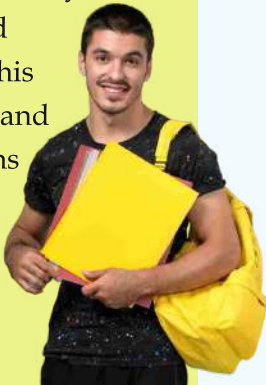


Vocabulary

1 Complete the text with the words in the box.

tech · trainer · remotely ·
streaming · store · browse

Alex is an IT student. In the future he would like to be a software developer and IT 1)..... This semester, Alex and his classmates are working on a project to teach the elderly how to 2)..... the internet and 3)..... data online. In his free time he enjoys editing videos and 4)..... films. He plans to work 5)..... in the 6)..... industry, collaborating on projects from anywhere in the world.



2 Match the job roles with the examples.

mobile app developer · security analyst ·
IT technician · web developer ·
computer programmer ·

- Peter is responsible for updating and maintaining the website of his company.
- Rose's role is to keep networks and computers safe.
- My brother repairs all the computers in his school.
- My colleague designs applications for smartphones.
- Patrick tests software applications.

3 Choose the correct option.

- A smartwatch is a ... computer.
a) mainframe b) wearable c) desktop
- A ... is a combination of headphones and a microphone.
a) monitor b) speaker c) headset
- A ... is used for typing text.
a) mouse b) keyboard c) printer
- A ... isn't a portable device.
a) kiosk computer b) laptop c) tablet

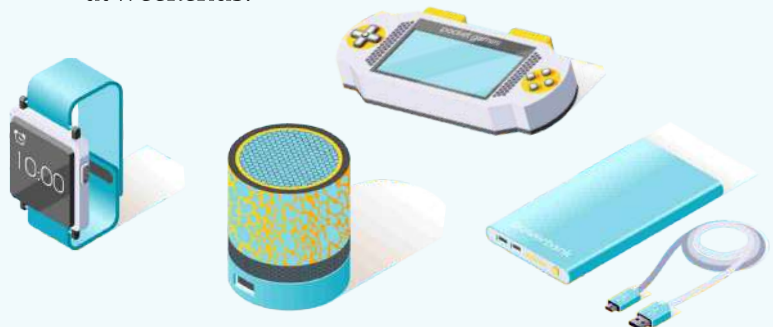
Grammar

4 Complete the sentences with the verbs in brackets. Use the present simple.

- Ben (work) in a hospital.
- your sister (like) fish?
- My parents (not read) books at night.
- She (not teach) English.
- you (study) a lot the night before an exam?

5 Complete the sentences with the verbs in brackets. Use the present simple and the present continuous.

- I (call) my mum every Sunday.
- She (read) a lot in the summer holidays.
- Shhh! You (not listen) to the teacher!
- He (walk) the dog at the moment.
- We (not get up) early at weekends.



6 Complete with the comparative or the superlative form of the adjectives in brackets.

- Laptops are (small) than desktop computers.
- Mainframes are the (powerful) computers.
- My iPhone is (big) than yours.
- Smartwatches are (useful) than classical watches.
- My PC has the (fast) processor.

Translate the words into your language.

Unit 1

USES OF COMPUTERS

Browse the internet -
Buy items -
Control smart devices -
Design presentations -
Edit videos -
Learn languages -
Send emails -
Share photos -
Store data -
Stream films -

JOB ROLES

Computer programmer -
IT consultant -
IT trainer -
IT technician -
Mobile app developer -
Security analyst -
Software engineer -
Web developer -

THE SYSTEM UNIT

CPU -
Expansion slots -
Hard drive -
Heat sink and fan -
Motherboard -
Optical drive -
Power supply unit -
RAM memory -

OTHERS

Code -
Programming -
Tech -
Work remotely -

Unit 2

TYPES OF COMPUTERS

Desktop computer -
Embedded computer -
Gaming console -
Kiosk computer -
Laptop computer -
Mainframe computer -
Smartphone -
Tablet -
Wearable computer -

PERIPHERALS

Graphic tablet -
Headset -
Keyboard -
Monitor -
Printer -
Projector -
Speakers -
Webcam -
Wireless mouse -

Unit 1

Interviewer: Good morning. Today I'm with Emily, a student from England who is going to spend a year in Spain studying at our school. Emily, can you tell us a bit about your course?

Emily: Good morning! Yes, I'm taking a vocational course in IT. We cover subjects like Network Operating Systems, Office Software, Computer Security, Web Applications, Computer Assembly and Maintenance... Oh, and we do English too.

Interviewer: That sounds interesting. Are there any differences between the classes in England and in Spain?

Emily: Yes, there are a few. The classes here are more practical. In England, we focus more on theory, and we have more exams. The timetable is different too; we start later in the afternoon, which I'm still getting used to!

Interviewer: Right, so you have classes in the afternoon. And how do you get to school?

Emily: I live quite far from the school and I don't have a car, so I have to take a bus and then the underground. It takes me about an hour to get here.

Interviewer: Do you have to bring any specific equipment to class?

Emily: Yes, I always bring my laptop, as we use it for most of our work. The classrooms have desktops, but they're a bit old and slow, so most students prefer to use their own laptops.

Interviewer: What's your favourite subject so far?

Emily: I really enjoy Computer Assembly. Learning how to assemble and maintain computers is very interesting and useful, especially understanding how hardware components work together.

Interviewer: And what about the school facilities?

Emily: The facilities are quite good. There's a canteen where I usually have lunch, and the food is tasty and affordable. I often eat there with my classmates.

Interviewer: How do you find life in Spain?

Emily: I love it! People are very friendly. I'm also trying to improve my Spanish. I'm visiting local places, talking with people, and trying to practise as much as I can.

Interviewer: That's wonderful. Thank you for sharing your experiences, Emily. Enjoy your year in Spain!

Emily: Thank you!

Unit 2

Description 1

New ACER Iconia tablet P20 running Android. 4 GHz processor accompanied by 8GB of RAM. 128GB or 256GB of storage. 10.1" touch screen, 2000x1200 resolution. Wi-Fi and Bluetooth. USB-C 3.0 slot, 5MP camera on the front and 8MP camera at the back. Impressive pricing compared to other Android tablets! 128GB for £210 and 256GB for £285!

Description 2

Deal of the week! Save more than £115! HP Pavilion P27 with the latest version of Windows. Powerful desktop PC with Intel Core processor and 16GB of DDR4 RAM memory and 1TB Solid State Drive. 10 times faster performance than a traditional hard drive. Integrated AMD Radeon graphics card. Wireless keyboard, optical mouse and speakers included in the price! Now £799! Don't let this opportunity slip away!

Description 3

Are you looking for a light and powerful laptop? The Satellite series laptop from Lenovo is just 5 lbs., and features Intel Core processor, 16GB of RAM, 512GB SSD, 15.6" widescreen, wireless network connectivity, webcam and speakers integrated. All of this for just £549! It is available in black, red and silver.

Description 4

We are offering the new Samsung 27" curved monitor for only 205.99! Enjoy stunning visuals with this widescreen QHD monitor that features ultra-fast 165Hz refresh rate, and response time of 1 millisecond. Intense clarity and brilliant picture quality. One-year warranty. Ideal for any type of gamer!



Comparatives and superlatives

Comparatives

Form	Use	Example
Comparative (superiority)	to compare two people, things or groups.	<i>Your phone is lighter than mine. Paul is more talkative than his sister.</i>

When we use the **comparative of superiority**, we must pay attention to the length of the adjective.

If the adjective is short (one-syllable adjectives or two-syllable adjectives ending in -y), we use adjective + **-er + than**:

*My smartphone is **faster than** my tablet.*

When we add -er to adjectives, they must follow these spelling rules:

- One-syllable adjectives ending with one consonant + one vowel + one consonant double the final consonant:

big - bigger

- Two-syllable adjectives ending with a consonant + -y change the y to i:

ugly - uglier

- Adjectives ending in a silent -e add -r:

nice - nicer

If the adjective is long (two or more syllables), we use **more + adjective + than**:

*A new laptop is **more powerful than** an old desktop.*

Superlatives

Form	Use	Example
Superlative (superiority)	to show that one person, thing or group is superior to the rest.	<i>Sue is the youngest of three siblings. Ian is the most optimistic person I know.</i>

When we use the superlative of superiority, we must add **the** before the adjective.

- If the adjective is short, we use: **the + adjective + -est**:

*This website offers **the cheapest** prices.*

- It follows the same rules as the comparative of superiority:

*big - **the biggest**, ugly - **the ugliest**, nice - **the nicest**.*

- If the adjective is long, we use: **the most + adjective**:

*Simon is **the most extroverted** boy in my class.*

Irregular adjectives

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
good	better than	the best
bad	worse than	the worst
far	farther than	the farthest
	farther than	the furthest

Irregular adjectives don't follow any rules, so you must learn their comparative and superlative forms of superiority:

- I think a wireless mouse is **better than** a wired mouse.
- Monday is **the worst** day of the week.
- My new workplace is **farther** from my house **than** my old workplace.