

DISCUSS LIFE WITH AND WITHOUT INVENTIONS

INTRODUCTION



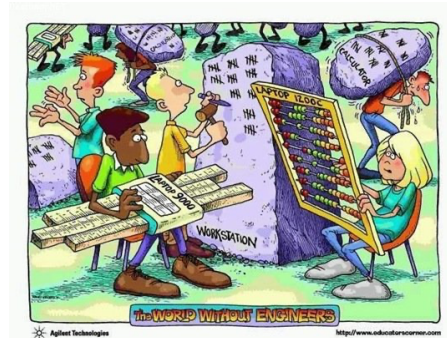
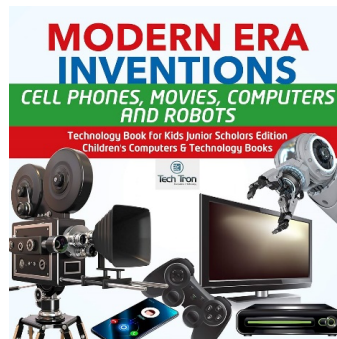
Today, we use many **inventions** every day: smartphones, the internet, cars, electricity, washing machines, and more.

These inventions can make life:

- Easier.
- Faster.
- More comfortable.

But people also lived **before** these inventions. Life was different:

- Communication was slower.
- Travel was more difficult.
- Housework took more time.



In this lesson, you will:

- Learn vocabulary to talk about common inventions.
- Compare life **with** and **without** these inventions.
- Say what people **can** and **can't** do with them.
- Write about how your life would change without one important invention.

DISCUSS LIFE WITH AND WITHOUT INVENTIONS

Warm-up: One day without

Think about **one invention** you use every day:

- Your smartphone.
- The internet.
- Your car or public transport.
- Electricity.
- A home appliance (washing machine, microwave, etc.).

In your notebook write **3-4 sentences**:

- What invention is it?
- How often do you use it?
- How would you feel **without** it for one day?

Example:

I use my smartphone every day. I use it for messages, calls and social media. Without my phone for one day, I would feel nervous and disconnected. It would be difficult to communicate with my friends.

VOCABULARY

1 Common inventions

Word / phrase	Example
invention	The smartphone is a very important invention.
device	I have many electronic devices at home.
electricity	Without electricity, it is very dark at night.
smartphone	I use my smartphone every day.
computer	We do many tasks on the computer.
internet	The internet helps us find information quickly.
Wi-Fi	We need Wi-Fi to connect our devices.
car	My family has one car.
public transport	Many people use public transport to go to work.
washing machine	The washing machine saves a lot of time.

DISCUSS LIFE WITH AND WITHOUT INVENTIONS

2 Daily activities related to inventions

Word / phrase	Example
charge (a phone)	I charge my phone every night.
send a message	I send messages on WhatsApp.
make a call	I make calls to my family every weekend.
search online	I search online for information.
download	I download music and podcasts.
print	I print my homework on the printer.
travel	We travel by car or bus.
commute	I commute by bus.
do housework	We do housework every day.
save time	Machines help us save time.

3 Opinions and comparisons

Word / phrase	Example
useful	The internet is very useful for students.
necessary	Electricity is necessary in modern life.
easier	With a car, life is easier.
faster	Email is faster than regular mail.
comfortable	Life is more comfortable with modern inventions.
with / without	With Wi-Fi, we can work anywhere. Without it, we can't.
modern life	Modern life depends on technology.
in the past	In the past, people wrote letters.
nowadays / today	Nowadays, many people shop online.
before / after	Before the internet, research was slower. After it, we can find information quickly.

GRAMMAR - WITH /WITHOUT, CAN /CAN'T, LIFE WAS / LIFE IS

3.1 With / without + noun - Talking about the presence or absence of inventions

Use: To say what life is like when we have an invention and when we do not have one.

DISCUSS LIFE WITH AND WITHOUT INVENTIONS

Structure:

- *With + noun, ...*
- *Without + noun, ...*

Examples:

1. <i>With a smartphone, we can send messages quickly.</i> 2. <i>Without a smartphone, communication is slower.</i>	
1. <i>With electricity, we can use lights at night.</i> 2. <i>Without electricity, houses are dark in the evening.</i>	
1. <i>With a washing machine, housework is easier.</i> 2. <i>Without a washing machine, washing clothes takes a lot of time.</i>	
1. <i>With the internet, students can find information fast.</i> 2. <i>Without the internet, research is more difficult.</i>	
1. <i>With a car, people can travel long distances easily.</i> 2. <i>Without a car, people need to walk or use public transport.</i>	

DISCUSS LIFE WITH AND WITHOUT INVENTIONS

3.2 Can / Can't - What Is Possible with an Invention

Use: To talk about what we can or cannot do thanks to an invention.

Structure:

- *Subject + can + base verb*
- *Subject + can't (cannot) + base verb*

Examples:

- *With a smartphone, I **can** take photos everywhere.*
- *Without a phone, I **can't** call my family easily.*
- *With the internet, we **can** study online.*
- *Without the internet, we **can't** join online classes.*
- *With a car, my parents **can** go to work faster.*
- *Without public transport, many people **can't** commute to the city.*
- *With electricity, we **can** use computers and TVs.*
- *Without electricity, we **can't** charge our devices.*
- *With a printer, students **can** print their assignments.*
- *Without a printer, they **can't** print documents at home.*

3.3 Life was / life is - comparing the past and the present

Use: To compare how people lived in the past and how they live today, with and without inventions.

Structure:

- *Life was + adjective (in the past).*
- *Life is + adjective (today).*
- *In the past, people didn't have...*
- *Today, people have...*

DISCUSS LIFE WITH AND WITHOUT INVENTIONS

Examples:

- *In the past, life **was** slower.*
- *Today, life **is** faster with technology.*
- *In the past, people **didn't have** smartphones.*
- *Today, many people **have** smartphones.*
- *In the past, life **was** more difficult without electricity.*
- *Now, life **is** more comfortable with modern inventions.*
- *In the past, students **didn't have** online classes.*
- *Today, students **can** study online and life **is** more flexible.*
- *In the past, communication **was** slower with letters.*
- *Now, communication **is** faster with email and messaging apps.*

CONVERSATION - LIFE WITH AND WITHOUT SMARTPHONES

Ana: Do you think smartphones are the most important invention?

Luis: Maybe not the most important, but they are very useful.
With a smartphone, we can send messages and use many apps.

Ana: That's true. Without a smartphone, communication is slower. We can't use social media or chat all the time.

Luis: In the past, life was different. People didn't have smartphones. They used letters or landline phones.

Ana: Today, life is faster. Sometimes I think we use our phones too much.

Luis: Yes, but with smartphones, we can also study, read the news and learn English online.

Ana: You're right. With this invention, life is easier in many ways.



DISCUSS LIFE WITH AND WITHOUT INVENTIONS

References:

- Murphy, R. (2019). English grammar in use: A self-study reference and practice book for intermediate learners of English (5th ed.). Cambridge University Press.
- Swan, M. (2016). Practical English usage (4th ed.). Oxford University Press
- Oxenden, C., Latham-Koenig, C. & Lambert, J. (2019). American English file 3: Student book (3rd ed.). Oxford University Press.
- Richards, J. C. & Bohlke, D. (2017). Four corners level 3: Student's book (2nd ed.). Cambridge University Press.