

Class: 1C

English Teacher: Ms PY Tsang

History Teacher: Ms TL Chan

Topic: The Greatest Inventions In The 20th Century

In the school library, B is using the computer, A walks by.

A: Hey, what are you searching ? Why don't you go and play basketball?

B: Ms Chan gave me an assignment, to find the greatest inventions in the 20th century, that's why I'm sitting right here.

A: Ah...What do you mean by the 20th century?

B: You don't know. Let me tell you. One century is 100 years. The 20th century was the period between January 1, 1901 and December 31, 2000.

A: I really didn't know that. By the way, have you decided what invention you are going to do?

B: Not yet. I really can't decide. There were thousands of inventions in the 20th century. I can't make up my mind.

A: Well... (Look at the computer that B is using)...so, you are using the computer now. Was the computer invented in the 20th century?

B: Let me see. (Press the buttons) It says...
(C comes up to the stage)

C: The first electronic digital computers were developed between 1940 and 1945 in the United Kingdom and United States. Originally they were the size of a large room, consuming as much power as several hundred modern personal computers. In this era mechanical analog computers were used for military applications.

B: But why was the computer a great invention?

A: Don't you think that computers have changed our world? There aren't many people around who can say that their lives have not been changed by computers. Computers have conquered us. Look around, computers have greatly improved our lives.

B: That's right. It can be as simple as buying snacks from a vending machine. A computer processes the information that we feed it and then gives us the snack we paid for.

A: It is amazing what technology has done to us, and how dependent we have become. Using computers cut down our work time, we don't have to write everything out by hand, or type it out on typewriters.

B: Okay, other than computer, which other invention changed the world in the 20th century?

A: It's already 4:30. I have to go home now. I have to watch "After School ICU".

B: Oh, please. Stay with me. Help me finish the assignment first. You can watch "After School ICU" later.

A: Surely not. I like watching television. Television is important to me. ...Hey, that could be another topic for your research! The television!

B: Yeah. My family watch television every night. My mom watches "Beauty at War II (《金枝欲孽贰》) every night. TV drives her crazy.

A: When was television invented?

B: Let's have a look. (Press the buttons) It says...

D: In the US, television was commercially available in the late 1920s, since then the television sets have found in almost all homes. Television is a source of entertainment and information. According to the USA Media Research, the average American home has 2.71 televisions and but only 2.55 people. That means there are more TVs in the average home than there are people.

A: Television has become important as it brought information right to your house. People were able to communicate better, address issues faster and become aware of things happening around the world.

B: The television changed the world by displaying news and updates in everyday life faster, and it's also for entertainment. You can watch the television programs from Japan, Korea, the US and countries over the world.

A: I love both local and overseas TV programs. (Look at the watch) Oh, I don't want to be late for "After School ICU". I must leave now.

B: Okay. It's time for me to do the assignment too. Bye.

A: Bye.

Prepared by TL Chan 29/4/2013

English Class Presentation on 22/5/2013

Topic: The Greatest Inventions in the 20th Century

invention	發明	a vending machine	自動販賣機
century	世紀	entertainment	娛樂
electronic digital computers	電子計算機	local	本地的
personal computers	個人電腦	overseas	海外的
military applications	軍事用途	assignment	作業

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