

## Speaking Activity: Changes in Technology

A. How do we describe the changes in technology and the way of living? Look at the sentence starters and pay attention to the difference in tenses.

### The past

- ✓ **Past tense**
  - *There used to be ...*
  - *People used to ...*
  - *Children used to ...*
  - *It was ...*
  - *They were ...*
  
- ✓ **Use 'with' to talk about the tools people used to use**  
*People used to ... with ...*

### Nowadays

- ✓ **Simple present tense**
  - *There are/ is ...*
  - *People go / use / wear / communicate / take ...*
  - *Children play ...*
  - *It is ...*
  - *They are ...*
  
- ✓ **Use 'with' to talk about the tools people use nowadays**  
*People ... with ...*

B. There are many things you can talk about. Let's take a look.

- ✓ **Things to compare (nouns):**  
*technology, traffic, games, air quality, road, transport, communication, street lamp*
  
- ✓ **Other useful words:**  
*High-rise building, convenience store, hopscotch, hide-and-seek, computer games, the Internet, mobile phones, rickshaw, traffic jam, motorcycle, pollution, exhaust fume, well water, tap water, oil lamp, electric lamp*



**C. To make your description more vivid, use adjectives and quantity words.**

✓ **Use adjectives:**

*convenient, expensive, dirty, clean, fast, tall, complicated, busy, noisy, inconvenient, cheap, dirty, clean, slow, short, simple, quiet, simple, crowded*

✓ **Use quantity words:**

*many, a lot of, few, little, much*

**D. You can also use the comparative form of adjectives to make comparisons.**

**Comparatives:**

- Short adjectives: add '-er'      *faster*
- Long adjectives: add 'more'      *more convenient*

**E. To present your ideas more fluently, use transitional words to organise your ideas.**

**To show similar / additional ideas**

*First, Also, In addition, Furthermore, Moreover, Besides, Finally*

**To show contrast**

*Whereas, In contrast, On the contrary*

**F. Now, take short notes on the things you're going to talk about.**

Draw a table or mind map. Describe the changes in technology and the way of living.

Seventy years ago ...	Today ...
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	