

Computer & Internet



Has there been any device which is more useful and flexible than the computer? Computer has been considered as one of the most important inventions of mankind. It is a product of our search for knowledge and created to help us accomplish our purposes. Computers are constantly redesigned to be easier to use and meet our needs. It is indeed a very useful tool.

But like any other, computer may pose a danger when misused. Current threats are dissemination of wrong information, spread of harmful viruses, invasion of privacy and hacking. And because it makes work easier, people have been overwhelmingly reliant on it. They have lost the ability to think and depend on the data that is given without applying a reality check to whatever the device tells.

What's the Meaning ...

1. device
2. flexible
3. inventions
4. redesigned
5. threats
6. dissemination of wrong information
7. invasion of privacy
8. hacking
9. overwhelmingly reliant
10. reality check

Lesson 1

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 internet
- 2 flexible
- 3 inventions
- 4 threats
- 5 dissemination of wrong information
- 6 invasion of privacy
- 7 overwhelmingly reliant

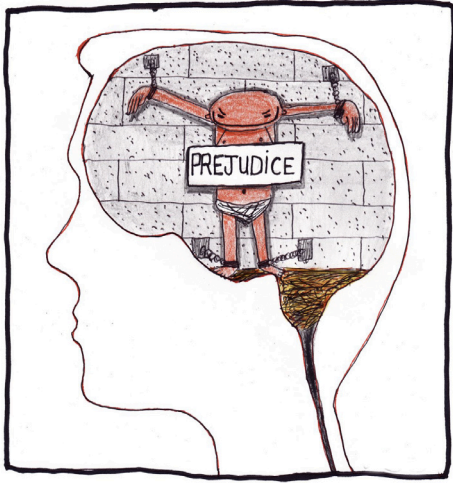
Questions Related to the Topic

1. What has been considered one of the most important inventions?
2. Why are computers constantly redesigned?
3. What are the current threats of the misuse of computers?

Tongue Twister!

"The leader left the leather in the corner near the ladder. The leather left by the leader near the ladder was put the dresser."

Prejudice



Prejudice is a negative, hostile, unfair and unreasonable attitude, opinion or feeling towards a person or group, formed without enough thought or knowledge. It makes a person show an unreasonable dislike or disapproval for something or someone. Prejudice often leads to discrimination. Looking down on is treating a person or a particular group of people in a different manner, especially in a worse way, because of their skin color, religion, sexual orientation, etc. Prejudice can be carried from one generation to another and it can cause hatred and bigotry.

However, prejudice can be acquired. No one is born prejudiced. It can be learned and unlearned. With education, awareness, action and desire to change, we can get rid of prejudice.

What's the Meaning ...

1. hostile
2. unreasonable
3. sexual orientation
4. generation
5. hatred
6. bigotry
7. awareness
8. get rid of

Lesson 2

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 prejudice
- 2 negative
- 3 hostile
- 4 attitude
- 5 unreasonable
- 6 discrimination
- 7 particular
- 8 sexual orientation
- 9 bigotry
- 10 desire

Questions Related to the Topic

1. What is prejudice?
2. Define discrimination.
3. How can we get rid of prejudice?

Tongue Twister!

"She sells seashells by the seashore."

Endless Desires



Why do we always feel dissatisfied with the things we possess? Why do we usually want more? Why after accomplishing one thing, we tend to think of another thing to have, something better or perhaps the best?

Comparing ourselves with other people is something we can't help doing. We compare our abilities, or possessions and many other things. We are very curious about the money our relatives, friends and neighbors have, the car they drive, the place where they live, the size of their house and even the clothes that they wear! It seems that having endless desires a natural thing to us humans. We always long for what we don't have instead of counting our blessings.

What's the Meaning ...

1. **dissatisfied**
2. **accomplish**
3. **possessions**
4. **curious**
5. **instead**
6. **blessings**

Lesson 3

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 **dissatisfied**
- 2 **accomplishing**
- 3 **abilities**
- 4 **possessions**
- 5 **instead**

Questions Related to the Topic

1. **What do we usually do after we accomplish something?**
2. **According to the writer, what is something we can't help doing?**

Tongue Twister!

"The soft soap softens softly in salty water."

Pollution



People nowadays are complaining about the trash and litter on the ground not to mention the bad smell in the air and smog. These pollutants can cause serious problems to our health.

Pollution is a serious problem we are facing these days. It seems that it is very hard to breathe when you walk on the street. You try not to inhale dirty air that cars exhaust. We may not die of being run over by an automobile but the air these cars excrete can kill us by contaminating the air we breathe.

Pollution is also responsible for the extinction of animals and plants. Pesticides contain harmful chemicals that can not just kill insects that destroy farmer's crop but can also poison other plants and even animals.

What's the Meaning ...

1. pollution
2. complaining
3. litter
4. not to mention
5. smog
6. inhale
7. exhaust
8. excrete
9. contaminating
10. extinction

Lesson 4

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 pollution
- 2 nowadays
- 3 litter
- 4 breathe
- 5 exhaust
- 6 automobile
- 7 excrete
- 8 contaminate
- 9 responsible
- 10 extinction
- 11 pesticides
- 12 chemicals
- 13 poison

Questions Related to the Topic

1. What is one of the serious problems we are facing these days?
2. What are the things people are complaining about?
3. Why can we consider pollution responsible for the extinction of animals and plants? Give an example.

Tongue Twister!

“Do on the hill as you would do in the hall.”

Leisure



Leisure is time spent in non-compulsory activities. Because leisure time is free from compulsory activities such as employment, running a business, household chores, education, eating, and sleeping it is often referred to as “free time”. The distinction between leisure and compulsory activities is not strict, as compulsory activities may be done for pleasure as well as for long-term utility.

There are two types of leisure, active and passive. Active leisure implies a desired exertion of energy. Low-impact activities include walking and yoga, which expend little energy and have little contact or competition. High-impact activities such as kick-boxing consume much energy and are competitive.

Passive leisure implies a desire to refrain from exerting energy. Its purest form is lounging, “doing nothing”, the kind of leisure which implies going into a near-sleep state. It is viewed by some as wasting time. Passive leisure that is not enjoyable can lead to boredom. There are other passive activities that share many motivations and skills with the active types, and reflect our age, lifestyles and interests like going to the cinema, and gambling.

What’s the Meaning ...

1. non- compulsory
2. distinction
3. implies
4. exertion
5. expend
6. competitive
7. lounging
8. lifestyle

Lesson 5

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 leisure
- 2 non- compulsory activities
- 3 household chores
- 4 distinction
- 5 pleasure
- 6 exertion
- 7 competitive
- 8 lounging
- 9 motivations
- 10 lifestyle

Questions Related to the Topic

1. How is the word leisure defined by the writer?
2. What are the two types of leisure?
3. How do the two types of leisure differ from each other?

Tongue Twister!

“A big black bug bit a big black bear and the big black bear bled blood.”

Internet Friendship



Internet friendships are friendships between people who have met online, and in some cases know each other only via the Internet. Like Internet romance, it has been widely debated and often criticized. It is, many people argue, very difficult - if not impossible - to establish a meaningful relationship with somebody you can't see face to face. It is difficult to gauge a person's emotions and feelings, and there is a high possibility of deception - people lying about who they are.

Supporters of online relationships, on the other hand, argue that not seeing the other person actually helps the relationship: you have fewer inhibitions, because you feel that the person you are speaking with doesn't have any expectations of you, and therefore it is easier to "be yourself". You are judged on nothing but your personality and screen name. They also point out that online friendships are similar to pen pal relationships. It is the experience of many people that in internet relationships most people end up being much more open about their thoughts and feelings than in non-online relationships.

Since the development of high-speed, broadband internet, the face of internet friendships has changed utterly. Now it is possible to hold full audio and video conversations via the internet, allowing you to be relatively sure the person you're talking to is who they say they are, as well as observing all the nuances and subtleties of speech and facial expression. Still, some (often more introverted) people prefer not to use these technologies.

What's the Meaning ...

1. debated
2. criticized
3. establish
4. deception
5. inhibitions
6. pen pal
7. utterly
8. nuances
9. subtleties
10. introverted

Lesson 6

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 internet friendship
- 2 internet romance
- 3 possibility
- 4 supporters
- 5 inhibitions
- 6 personality
- 7 broadband internet
- 8 utterly
- 9 nuances
- 10 subtleties

Questions Related to the Topic

1. What is internet friendship?
2. What do some people think of internet friendship?
3. What do supporters of online relationship say about internet friendship?

Tongue Twister!

"I slit the sheet and the sheet slit me the slit in the sheet was slit by me."

Best of Breed

Best of Breed is the title given to the dog who has been judged the best representative specimen of its breed at a conformation show. Dogs compete in a hierarchical fashion at each show, where winners at lower levels are gradually combined to narrow the winners until the final round, where Best in Show is chosen.

Each breed is divided into classes based on sex and age. Dogs (males) are judged first, in their age classes. Within one breed, there are puppies (dogs under a certain age), mature male dogs (subdivided by age into junior, limit, intermediate and open); female dogs have corresponding classes. At some events, usually single-breed or novelty shows, there may be a baby puppy class (typically under three months old) which is usually contested after the adult classes as a ploy to keep spectators interested. Baby puppies are not eligible for Best of Breed and are judged largely on their 'cuteness' factor, as young puppies from many breeds look very much alike and their conformation is most likely not yet evident.

The value of titled dogs and their progeny increases greatly with the attainment of a title. Because of the subjective nature of judging and the politics involved in any judged competition, some breeders feel that it is next to impossible for dogs in their chosen breed to win Best in Group or Best in Show. For these reasons, Best of Breed is often the most highly-coveted title among fanciers.



What's the Meaning ...

1. breed
2. representative
3. specimen
4. conformation
5. hierarchical
6. mature
7. ploy
8. corresponding
9. novelty
10. spectators
11. evident
12. eligible
13. progeny
14. attainment
15. highly-coveted
16. fanciers

Lesson 7

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 representative
- 2 specimen
- 3 hierarchical
- 4 gradually
- 5 subdivided
- 6 intermediate
- 7 corresponding
- 8 spectators
- 9 conformation
- 10 progeny
- 11 attainment
- 12 subjective
- 13 competition
- 14 highly-coveted
- 15 fanciers

Questions Related to the Topic

1. What kind of dog receives the title, "Best of Breed"?
2. How are the breed divided? What are the divisions?
3. What breed is not eligible for Best Breed? Why?

Tongue Twister!

"I saw Susie sitting in a shoe shine shop.
Where she sits she shines, and where she shines
she sits."

Singing



In these enlightened times of the 21st century, it is a commonly held belief that most people can learn how to sing in a melodious and beautiful fashion. In fact, scientists have stated that the human larynx is typically very similar across all humans with only a difference in sizes (something which doesn't matter in singing). Therefore it may be stated that it doesn't matter what type of voice box you have, but how you have learned to utilize it.

Over time it has been (and still is) a commonly held superstition that singing is reserved for only a privileged few which are born with the ability. The superstition is false: the human larynx (also known as: the human voice box) is an instrument, in which all that is necessary in order to sing melodiously and beautifully is to learn how to play it correctly. With a little bit of motivation and patience, it can all be achieved.

What's the Meaning ...

1. enlightened
2. century
3. larynx
4. therefore
5. utilize
6. superstition
7. motivation

Lesson 8

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 enlightened
- 2 melodious
- 3 larynx
- 4 typically
- 5 therefore
- 6 superstition
- 7 necessary
- 8 motivation
- 9 patience
- 10 achieved

Questions Related to the Topic

1. What have scientists said about the human larynx?
2. Does the size of one's voice box important? Why not?
3. What false belief did people have about singing?

Tongue Twister!

"How can a clam cram in a clean cream can?"

Billboard

A billboard or hoarding is a large outdoor signboard, usually wooden, found in places with high traffic such as cities, roads, motorways and highways. Billboards show large advertisements aimed at passing pedestrians and drivers. The vast majority of billboards are rented to advertisers rather than owned by them.



New billboards are being produced and they are entirely digitized (using projection and similar techniques), allowing animations and completely rotating advertisements. Even holographic billboards are in use in some places. Billboards can also be made mobile, either by mounting a traditional billboard onto a trailer or flatbed truck, or by covering an entire vehicle in a "wrap" image. This is sometimes used in bus advertising, though it is more common to mount smaller "boards" on those vehicles.

What's the Meaning ...

1. hoarding
2. advertisements
3. pedestrian
4. vast
5. rather (than)
6. majority
7. digitized
8. projection
9. techniques
10. animation
11. rotating
12. holographic
13. trailer
14. mounting
15. flatbed

Lesson 9

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 advertisement
- 2 pedestrian
- 3 vast
- 4 majority
- 5 entirely
- 6 digitized
- 7 projection
- 8 techniques
- 9 holographic
- 10 flatbed

Questions Related to the Topic

1. What do most billboards show?
2. What are the other kinds of billboards can be seen these days?
3. Where are most billboards placed?

Tongue Twister!

"Can you can a can as a canner can can a can?"

Batman



Batman (originally referred to as the Bat-Man, and still sometimes as the Batman) is a DC Comics fictional character and superhero who first appeared in Detective Comics #27 in May 1939. He has since become, along with Superman and Spider-Man, one of the world's most recognized superheroes. Batman was co-created by artist Bob Kane and writer Bill Finger, although only Kane receives official credit for the character.

Batman's secret identity is Bruce Wayne, billionaire industrialist, playboy, and philanthropist. Witnessing the murder of his parents as a child leads him to train himself to the peak of physical and intellectual perfection, don a costume, and fight crime. Unlike many other superheroes, he does not possess superhuman powers or abilities; he makes use of intellect, detective skills, technology, and physical prowess in his war on crime.

What's the Meaning ...

1. referred
2. fictional character
3. recognized
4. official
5. credit
6. secret identity
7. billionaire
8. industrialist
9. philanthropist
10. peak
11. don
12. possess
13. intellect
14. detective
15. prowess

Lesson 10

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 referred
- 2 fictional character
- 3 superhero
- 4 appeared
- 5 recognized
- 6 although
- 7 official credit
- 8 secret identity
- 9 billionaire industrialist
- 10 philanthropist
- 11 physical and intellectual perfection
- 12 superhuman powers
- 13 intellect
- 14 detective skills
- 15 physical prowess

Questions Related to the Topic

1. Where and when did Batman first appear?
2. Who were the co-creators of Batman?
3. Who is the person behind the mask of Batman?
4. What kind of person is Bruce Wayne?
5. What is the difference of batman compared to the other superheroes?

Tongue Twister!

"The best suit for one is a suit that best suits one."

Angkor Wat

Angkor Wat (or Angkor Vat) is a temple at Angkor, Cambodia, built for King Suryavarman II in the early 12th century as his state temple and capital city. The largest and best-preserved temple at the site, it is the only one to have remained a significant religious center—first Hindu, then Buddhist—since its foundation.

The temple is the epitome of the high classical style of Khmer architecture. It has become a symbol of Cambodia, appearing on its national flag, and it is the country's prime attraction for visitors. Angkor Wat combines two basic plans of Khmer temple architecture: the temple mountain and the later galleried temples. It is designed to represent Mount Meru, home of the gods in Hindu mythology: within a moat and an outer wall 3.6 km (2.2 miles) long are three rectangular galleries, each raised above the next. At the centre of the temple stands a quincunx of towers.



What's the Meaning ...

1. temple
2. century
3. significant
4. foundation
5. epitome
6. architecture
7. prime
8. represent
9. mythology
10. moat
11. quincunx
12. orientated
13. grandeur
14. extensive
15. adorning

Lesson 11

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 Angkor Wat
- 2 century
- 3 best preserved temple
- 4 remained
- 5 significant
- 6 religious center
- 7 foundation
- 8 epitome
- 9 architecture
- 10 prime attraction
- 11 mythology
- 12 moat
- 13 rectangular
- 14 quincunx
- 15 orientated
- 16 scholars
- 17 significance
- 18 grandeur
- 19 numerous
- 20 adorning

Questions Related to the Topic

1. What is Angkor Wat?
2. Where can we find Angkor Wat?
3. Who was Angkor Wat built for?
4. What does Angkor Wat look like?
5. How does Angkor Wat differ from the other Angkorian temples?

Tongue Twister!

“The peddler peddling pendants peddles in a ‘No Peddling Area’”

Baseball



Baseball is a team sport popular in North America, Latin America, the Caribbean and East Asia. The modern game was developed in the United States from early bat-and-ball games played in Britain, and it has become the national sport of the United States.

It is a Bat-and-ball game in which a pitcher throws (pitches) a hard, fist-sized ball past the hitting area of a batter. The batter attempts to hit the baseball with a tapered, smooth, cylindrical bat made of wood (as required in professional baseball) or metal.

A team scores only when batting, by advancing counter-clockwise past a series of four markers called bases arranged at the corners of a diamond. Each base is 90 feet from the previous base. Baseball is sometimes called hardball to differentiate it from similar games such as softball.

What's the Meaning ...

1. pitcher
2. attempt
3. tapered
4. cylindrical
5. advancing
6. counter-clockwise
7. differentiate

Lesson 12

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 team sport
- 2 popular
- 3 modern
- 4 developed
- 5 pitcher
- 6 batter
- 7 attempts
- 8 tapered
- 9 cylindrical
- 10 professional
- 11 advancing
- 12 counter-clockwise
- 13 arranged
- 14 previous
- 15 differentiate

Questions Related to the Topic

1. Where are the places Baseball is popular?
2. How is Baseball played?
3. What is Baseball sometimes called?

Tongue Twister!

“Chris squeezed six oranges while Theo blew two blue balloons”

Many Japanese Look to Retire in the Philippines

Many Japanese are carefully weighing their options: stay in Japan or move to another country. They are worried of their pension would be insufficient to ensure a comfortable life in Tokyo, which has become increasingly expensive.

The main attractions for Japanese traveling to the Philippines are the warm weather, low cost of living, good business opportunities and English- language education. Relying on its tropical weather, friendly people and low cost of living, the Philippines is touting itself as Asia's retirement haven to attract foreigners.

Philippines targets Japan for the past three decades, the Philippine government has been promoting the country as a retirement haven for foreigners. However, it is only in the past few years they have actively sought Japanese retirees. It is inherent for Filipinos that they welcome Japanese and there is a mutual respect and love for each other. It would be a good start with them.



What's the Meaning ...

1. retirement
2. options
3. pension
4. insufficient
5. ensure
6. touting
7. haven
8. sought
9. inherent
10. mutual

Lesson 13

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 carefully
- 2 weighing their options
- 3 insufficient
- 4 increasingly expensive
- 5 business opportunities
- 6 tropical weather
- 7 promoting
- 8 retirement haven
- 9 actively sought
- 10 mutual respect

Questions Related to the Topic

1. What options do most Japanese carefully weigh about?
2. What are the main attractions for Japanese traveling in the Philippines?
3. What does the Philippine government promote the country to be?

Tongue Twister!

“ Better never trouble trouble, until trouble troubles you; For you only make your trouble double- trouble when you do.”

The Endangered Coral Reefs



Do you know that coral reefs cover 3.0 percent of the area of the oceans, by they harbor 25 percent of the world's fish species? Nine or ten million people survive solely by fishing on and around them. One of the world's poorest countries now relies on them as a source of foreign exchange.

But coral reef as one of the world's great ecosystems is on the verge of total collapse. The reefs are being destroyed by the works of human activities. Divers and traders collecting souvenirs break them up. They are also poisoned or blasted by fishermen using cyanide or dynamite.

Coral reef ecosystem is the first of the major victims of global climate change. When the temperature of the ocean rises by more than a degree or so, the algae that live in the coral evacuate. As the sugars produced run out, the polyps go hungry.

What's the Meaning ...

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. endangered | 10. souvenirs |
| 2. coral reefs | 11. cyanide |
| 3. harbor | 12. algae |
| 4. species | 13. evacuate |
| 5. solely | 14. run out |
| 6. survive | 15. polyps |
| 7. ecosystems | |
| 8. verge | |
| 9. collapse | |

Lesson 14

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 endangered
- 2 coral reefs
- 3 world's fish species
- 4 survive
- 5 solely
- 6 foreign exchange
- 7 ecosystems
- 8 verge
- 9 collecting souvenirs
- 10 cyanide or dynamite
- 11 global climate change
- 12 temperature
- 13 algae
- 14 evacuate
- 15 polyps

Questions Related to the Topic

1. How many percent of the ocean is covered by coral reefs?
2. What does the word "harbor" in the first paragraph mean?
3. What is the first major victim of global climate change?
4. How were coral reefs being destroyed by the works of human activities?

Tongue Twister!

"The baggage and the luggage, the cabbage in the storage were thrown to the garbage by the hostage in the voyage."

Child labor

Youth is an imperative stage for everyone. It is the time where we mold our values, principles, and ideals in life... the chance to take pleasure in the first phase of existence. What if it has been taken away by unwanted responsibilities, stolen by poverty and tainted by fate?

Unfortunately, in some parts of the world, many children between the ages of five and fifteen do not attend school. Instead, millions work in factories and fields to do grueling, often dangerous work from early morning until late at night. They are exploited and abused. Worse, they are underpaid and must endure maltreatment and cruelty from their employers. Not to mention perilous working environment that jeopardizes the health of these little angels.



What's the Meaning ...

1. imperative
2. mold
3. ideals
4. principles
5. phase
6. poverty
7. tainted
8. grueling
9. exploited
10. abused
11. underpaid
12. maltreatment
13. cruelty
14. perilous
15. jeopardize

Lesson 15

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 imperative stage
- 2 principles
- 3 ideals in life
- 4 take pleasure
- 5 phase of existence
- 6 unwanted responsibilities
- 7 stolen by poverty
- 8 tainted by fate
- 9 unfortunately
- 10 grueling
- 11 exploited
- 12 abused
- 13 maltreatment and cruelty
- 14 perilous
- 15 jeopardize

Questions Related to the Topic

1. Why youth is a very crucial stage of life?
2. What kind of work do children in some poor countries do?
3. What kind of treatment child laborers receive?

Tongue Twister!

"Six sick small snakes sit on the thick stick."

The Challenge of Change



“Nothing endures but change.” Change is evident in nature... as in the change of the simple human cell to a human baby.

Continual change is inevitable. Science and technology have enhanced the impact of change at a very fast pace, forcing us to become extremely aware of it. Change becomes a challenge to us; we realize the need to increase our “coping ability” or the speed with which we adapt to continual change.

Man has to adapt to change in order to survive. But how should he do it? This is the challenge he has to meet in the future...

What’s the Meaning ...

1. **evident**
2. **continual**
3. **inevitable**
4. **coping**
5. **adapt**

Lesson 16

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 evident
- 2 continual change
- 3 inevitable
- 4 science and technology
- 5 fast pace
- 6 extremely
- 7 realize
- 8 adapt
- 9 survive
- 10 challenge

Questions Related to the Topic

1. **Can we avoid change?**
2. **What do we have to do in order to survive?**
3. **How must we adapt to change?**

Tongue Twister!

“A tidy tiger tied a tie tighter to tidy her tiny tail.”

What does guarantee happiness?



A year ago, I shocked my family and friends by breaking my engagement with a well- educated, long time boyfriend to marry an automotive shop worker who is kind, caring and totally lovable. He may not be as good- looking as my previous flame and does not come from a well- off family, but his simplicity attracts me the most.

He can cook and clean like a pro, and comes home whistling every evening without stopping at the bar. The stories about his day at the shop site are far more interesting than my day in my favorite shopping places!

This man will never grow soft and flabby sitting behind a desk all day or get stress-related illness nor have an affair with his secretary. I am pretty sure I will have a great life with this guy!

What's the Meaning ...

1. engagement
2. well- educated
3. previous flame
4. well- off
5. pro
6. grow soft and flabby
7. sitting behind a desk all day

Lesson 17

Pronunciation Practice

- 1 guarantee
- 2 well educated
- 3 automotive shop worker
- 4 previous flame
- 5 whistling
- 6 soft and flabby
- 7 sitting behind a desk all day
- 8 stress- related illness
- 9 pretty sure
- 10 a great life

Questions Related to the Topic

1. How did the writer shock her family and friends?
2. Describe her fiance.
3. Why does she think her present lover will be a good father and husband?

Tongue Twister!

"Bobby Black's black buddy buys black bananas by bunch."