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Level 4

The Internet gives new meanings to common words

20th October, 2015

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1510/151020-words-4.html>

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Please try the harder Level 5 and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1510/151020-words-4.html>

The Internet has transformed our lives very quickly. It has changed the words we use. The website Dictionary.com started two decades ago. It has looked back to see how the Internet has created new definitions to many common words. It said, "the rise of technology has shaped our word use over time". It blogged about 20 words that have expanded in meaning. The site has been recording new meanings for words since, "the dawn of the Internet era".

One of the biggest changes is to the word "friend. This was always a noun. The rise of Facebook means it is now a verb too. Another form of this word is "befriend," which means to become friends with someone (usually in the real world). The word "tablet" once referred to a flat piece of stone, clay, or wood used to write on. Now it is a touchscreen device with Internet. Other words that have new definitions include "cloud," "wireless," and "viral".

Sources: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationquestions/11931049/QUIZ-hows-your-modern-day-vocabulary.html>
<http://www.mercedsunstar.com/living/article39544122.html>
<http://blog.dictionary.com/20-words-in-20-years/>

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1510/151020-words-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. The Internet has | a. ago |
| 2. two decades | b. meanings for words |
| 3. new definitions to many common | c. of technology |
| 4. the rise | d. transformed our lives |
| 5. It blogged | e. meaning |
| 6. expanded in | f. words |
| 7. recording new | g. Internet era |
| 8. the dawn of the | h. about 20 words |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. One of the biggest | a. word is 'befriend' |
| 2. This was always | b. device |
| 3. The rise | c. a noun |
| 4. Another form of this | d. piece of stone |
| 5. become friends | e. changes |
| 6. a flat | f. have new definitions |
| 7. a touchscreen | g. of Facebook |
| 8. Other words that | h. with someone |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1510/151020-words-4.html>

The Internet has transformed (1) _____ quickly. It has changed (2) _____. The website Dictionary.com started two decades ago. It has looked (3) _____ the Internet has created new definitions (4) _____ words. It said, "the rise of technology has shaped our (5) _____ ". It blogged about 20 words that have expanded in meaning. The site has been recording new meanings for words since, "(6) _____ Internet era".

One of the biggest changes (7) _____ "friend. This was always a noun. The rise of Facebook means (8) _____ too. Another (9) _____ is "befriend," which means to become friends with someone (usually in the real world). The word "tablet" (10) _____ flat piece of stone, clay, or wood used to write on. Now (11) _____ device with Internet. Other words that have (12) _____ "cloud," "wireless," and "viral".

WORDS SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1510/151020-words-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Words in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

| | STUDENT 1 _____ | STUDENT 2 _____ | STUDENT 3 _____ |
|------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Q.1. | | | |
| Q.2. | | | |
| Q.3. | | | |
| Q.4. | | | |
| Q.5. | | | |

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____
- g) _____
- h) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____
- g) _____
- h) _____

