



LIFE IN THE 21ST CENTURY.

Imagine that the date is 2050 and we are outside a house full of the latest technology. A robot lawnmower cuts and repairs the grass. The central computer of the house is having a digital conversation with the nanoprocessors in the car. It is transmitting an electronic message to the mechanic in the garage saying what repairs the car will need in its next service. We walk through the doors which can recognise us by our faces and fingerprints. Inside the house, domestic robots do the housework in silence. The weather-sensitive windows clean themselves without being asked. An automatic cleaner vacuums the carpets. Your clothes are cleaned, sorted and folded automatically and in the kitchen your meals are prepared automatically with exactly the right amount of calories. Meanwhile, the house computer checks the weather forecast and changes the energy-saving programs.

But what about people? Many people are frightened of future technology because they think they won't know how to use it. However, for people who already have some knowledge and experience of computers, technology will become more accessible. Computers and products related to them will become easier to use. They will respond to voice or simple movements of the hand or eye, rather than to keyboards and 'mice'. Software will become more user-friendly through constant improvement.

The problems will come for those people who are outside the system from the start - people who are unemployed, or who don't know anything about computers, or who don't have access to them. Some people think there might be a divided society in the future. This society would have two distinct groups: the computer-literate people who have jobs and the unemployable computer illiterates

(Source: That's English. Module 9. Life in the future)

1.- Answer questions 1-2 according to the information given in the text. Use your own words.

- a) What do these smart house do to keep the owners safe?
- b) Who will benefit most from the technology?
- c) What negative effects can computers and new technologies have on society?

2.- Are these statements true or false? Justify your answers with the precise words or phrases from the text.

- a) In the house of the future, the central computer will check the condition of the car's engine.
- b) Everyone will find future technology easier to use.
- c) People who don't have jobs won't be allowed to use computers.
- d) People who aren't competent in computing won't be able to get jobs.

3.- Find the words in the text that mean (1 mark):

1. stopped (paragraph 1)
- 2.- without smoke (paragraph 1)
- 3.- entire (paragraph 2)
- 3 . people hooked on different things (paragraph 2)