

VOCABULARY

1 Read the text and choose the correct word for each gap. The first one is done for you.

Learning to learn

Governments are forever trying to bring (0) C change in teaching, to suit political ends, but they rarely (1) _____ on board the fact that teaching also implies learning, and learning implies individual styles and abilities. Trends come and go – the one-time popular method of (2) _____ learning (memorizing) was considered completely (3) _____ in some cultures by the end of the twentieth century and the discovery approach gained currency. These two (4) _____ opposed methods are still debated in many places of learning: can students (5) _____ intellectual energy by ‘doing’ and retain information in that way, or is it more productive for them to pore (6) _____ their books studiously, thereby (7) _____ facts to memory? Is it better to allow individuals to follow their own styles? Some may have to get down (8) _____ serious studying in order to learn while for others the briefest (9) _____ of a text may be enough for them to (10) _____ the information effortlessly. One thing that should not be forgotten in the debate, however, is that learning how to learn – how to discover information – is possibly the most important lesson ever taught.

- | | | | | |
|----|--------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 0 | A through | B over | C about | D towards |
| 1 | A take | B collect | C gather | D assume |
| 2 | A rota | B heart | C rote | D memory |
| 3 | A bygone | B obsolete | C extinct | D anachronistic |
| 4 | A diagonally | B antipodal | C different | D diametrically |
| 5 | A curb | B control | C catch | D harness |
| 6 | A over | B through | C to | D about |
| 7 | A allocating | B committing | C despatching | D delegating |
| 8 | A to | B with | C about | D from |
| 9 | A views | B glimpses | C looks | D sights |
| 10 | A remind | B cite | C recall | D evoke |

Marks (out of 10): _____

2 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the word in CAPITAL LETTERS. The first one is done for you.

- 0 The heat in the tropics can sometimes be very difficult to bear because of the high level of humidity in the air. **HUMID**
- 11 You need to be extremely _____ to get high points in this computer game. **RESOURCE**
- 12 This new magazine is very good. It's full of really _____ news stories. **TOPIC**
- 13 Applying this cream to your face as part of your _____ regime will reduce the appearance of wrinkles. **DAY**
- 14 Some people might consider herbalists and homeopaths the modern equivalent of _____. **ALCHEMY**
- 15 The climbers decided out of sheer _____ that they had to pitch their tent and spend the night on the mountain. **NECESSARY**
- 16 It's shocking to see people having to cope with such _____. **ADVERSE**
- 17 A good musician is always able to produce stunning _____ when necessary. **IMPROVIZE**
- 18 Only by using new vocabulary can you be sure of its _____ into your memory. **ASSIMILATE**
- 19 Many people consider Socrates to be one of the greatest _____ of the ancient world. **EDUCATE**
- 20 Do read our project _____; we want to get it as accurate as we possibly can. **DISCERN**

Marks (out of 10): _____

GRAMMAR

3 Complete the text with a suitable word in each gap. Use only one word in each gap. The first one is done for you.

Contrary (0) to what many people believe, copyright and patents are two different things. Copyright applies to wording only, and is therefore automatic on publication. So, (21) _____ view of that, if I came up with a different way of teaching a language, for example, and someone (22) _____ to present it as their own, there wouldn't (23) _____ much I could do (24) _____ I had already published it and the same wording were used. Mind you, I can't imagine many people 'stealing' an idea from a colleague though I once knew someone who had thought of a really good classroom technique, which he presented at a conference, only to be upset at seeing someone else use it afterwards: he had believed that it (25) _____ be 'his' once he (26) _____ presented it. Of course, (27) _____ hindsight he realized that it would have (28) _____ better to publish the technique before presenting it, and (29) _____ be fair, were it not (30) _____ the perennial difficulty of finding a publisher, he may well have done just that.

Marks (out of 10): _____

4 Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first. Use between three and eight words and do not change the word given. The first one is done for you.

- 0 As you spent so little time studying last year, I don't know how you passed your exams. **hardly**
As you hardly studied last year, I don't know how you passed your exams.
- 31 The next bill will be reduced by five euros if this one is paid within three weeks. **on**
The next bill will be reduced by five euros _____ paid within three weeks.
- 32 Suzannah was greatly disappointed that she wasn't invited to the sales conference. **to**
Suzannah wasn't invited to the sales conference, _____.
- 33 If you would like to be considered for a bursary, we can put your name forward. **should**
We can put your name forward _____ for a bursary.
- 34 The play was such a success that everyone was impressed, the director as well! **even**
The play was such a success that _____ impressed.
- 35 He couldn't have arrived on time if he hadn't broken the speed limit. **unless**
He couldn't have arrived on time _____ the speed limit.

Marks (Two marks per question. Total marks out of 10): _____

READING

5 You are going to read an article from which five paragraphs have been removed. Choose from the paragraphs A–F the one which fits each gap (36–40). There is one extra paragraph which you do not need to use.

THE CONVERSATION

<http://theconversation.com/the-internet-is-eating-your-memory-but-something-better-is-taking-its-place-47590>

The Internet is eating your memory, but something better is taking its place

By Saima Noreen, University of London

In the years since the world started going digital, one of the big changes has been that we don't need to remember very much. Why risk forgetting a partner's birthday or a dinner date with a close friend when you can commit the details to your computer, laptop, smartphone or tablet and get a reminder at the appropriate time?

Paul McCartney gave a useful insight into **this** in an interview over the summer. He claimed that back in the 1960s The Beatles may have written dozens of songs that were never released because he and John Lennon would forget the songs the following morning. 'We would write a song and just have to remember it. And there was always the risk that we'd just forget it. If the next morning you couldn't remember it – it was gone.' How different to the way he records now then, when he can 'form the thing, have it all finished, remember it all, go in pretty quickly and record it'.

With technology now well integrated into our everyday life, researchers have been investigating the lasting impact that it is having on the way that we learn and remember information. Some research has suggested that our reliance on technology and the internet is leading to 'digital amnesia', where individuals are no longer able to retain information as a result of storing information on a digital device.

36 _____

But before we mourn this apparent loss of memory, more recent studies suggest that we may be adapting. One such study from 2011 conducted a series of experiments looking at how our memories rely on computers. In one of them, participants were asked to type a series of statements, such as 'an ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain'.

37 _____

In another experiment, participants were asked to type a series of statements that would be saved in specific folders. They were then asked to recall the statements and the folders in which the files were located. Overall, they were better at recalling the file locations than the statements.

38 _____

This idea that individuals prioritise where information is located has led some researchers to propose that digital devices and the Internet have become a form of transactive memory. This idea, which dates back to the 1980s, refers to a group memory that is superior to that of any individual.

39 _____

More recent research has extended this line of work and found that saving information on a computer not only changes how our brains interact with it, but also makes it easier to learn new information. In a study published last year, the participants were presented with two files that each contained a list of words. They were asked to memorise both lists. Half of the participants were asked to save the first file before moving on to the next list, while the others had to close it without saving.

40 _____

In sum, anyone worrying that technology is wrecking one of our most important abilities should take some reassurance from these findings. It doesn't necessarily mean that there is no cause for concern: for instance McCartney said in the same interview that the songs in the 1960s that did make it to the recording studio were the most memorable ones. So it is possible that the lack of technology made The Beatles better songwriters.

But it may be that just as oral storytelling was usurped by the written word, having digital devices to outsource our memories means that it is no longer necessary for us to try to remember everything. And if we can now remember more with a little help from our technology friends, that is arguably a great step forward. Rather than worrying about what we have lost, perhaps we need to focus on what we have gained.

A

In one study, for example, 1,000 consumers aged 16 and over were asked about their use of technology. It found that 91% of them depended on the Internet and digital devices as a tool for remembering. In another survey of 6,000 people, the same study found that 71% of people could not remember their children's phone numbers and 57% could not remember their work phone number. This suggests that relying on digital devices to remember information is impairing our own memory systems.

B

An experiment was conducted focusing on differences between the generations where power of recall is concerned. In this experiment the participants were split into two groups – over and under 40 – and asked to memorize a list of numbers formed into groups containing eleven digits. They then performed a series of non-memory tasks before being asked how many groups of numbers they could remember. The older group remembered significantly more, perhaps because their generation didn't have the technological resources at their fingertips that meant they didn't need to remember phone numbers.

C

The experiment revealed that the participants recalled significantly more information from the second file if they had saved the previous file. This suggests that by saving or ‘offloading’ information on to a computer, we are freeing up cognitive resources that enable us to memorise and recall new information instead.

D

According to **this account**, individuals can collectively store and distribute information using a shared store of knowledge. This store of knowledge means that individuals can access details that they may not know themselves by knowing that another individual remembers it, thus enhancing what information is available to them by communicating with other people. In the same way, individuals develop a transactive memory with the Internet and rely on it for information by focusing on where details are located rather than the details themselves.

E

The conclusion from the two experiments? Technology has changed the way we organise information so that we only remember details which are no longer available, and prioritise the location of information over the content itself.

F

Half of them were told that their documents would be saved, and half were told that **they** would not. Everyone was then tested to see if they could remember what they had typed. Those who had been told their work would be saved were significantly poorer at remembering the information.


Marks (out of 5): _____

- 6** Now read the whole text in the correct order and decide what these words and phrases refer to. This can be a single word or item, or a whole phrase.

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| 0 this | <u>not needing to remember very much</u> |
| 41 that | _____ |
| 42 This | _____ |
| 43 this account | _____ |
| 44 Half of them | _____ |
| 45 they | _____ |

Marks (out of 5): _____

LISTENING

- 7**  **60** You will hear five short extracts in which different people are talking about how they try to remember things when they are studying for an exam.

Task One

For questions 46–50, choose from the list (A–H) which technique the speaker found most useful when studying.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| A having a mental discussion with him/herself | |
| B testing him/herself on chunks of written text | 46 Speaker 1 _____ |
| C trying to project him/herself into the test situation | 47 Speaker 2 _____ |
| D creating mental images of what he/she wanted to learn | 48 Speaker 3 _____ |
| E writing things down and referring to them whenever possible | 49 Speaker 4 _____ |
| F linking ideas and concepts on paper | 50 Speaker 5 _____ |
| G creating a ‘memory palace’ to remember ideas | |
| H repeating prepared speeches many times | |

Task Two

For questions 51–55, choose from the list (A–H) how the speaker most uses the technique in everyday life.

- A** as a way of keeping up in discussions with other people
- B** to keep common information such as instructions in his/her mind
- C** to remember information about people in his/her job
- D** to find solutions when something difficult needs to be worked out
- E** as a way of improving his/her mental performance
- F** it boosts his/her professional self-esteem
- G** as a way of getting ready for tricky work gatherings
- H** to help when applying for new positions

51 Speaker 1 _____

52 Speaker 2 _____

53 Speaker 3 _____

54 Speaker 4 _____

55 Speaker 5 _____

Marks (out of 10): _____

SPEAKING

8 Work in pairs to read the two steps and carry out the instructions.

Step 1

Look at the two photos below, showing two very different inventions for different situations. Discuss the two photos with your partner, thinking about what each machine does and what advantages it might bring.



Step 2

Now discuss the following questions about the devices.

- Would you be interested in using either of these devices? Why? / Why not?
- Would you call them inventions or innovations? Do you think the world needs devices like these?
- Can you think of any 'life hacks' that could be used in the situations given in the captions?

Marks (out of 10): _____

WRITING

9 Write a review of a household product that you have bought recently or have used recently. It can be a new innovation or something that has been around for a long time, but that you think was innovative when it first appeared. Include a description of the product and its features, its good and bad points, who it is likely to appeal to and your recommendation. Write between 250 and 300 words.

Marks (out of 10): _____