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# Gadgets

WORKSHEET A

- Dave: I see you've still got your brick, Ken.
- Ken: My what?
- Dave: Your brick. Your 1990s cell phone. Isn't it too heavy to carry?
- Ken: Ha, ha, very funny. It still works fine, you know. It's not the latest model, like yours, but unlike you I know I don't need a cell phone that can take pictures or access the internet. I don't need to check my email when I'm on the bus, and neither do you. No one does. Did you feel your life was empty before they invented the phone you have now? Of course you didn't.
- Dave: You're a dinosaur, Ken. Don't you think technology's a good thing?
- Ken: That depends. Some stuff's really useful, like the high tech equipment in hospitals that saves people's lives, but as for the electronic gadgets people buy in stores these days, most of them are so unnecessary. GPS, for example – why do I need a computer to tell me where I am when I'm driving? I can read a map. I can even stop and ask another human being.
- Dave: I find GPS very handy. It saves time.
- Ken: I bet it's never saved you more than five minutes. You love wasting your money, don't you?
- Dave: I guess you won't want to know what I bought over the weekend, then ...
- Ken: A phone that can make you breakfast?
- Dave: No, an e-book reader. It's amazing. It stores the words of hundreds of books electronically, and you can just hold it in your hands. Now I can have my whole book collection right there in front of me.
- Ken: So can I. On the bookshelves in my house.
- Dave: No, but with an e-book reader you can access any of your books at the touch of a button.
- Ken: And I can access any of my books by getting off the couch and walking about three steps. It's not difficult, and it's a lot cheaper.
- Dave: Oh, Ken, you just don't understand.
- Ken: No, you're right, I don't.

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WORKSHEET B

## Exercise 1

Answer the questions below.

1. What do you think Dave means when he jokes that Ken's cell phone is a "brick"?
2. How old does Dave say Ken's cell phone is?
3. What word does Ken use to describe the electronic gadgets people buy in stores these days?
4. What example of useful technology does Ken give?
5. What two things does Ken suggest that people who are driving can do instead of using GPS?
6. Ken jokes that Dave bought something that doesn't really exist – what is it?
7. What did Dave *really* buy over the weekend?
8. Where does Ken say his whole book collection is?
9. What do you think Dave means when he calls Ken a "dinosaur"?
10. What do you think Ken means when he says at the end of the conversation that he doesn't understand?

## Exercise 2

Decide whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F), or if the text doesn't determine (D).

1. Dave has a cell phone.
2. Ken would like to have a camera on his cell phone.
3. Dave often travels by bus.
4. Ken can drive a car.
5. Ken doesn't believe GPS saves Dave much time.
6. Dave is unhappy with his new e-book reader.
7. Ken would like an e-book reader too.
8. Dave lives in a house, not an apartment.

# Gadgets

WORKSHEET C

## Exercise 3

The dialogue from Worksheet A has been copied below, but the words in bold have been mixed up – can you put them back in the right places again?

- Dave: I see you've still got your brick, Ken.
- Ken: My what?
- Dave: Your brick. Your 1990s (1) **amazing**. Isn't it too (2) **invented** to carry?
- Ken: Ha, ha, very funny. It still (3) **couch** fine, you know. It's not the latest model, like yours, but unlike you I know I don't need a cell phone that can take pictures or (4) **read** the internet. I don't need to (5) **handy** my emails when I'm on the bus, and neither do you. No one does. Did you feel your life was empty before they (6) **works** the phone you have now? Of course you didn't.
- Dave: You're a dinosaur, Ken. Don't you think technology's a good thing?
- Ken: That depends. Some stuff's really useful, like the (7) **access** equipment in hospitals that saves people's lives, but as for the electronic gadgets people buy in stores these days, most of them are so unnecessary. GPS, for example – why do I need a (8) **heavy** to tell me where I am when I'm driving? I can (9) **No** a map. I can even stop and ask another human (10) **wasting**.
- Dave: I find GPS very (11) **breakfast**. It saves time.
- Ken: I bet it's never saved you more than five minutes. You love (12) **high tech** your money, don't you?
- Dave: I guess you won't want to know what I bought over the weekend, then ...
- Ken: A phone that can make you (13) **being**?
- Dave: No, an (14) **computer** reader. It's (15) **button**. It stores the words of hundreds of books electronically, and you can just hold it in your hands. Now I can have my whole book (16) **cell phone** right there in front of me.
- Ken: So can I. On the (17) **check** in my house.
- Dave: No, but with an e-book reader you can access any of your books at the touch of a (18) **e-book**.
- Ken: And I can access any of my books by getting off the (19) **collection** and walking about three steps. It's not difficult, and it's a lot cheaper.
- Dave: Oh, Ken, you just don't understand.
- Ken: (20) **bookshelves**, you're right, I don't.