



Technology

Task: Using Technology

Activity 1: Listening

Welcome to a practice listening task for the GESE 9.

You are going to hear a talk about **using technology**. You will hear the talk twice. The first time, just listen. Then I'll ask you to tell me generally what the speaker is talking about. Are you ready?

Audio Script

In countries, like that of Spain, working from your house with the aid of technology was basically unheard of before the global pandemic. However, all those entrepreneurs, who could not permit their businesses to go down the drain, not to mention professionals that could not leave their work unattended, they found a way in what must have seemed as an impossible feat for many.

Certainly this wasn't without its challenges. First and foremost, in order for this to work, you had to have some sort of electronic device, whereby it be the mobile phone, a tablet, a laptop, a desktop, or a conjunction thereof. In addition to this, little did people know that it would be demanding of one's patience to work while having children in the household. This is where parents had to learn what juggling a job and family life at the same time really was like. On top of that, business owners had different types of challenges. They had to find ways for their customers to either order online or call for home delivery. Many clothing shops created facebook pages and used whatsapp in order to show what they had available for sale. Also, many restaurants and other food serving facilities had to move all their sales to being ordered and delivered by phone calls or ordering through apps. It took some ingenuity and time to learn the process and logistics of selling this way. Furthermore, when it came to education, many countries were completely unprepared for doing distance education. They neither had the platform online nor the knowledge how to carry it out. However, with trial and error many teachers found additional material that they could use, made videos, and taught through webcam sessions. This didn't keep particular problems from happening. For instance, children ghosting their classes and students that had problems with technology in their house and nobody to help them figure it out. Last but not least, there were huge problems with medical attention, since that sector was overextended in all they had to do during that time and many that needed medical attention were unable to receive it and some people couldn't stand having this happen. However, those that had private medical insurance, were able to be attended by online consultation and house visits when really needed.

So to continue, it is undeniable all the benefits we discovered by using this technology to help us out during this time. An example of this would be all the time we saved by not having to use transport to get to the places we wanted to go to and back. Because of our reduction of having to use transportation we were, hence, able to see the improvement to the



environment and how nature was thriving due to this. No sooner had we stopped using so much transportation than we were able to see that we were able to save a lot of money in transportation as well. In addition to this, less money was spent in eating out and buying clothes, since people were cooking more at home and switched out their dressy clothing for something more comfortable to be in. Also, since there were less distractions in certain places where we should have been or things we could have done, we were able to concentrate on those closest to us. That is to say, spend more time with our loved ones and communicate from a distance with those that mattered to us. Also, without having the hustle and bustle of daily life, people had more personal time to think about things they wanted to do, and in other words do some of those things they had always wanted to do. For businesses, this was also something eye-opening for them, because some businesses were able to keep afloat, increase sales and find new clients, whereas the businesses that did not adapt, many found that they had to close their doors for good. What is more, so many businesses that went out of business had a long term effect on the economy. The businesses that did take advantage of technology must be amazed with how beneficial that this can be for them, namely in reaching clients all over the country and even throughout the world.

Now, the time has come for us to be able to go back to the workplace, go back to the schools and so on. However, do you think that this use of technology will be abandoned and we will go back to the way we were before or not? Only time will tell, I suppose. If only we could take the good of both and continue with it, it would be interesting how the future could fold out.

Can you tell me in one or two sentences what the speaker was talking about?

Now listen to the talk again. This time make some notes as you listen, if you want to. Then I'll ask you to tell me about the problems of working with or without technology and the benefits of using technology for work purposes.

Now tell me about the problems of working with or without technology and the benefits of using technology for work purposes. You have one minute to talk.

This is the end of the listening task.

Answers:

Problem of working with technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Had to have electronic devices: mobile phone, a tablet, a laptop, a desktop● Having patience while working and having children around; learn to juggle a job and family life at the same time● Business owners move sales to online sales, and receive through the mail or home delivery; clothing
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	<p>shops and food delivery; had to learn the process and logistics how they would carry things out</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● medical sector over extended and many didn't receive the medical attention that they needed; private medical insurance online consultation and house visits
Benefits of using technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Saved time in transport: improved the environment; nature thriving● Save money transportation eating out, buying clothes● Spend more time with loved ones and communicated from distance● Had more personal time think and able to do things that weren't possible before● Increased sales, find new clients

Marks: +_ / +10