

Describing technology with passive voice game

Choose one of the technologies below but don't tell your partner which one. Read out the hints there one by one until your partner guesses what you are talking about, starting with the most difficult hints to guess from. Your partner can only guess once per hint, so give another hint if their guess is wrong. If you finish all the hints below before your partner guesses correctly, make up more hints (with passive voice if possible). If they know what you are talking about but can't think of the name in English, they can just point at that thing in the classroom, ask the teacher for the word, use a dictionary, draw the object, etc. When they guess correctly, change roles and do the same thing. Take turns doing the same until your teacher stops you.

Useful language for playing the game

"I'm not sure/ I have no idea. Can you give me another hint?"

"That could also be right, but it isn't written here. I'll give you another hint. The next hint is..."

"That's right. Now it's your turn."

Ask about anything below you don't understand.

Passive voice grammar presentation

Put one word into each gap below, without looking at the previous worksheets.

Humidifier

Your skin _____ kept healthy by this.

Many _____ sold in Japan.

Lift/ Elevator

It _____ invented a long time ago.

Some are made _____ Toshiba.

Clamshell mobile phone/ Clamshell cellphone

It can _____ used by old people and children (because it is so simple).

In most countries it _____ been replaced by smartphones.

Check your answers below.

Put the verbs below into the correct forms

Light bulb

It _____ (make) of glass.

It _____ (power) by electricity.

It _____ (use) at night.

It _____ (replace) when it isn't working.

It _____ (invent) by Thomas Edison.

The traditional one _____ (replace) by LED ones.

Check your answers with the other worksheets.

Descriptions of technology with passive voice

Humidifier

Your skin is kept healthy by this.
Steam is released by this.
It isn't sold in the UK.
Many are sold in Japan.
It is most often used when the weather is cold and dry.

Lift/ Elevator

People are carried in it.
It was invented a long time ago.
It is powered by electricity.
Some are made by Toshiba.
It is controlled by buttons on the wall.
Things are transported up and down in it.

HDTV

Blu-ray videos are best watched on this.
It is made from very many LEDs.
It is sold in electronics shops.
It was launched quite a long time ago but it hasn't become so popular yet.
A lot of space is needed to have it in your house.

Light bulb

It is made of glass.
It is powered by electricity.
It is replaced when it breaks.
It is sold in supermarkets.
It is mostly used at night.
It was invented by Thomas Edison.
The traditional one has been replaced by LED ones.

Vending machine

Money is put into it.
It is sometimes robbed or stolen.
It is placed outside shops, outside homes, in offices, in hospitals, etc.
It is brought and taken away by a truck.
The products inside are cooled or heated.
It is refilled at least once a week.
Contactless payment cards are sometimes accepted by these.
Strange products like canned bread, plastic models and pants are sometimes sold from these.

Air conditioner

It is put on the wall.
It is powered by electricity.
It is used a lot in the summer.
It is used to make the room hotter or colder.
The outside is made of plastic.
It is cleaned three or four times a year.
It is connected to outside the house.
It is bought in an electrical shop.
It is fixed by a technician.
It is replaced once every ten or twenty years.

(Travel) alarm clock

It can be usually be folded.
It can be carried in your suitcase.
It is powered by a battery.
People are woken up by it.
It is used to tell the time.
It is made from glass, plastic and metal.

Video game/ Computer game

Lots of time is wasted using this.
It is sold for more than a DVD or CD.
More money is made from these than from movies.
It is mainly played by teenage boys.
It is criticised by teachers and parents.
It was made popular by Sega.
Movies are sometimes based on these.

Clamshell mobile phone/ Clamshell cellphone

In most countries it has been replaced by smartphones.
It is opened and closed each time that you use it.
It can be used for a few days without charging it.
It can be used by old people and children (because it is so simple).

Fax (machine)

Paper is put into it.
Documents were often sent this way at the end of the 20th century.
It has mostly been replaced by email.
Its documents are sent through telephone lines.

Ask about anything above which you couldn't understand, then do the grammar presentation on the first page.

Play the same game with your own ideas, for example the kinds of technology on the next page.

Suggested technology to describe with passive voice

- Air conditioning
- (Travel) alarm clock
- Answerphone/ Answer machine/ Voice mail
- (Smartphone) app(lication)
- AR/ Augmented reality
- Autonomous vehicles/ Self-driving cars
- Biometric identification (voice recognition, facial recognition, fingerprint sensor, etc)
- Block-chain technologies (Bitcoin, etc)
- (Pocket/ Solar-powered) calculator
- (Digital) camera
- Carbon capture/ Carbon sequestering
- (Clamshell/ 4G) cellphone/ mobile phone
- Cloud computing/ The cloud
- Combined toilet and bidet
- Computer translation/ Machine translation
- Contactless payment card (e.g. Oyster Card)
- (Extension) cable/ cord
- DAB/ digital radio
- Debit card
- Desktop computer/ PC
- Dictaphone/ (Digital) voice recorder
- Drinks machine
- Electric vehicle
- Erasable pen
- (Electric) fan
- Fire extinguisher
- Flashlight/ Torch
- Fluorescent light/ Fluorescent strip
- Fridge freezer
- GM/ GMO/ genetically modified...
- Hair clippers
- Hair dryer
- Hands-free phone/ Conference call function
- (Inner-ear/ Noise cancellation) headphones
- Headset
- Humidifier
- Instant messaging
- Intercom
- (Steam) iron
- IoT/ The internet of things
- IWB/ Interactive whiteboard
- (Electric) kettle
- (Desk) lamp
- Laptop (computer)
- (LED) light bulb
- Maglev (bullet) train

- Microphone
- Microwave (oven)
- Nanotechnology
- Nuclear power station
- Online chat
- Pager/ Beeper
- Photocopier/ Copy machine
- (Two-pin/ Three-pin) plug
- Projector
- Radio cassette player
- Remote control
- (Nano/ Micro) satellite
- Sewing machine
- (Paper) shredder
- SIM card
- Smoke detector
- SMS/ text
- Social media
- Socket/ Electrical outlet
- (Anti-virus/ Photo-editing) software
- Spam filter
- (Deep sea) submarine
- Tablet (computer)
- Teleconferencing
- (Cable/ HD/ Satellite/ Wide-screen/ 3D) television/ TV
- USB (stick)/ (USB) thumb drive
- (Robot) vacuum cleaner/ Hoover
- Vending machine
- Video conferencing
- Video game (console)
- VoIP (e.g. Skype)
- VR/ Virtual reality
- Water cooler/ Water dispenser
- Wearable technology (smartwatches, etc)
- Wi-fi
- Word processor

Ask about anything you don't understand above, working together to make suitable descriptions each time.

Science and technology collocations

Connect words from the left and right of each section below to make STEM collocations.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Air | app(lication) |
| 2. Alarm | clock |
| 3. Answer | calculator |
| 4. Voice | chain technologies (Bitcoin, etc) |
| 5. (Smartphone) | conditioning |
| 6. Augmented | identification |
| 7. Autonomous | mail |
| 8. Biometric | phone/ machine |
| 9. Voice/ Facial | reality |
| 10. Block- | recognition |
| 11. (Pocket/ Solar-powered) | vehicles |
| 12. (Digital) | bidet |
| 13. Carbon | camera |
| 14. (Clamshell/ 4G) cell/ mobile | capture/ sequestering |
| 15. Cloud | card |
| 16. Combined toilet and | computing |
| 17. Computer/ Machine | cable/ cord |
| 18. Contactless | payment card (e.g. Oyster Card) |
| 19. (Extension) | phone |
| 20. Digital | radio |
| 21. Debit | translation |
| 22. Desktop/ Personal | computer |
| 23. (Digital) voice | extinguisher |
| 24. Drinks | fan |
| 25. Electric | freezer |
| 26. Erasable | light/ Torch |
| 27. (Electric) | light/ strip |
| 28. Fire | machine |
| 29. Flash | modified... |
| 30. Fluorescent | pen |
| 31. Fridge | recorder |
| 32. Genetically | vehicle |
| 33. Hair | bulb |
| 34. Hands- | clippers/ dryer |
| 35. Head | com |
| 36. Inter- | free phone |
| 37. (Steam) | iron |
| 38. The internet of | kettle things |
| 39. (Electric) | lamp |
| 40. (Desk) | set |
| 41. Lap | things |
| 42. (LED) light | top (computer) |



43. Maglev (bullet)	chat
44. Micro	control
45. Micro	copier
46. Nano	machine
47. Nuclear power	phone
48. Online	player
49. (Two-pin/ Three-pin)	plug
50. Photo	satellite
51. Copy	station
52. Radio cassette	technology
53. Remote	train
54. (Nano/ Micro)	wave (oven)
55. Sewing	card
56. (Paper)	(computer)
57. SIM	detector
58. Smoke	filter
59. Social	machine
60. (Electrical)	marine
61. Anti	media
62. Spam	outlet
63. (Deep sea) sub-	shredder
64. Tablet	-virus software
65. Tele/ Video	cleaner/ Hoover
66. (Cable/ HD/ Satellite/ Wide-screen)	conferencing
67. USB	cooler/ dispenser
68. (Robot) vacuum	fi
69. Vending	game (console)
70. Video	machine
71. Virtual	processor
72. Water	reality
73. Wearable	(stick/ thumb drive)
74. Wi-	technology (smart watches, etc)
75. Word	television/ TV
76. Finger	headphones
77. Instant	messaging
78. (Inner ear/ Noise cancellation)	-print sensor

Check as a class or with the worksheets above.

Technology synonyms

Without looking above for now, try to think of other expressions which mean the same as:

- app
- answerphone
- AR
- cellphone
- cord
- DAB
- PC
- Dictaphone
- torch
- fluorescent light
- photocopier
- SMS
- socket
- Hoover
- water dispenser

-----fold, cover or cut-----

Mixed answers

Use the words below to help with the task below. Some need to be combined with each other or with words from above.

- (digital)
- -lication
- augmented
- cable
- cleaner
- computer
- cooler
- copy
- desktop
- digital
- electrical
- flash-
- light
- machine
- machine
- mobile
- outlet
- radio
- reality
- recorder
- strip
- text
- vacuum
- voice

Differences between similar technology words

The things on the same line below are at least slightly different from each other. Work together to describe the differences.

air conditioner/ humidifier

AR/ VR

chat/ online chat

clamshell mobile phone/ smartphone

clock/ watch

credit card/ debit card

desktop computer/ laptop (computer)

drinks machine/ vending machine

electric(al)/ electronic

email/ SMS

fluorescent light/ (LED) light bulb

fridge/ freezer

game/ video game

kettle/ teapot

microwave (oven)/ oven

plug/ socket

sewing machine/ machine

smartphone/ tablet

teleconference/ video conference

Ask about any which you are not sure about.

Technology Janglish

Write British and/ or American English for each of the “Japanese English” expressions below. All need to be changed.

appli X
barikan X
(NHK) BS X
consent X
cool box X
cooler X
degital X
digi camera X
dryer X
eco technology X
(a pair of) headphone X
high vision X
homep X
pasokon X
note pasokon X
rajio X
remo con X
SF (movies) X
(computer) soft X
stand lamp X
televi X
TV conference X
TV game X
washlet X
word pro X
wirus X

Mixed answers

Use the words to correct the phrases above. Some can be used more than once or need to be combined.

air
and
app
application
bidet
clippers
combined
computer
conditioner
control
desk
digital
electrical
fi
fiction
fridge
green
hair
HD
lap
outlet
processor
radio
refrigerator
remote
satellite
-s
sci-
science
site
socket
telly
the box
toilet
top
TV
video
virus
-ware
web

Science and technology abbreviations

Without looking above, try to remember, work out or guess what the long form of each thing here is:

- 3D
- app
- AR
- biotech
- BSc
- DAB
- fridge
- GM
- HDTV
- IoT
- IT
- IWB
- LED
- math(s)
- mobile
- MSc
- OS
- PC
- sci-fi
- SMS
- STEM
- teleconference
- trig
- vlog
- VR
- www

Use the hints below to help, then check as a class or with the worksheets above.

Use words below to help with the task above. Some words can be used more than once.

- augmented
- audio
- bachelor of
- biological
- broadcasting
- computer
- definition
- digital
- dimensions/ dimensional
- diodes
- emitting
- engineering
- fiction
- genetically
- high
- information
- interactive
- internet
- -lication
- light
- master
- mathematics
- maths
- messaging
- modified
- of
- operating
- personal
- phone
- reality
- refrigerator
- science
- service
- short
- system
- technology
- telephone
- television
- the
- trigonometry
- video
- virtual
- web
- whiteboard
- wide
- world

Join words from the left and right of the same section below to make things that have common abbreviations, then write the abbreviation next to the completed form.

- | | |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| ● three | dimensions/ dimensional |
| ● augmented | definition television |
| ● bio- | emitting diode |
| ● bachelor of | modified |
| ● genetically | of things |
| ● high | phone |
| ● the internet | reality |
| ● information | science |
| ● light | technology |
| ● mobile | technology |
| | |
| ● master of | computer |
| ● operating | fiction system |
| ● personal | log/ blog |
| ● science | messaging |
| ● short | reality |
| ● science | science |
| ● video | system |
| ● virtual | technology engineering and maths |
| ● world | wide web |

Check as a class or with the worksheets above.