

TECHNOLOGY-RELATED VOCABULARY

FOR IELTS STUDENTS

- **computer age:** the period in modern history characterized by rapid technology development and widespread computer use.

Living in a computer age has many benefits.

- **computer buff:** a user who is good at working with a computer.

Mike is a computer buff. He got an A+ on his programming exam.

- **computer fatigue:** a syndrome of tiredness resulting from long computer usage.

About 60% of IT specialists are affected by computer fatigue.

- **cutting-edge:** something innovational and leading.

Cutting-edge technology.

- **desktop PC:** a personal computer that remains on a desk.

I have an old desktop PC that I use for surfing the net when I'm home.

- **digital editing:** a process of changing digital materials like audio or video files.

Being good at digital editing is essential in our time.

- **download (podcasts):** to save a copy of a file from the internet to your own device.

Yesterday I downloaded a few films that I plan to watch during the weekends.

- **essential:** something you can't imagine your life without.

Internet is an essential piece of technology for many people.

- **gadget:** an advanced piece of technology, like smartphone.

Nowadays almost everybody owns a gadget.

- **geek:** someone who is obsessed with technology, especially computers.

My friend is a real geek. He owns a bunch of computers and other gadgets.

- **hold the line:** wait a minute.

She told me to hold the line, because she had to open the door.

- **large screen:** a big-sized monitor.

A few days ago I decided to renew my computer, so I bought a large screen for it.

- **light years ahead:** very far away from.

Modern computers are light years ahead of those which people used in 90s.

- **on the cutting edge:** at the forefront of progress.

Paul's new laptop is on the cutting edge of technology.

- **operating system:** the most important program that runs the computer.

I chose to buy a laptop which is based on the Windows operating system.

- **out of steam:** tired, exhausted.

Due to today's intense workday I am out of steam, so I won't be able to work tomorrow.

- **rocket science:** a very complicated subject for someone.

Biology is a rocket science for me. I don't understand anything in it.

- **send an attachment:** send an email with an added file.

My brother sent an attachment with his homework to the professor.

- **silver surfer:** an old person, who uses the Internet.

Uncle Bob is a silver surfer. He uses the Internet every day, although he's almost 70.

- **social media:** media used to interact with other people.

Facebook is the biggest social media in the world.

- **time-consuming and inefficient:** something that takes too much of your time and isn't rational to do.

I find watching football time-consuming and inefficient.

- **to access websites/email:** to visit websites/email.

John accessed his email today to see if he had received any letters.

- **to back up files:** to make a copy of files in case of a computer problem.

I had to back up files on my computer, because I was going to reinstall my operating system.

- **to be stuck behind a computer:** to use computer for a long period of time.

A lot of teenagers are stuck behind their computers all day.

- **to boot up:** to start a computer.

I booted up my computer as soon as I got home.

- **to browse websites:** to search for websites.

I spent a few hours browsing the websites today, until I found what I was looking for.

- **to crash:** to suddenly stop working.

My computer crashed when I was writing my essay.

- **to go online:** to use the Internet.

Millions of people go online every day.

- **to navigate a website:** to find what you need on the website.

Navigating a website is not very easy, especially if the website is poorly designed.

- **to pull the plug:** to end an activity.

After being stuck behind a computer all day, I decided to pull the plug.

- **to push someone's buttons:** to do specific thing to irritate somebody (usually intentionally).

I became so angry because he pushed my buttons by adding pepper to my ice cream!

- **to surf the web:** to look through websites, searching for something you need, or simply for entertainment.

I was surfing the web yesterday for three hours, because I had nothing else to do.

- **to upgrade:** to renew a software or a piece hardware.

Thanks to the new program for students, I updated my computer for free.

- **well-oiled machine:** something that works perfectly well.

My computer, despite being 7 years old, is still a well-oiled machine.

- **widespread computer use:** that is to say people use computers very often.

- **Wi-Fi hotspots:** a public place where you can access the Internet.

Our university has a Wi-Fi hotspot. It is very convenient.

- **wireless network:** a network where users can access the Internet without using any cables.

We have installed a wireless network at home.

- **word processing:** writing, editing and producing words on a computer, using special programs.

There are tons of word processing programs.