

StartUp 6
Listening

Unit5 – Lesson3
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Have your Ss look at the picture. Convey the meaning and try to elicit the word. Then practice the pronunciation chorally and individually.



Teach the form of the word. Then ask some concept checking questions.



EXAGGERATE

Have your Ss look at the picture. Convey the meaning and try to elicit the word. Then practice the pronunciation chorally and individually.



Teach the form of the word. Then ask some concept checking questions.



CONSTANTLY


Have your Ss look at the picture. Convey the meaning and try to elicit the word. Then practice the pronunciation chorally and individually.

Teach the form of the word. Then ask some concept checking questions.



RETAIN

Familiarize the students with the listening part. Play the video once to do the task.

VIDEO SOURCE:
StartUp 6 Videos/Listening/



WHAT IS THE SPEAKER'S INTENTION?

a. to explain how we need to improve technology
b. to warn that technology could have a negative effect
c. to convince us to stop using technology

B ▶ 05-16 Read the Listening Skill. Listen or watch again. Check (✓) the ideas that are introduced as counterarguments.

- ☐ a. The vision of the future in *Wall-E* is wildly exaggerated.
- ☐ b. Some people no longer leave the house to buy things.
- ☐ c. Digital assistants are a wonderful convenience.
- ☐ d. It's easy to ignore other people's opinions.
- ☐ e. I'm being unreasonable about technology. It makes life better.

LISTENING SKILL

Listen for counterarguments

Speakers often present counterarguments—ideas they don't agree with—before they explain their own opinions. They may introduce counterarguments with expressions like:

You may think…

Some people say…

Many people believe…

TSW MEDIA

C 05-17 Listen or watch again. According to the speaker, which things could be making us lazier and / or less intelligent? Circle the items.

a. shopping online
b. movies
c. social media
d. digital assistants
e. self-driving cars
f. internet-connected refrigerators
g. hundreds of TV channels
h. washing machines

ndrick Scott | TSW Global Speaker Program

nit 5: Our Lazy, Dumb Future

Have Ss identify the correct meaning. Go over the answer as a class.



D **VOCABULARY EXPANSION** Read each sentence from the talk. What do the underlined expressions mean?

1. You may think this vision of the future is wildly exaggerated, but I've got bad news for you, folks. I think we're <u>well on the way</u> there.

   _____

2. <u>Brick-and-mortar stores</u> are closing all over the world as more and more of us decide not to leave the house to buy things.

   _____

3. If a TV newsperson or a writer or my uncle on social media presents ideas that I don't like, I can just <u>tune them out</u> by changing the channel, or putting the book down, or clicking "unfollow."

   _____

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Give a couple of minutes to your Ss to think about the topic they intend to share. Provide adequate samples.

A THINK List three examples of modern technology not mentioned in the talk. What is the purpose of each one? How does it affect people? Take notes.



Have your Ss share what they have prepared in their breakout rooms. Monitor the groups and prepare your FEEDBACK.

B DISCUSS In small groups, share your examples and opinions from 4A.



Nominate a couple of Ss to report. Then share your feedback with class.

C ANALYZE Report to the class. Do you agree with what the speaker says about technology? What can we do, if anything, to prevent ourselves from becoming lazier and less intelligent?



Our Lazy, Dumb Future

Let me start with a question. Remember the children's movie Wall-E? The one that depicted lazy humans in the future? These humans never walked—they spent their whole lives floating around in chairs that took them wherever they wanted to go. They never needed to cook or go shopping, and they were constantly entertained by screens projected in front of their faces, so they didn't need to do a whole lot of thinking, either. You may think this vision of the future is wildly exaggerated—we all laughed when we saw it—but I've got bad news for you, folks. I think we're well on the way there. Just think about shopping. Around 2 billion of us already do at least some sort of shopping online, and brick-and-mortar stores are closing all over the world as more and more of us decide not to leave the house to buy things. For example, ordering groceries online gets easier all the time. For now, you at least have to push a few buttons on your phone to re-stock your kitchen. It couldn't be easier, right? Well, I'm afraid it could: Soon internet-connected refrigerators will be ordering for us when they see supplies running low. Maybe you don't turn on your lights or air conditioners because your digital assistants do it for you. You don't even need to pick up the remote to change the TV channel or play music because digital assistants can do that too. It's as if the goal is to move our bodies as little as possible. People see digital assistants as a wonderful convenience, but what will happen to our muscles when we stop using them for even the smallest task—will we end up like those people in Wall-E who were hardly able to walk anymore? But a deeper concern is this: What will happen to our minds? Are we getting not just lazier, but less intelligent? When my parents were young, they had to learn and retain all kinds of information— all their friends' phone numbers, math formulas, historical events, dates—all the things that I've never bothered with because I can just ask my phone. What's this doing to our brains? What about critical thinking? In an age when we can get the so-called answer so easily, are we still being challenged to think for ourselves and engage with ideas that are different from our own? Between social media and hundreds of TV channels, it's so easy to surround yourself with people whose opinions you agree with. For example, if a TV newsperson or a writer or my uncle on social media presents ideas that I don't like, I can just tune them out by changing the channel, or putting the book down, or clicking "unfollow." Other people's opinions were harder to ignore when we had more limited media sources or when that uncle was actually in the room with us. I know some people may say I'm being unreasonable—the purpose of technology has always been to make life easier. I mean, maybe washing machines made us lazier—most of us don't carry our clothes to the river anymore—and don't want to go back to that. And, obviously, technology has helped in areas like medicine. But is it all going too far, too fast? Will we end up like the people in Wall-E, staring blankly at screens while our minds and our bodies get weaker and weaker? What do you say? Do you want to avoid that future? What's the first step you'll take?

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AS HOMEWORK USE A DICTIONARY TO LOOK UP THE WORDS AND LEARN THEM

Homework

Provide the Ss with the audio link of the Listening. Highlight the page number of the script. Familiarize them with the concept of shadowing if necessary. Assign them to perform shadowing to the conversation.



Listen to the Listening using the link.

Perform shadowing by practicing the rhythm, intonation, and pace of the speakers.