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The 4 page 60 minute ESL British English lesson – 15/09/13

## The chat revolution

Today, let's talk about the chat revolution. Chat today is either by sending an SMS message or by using video chat that allows us face to face contact with our friends and family. Popular networks for communicating with each other include Skype, Viber, Blackberry's BBM, Google Hangout's, Tango, Apple's Facetime and Facebook.

As a result over the last few years, especially since video chat came about, a chat revolution has taken place. It continues to evolve. Right now it means we can communicate instantly with people right around the world.

In today's world we use video chat for many things. We practically take it for granted, yet only a few years ago we could only dream of having such possibilities.

Teachers use Skype for lessons. Doctors in hospitals use it to guide other doctors through operations. Families use Skype to communicate with someone who might have moved abroad.

Using flat screen TVs allows us today to see people like they are actually in the room, even though they are a great distance away. To see people across the world is truly amazing, if you are doing so for the first time. Even more so if you are using a giant flat screen TV.

Video chat is great if there is good news, like a baby is born, or someone gets married. Children can speak to grandparents. Businesses also use Skype or similar for conference calls; thus saving a lot of money on travelling expenses. Lastly, TV stations use video chat technology to bring us news from around the globe where news crews aren't!

## SPEAKING

Think of three ways to 'chat'. Go round the room swapping details with others.

## LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

## READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

## SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

**1) The article** – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

**2) The article** - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

**3) Article quiz** - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

## Student A questions

- 1) Teachers use what for what?
- 2) Give two examples of good news.
- 3) Businesses use video chat for what?
- 4) What do TV crews do and why?
- 5) What continues to evolve?

## Student B questions

- 1) Name three networks.
- 2) Explain the term 'chat revolution'.
- 3) What is truly amazing?
- 4) Give two examples of where giant flat screen TVs are used.
- 5) Families use Skype for what?

**Category: Communication / Video Chat / SMS**  
**Level: Intermediate / Upper Intermediate**

The chat revolution - 15<sup>th</sup> September 2013

**WRITING / SPEAKING**

*In pairs.* On the board write as many words as you can to do with 'Chat'. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

**WRITING / SPEAKING**

*In pairs* think of three ways to send a sms message. Write them below.

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

**Add** three ways you can video chat.

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

*The teacher* will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

**WRITING / SPEAKING**

*In pairs,* write down as many ways video chat can be used cross the world today in business i.e. not just what is in the article. Discuss together. *One-two mins.*

*The teacher* will choose some students to read out their suggestions to the class.

**DISCUSSION**

**Student A questions**

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) When did you last use Skype?
- 3) How many friends do you speak to using social networks?
- 4) Do you have many friends in other countries?
- 5) How often do you use video chat?
- 6) How often do you use sms messaging?
- 7) How often do you use Viber or similar free sms messaging network?
- 8) What messaging networks do you use?
- 9) Which is the best messaging network?
- 10) Have you learnt anything in today's English lesson?

**SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 1**

*In groups.* One of you is the interviewer. There are up to four guests. You are in the *Chat FM* radio studio in Delhi, India. Today's interview is: *The chat revolution. 10 mins.*

- 1) Head of Skype
- 2) A doctor / teacher
- 3) A grandparent
- 4) A TV news anchor

*The teacher* will choose some groups to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

**SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 2**

*In pairs.* You are in a bar. Start a conversation about how you 'chat' and how your friends chat. *5 mins.*

**SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 3**

*In pairs.* One of you is in your country. The other is in another country. (Imagine!) Start a conversation on Skype about what you have done today. *5 mins.*

**SPEAKING – DISCUSSION**

*Allow 10 minutes – As a class.*

*The chat revolution*

*The teacher* can moderate the session.

**DISCUSSION**

**Student B questions**

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) Do you use Skype? Explain!
- 3) Why is Skype good for families?
- 4) Why is Skype good for doctors?
- 5) What changes do you see being introduced in how we communicate?
- 6) Will you be buying the new Samsung watches to communicate with?
- 7) Who did you talk to last night on Skype?
- 8) How often do you video chat?
- 9) Has this been a difficult lesson for you to understand?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

## GAP FILL: READING

### The chat revolution

Today, let's talk about the (1)\_\_\_ revolution. Chat today is either by sending an SMS (2)\_\_\_ or by using video chat that allows us face to face contact with our friends and family. (3)\_\_\_ networks for communicating with each other include Skype, Viber, Blackberry's BBM, Google Hangout's, Tango, Apple's Facetime and Facebook.

As a result over the last few years, (4)\_\_\_ since video chat came about, a chat (5)\_\_\_ has taken place. It continues to (6)\_\_\_. Right now it means we can (7)\_\_\_ instantly with people right around the world.

In today's world we use video chat for many things. We (8)\_\_\_ take it for granted, yet only a few years ago we could only dream of having such possibilities.

**communicate / chat / evolve / practically / popular / especially / message / revolution**

Teachers use Skype for lessons. Doctors in hospitals use it to (1)\_\_\_ other doctors (2)\_\_\_ operations. Families use Skype to communicate with someone who might have moved abroad.

Using flat screen TVs allows us today to see people like they are (3)\_\_\_ in the room, even though they are a great distance away. To see people across the world is (4)\_\_\_ amazing, if you are doing so for the first time. Even more so if you are using a (5)\_\_\_ flat screen TV.

Video chat is great if there is good news, like a baby is born, or someone gets married. Children can speak to grandparents. Businesses also use Skype or (6)\_\_\_ for conference calls; thus saving a lot of money on travelling expenses. Lastly, TV stations use video chat (7)\_\_\_ to bring us news from around the (8)\_\_\_ where news crews aren't!

**similar / giant / actually / through / truly / technology / guide / globe**

## GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

### The chat revolution

Today, let's talk about the chat revolution. Chat today is either by sending an SMS message or by using video chat (1)\_\_\_ allows us face to face contact with our friends and family. Popular networks for communicating with each other include Skype, Viber, Blackberry's BBM, Google Hangout's, Tango, Apple's Facetime and Facebook.

As a result (2)\_\_\_ the last few years, especially (3)\_\_\_ video chat came about, a chat revolution has taken place. It continues to evolve. Right now it means we can communicate instantly (4)\_\_\_ people right around the world.

In today's world we use video chat for (5)\_\_\_ things. We practically take it for granted, (6)\_\_\_ only a few years ago we (7)\_\_\_ only dream of having (8)\_\_\_ possibilities.

**could / many / over / that / with / since / such / yet**

Teachers use Skype for lessons. Doctors (1)\_\_\_ hospitals use (2)\_\_\_ to guide other doctors through operations. Families use Skype to communicate with someone who might have moved abroad.

Using flat screen TVs allows (3)\_\_\_ today to see people like they are actually in the room, even though they are a great distance away. To see people across the world is truly amazing, if you are doing (4)\_\_\_ for the first time. Even more so (5)\_\_\_ you are using a giant flat screen TV.

Video chat is great if there is good news, like a baby is born, (6)\_\_\_ someone gets married. Children can speak to grandparents. Businesses also use Skype or similar for conference calls; thus saving a lot (7)\_\_\_ money (8)\_\_\_ travelling expenses. Lastly, TV stations use video chat technology to bring us news from around the globe where news crews aren't!

**of / or / on / if / in / so / it / us**

**GAP FILL: LISTENING**

**The chat revolution**

Today, let's talk about \_\_\_\_\_. Chat today is either by sending an SMS message or by using video chat that allows us face to face contact with our friends and family. \_\_\_\_\_ communicating with each other include Skype, Viber, Blackberry's BBM, Google Hangout's, Tango, Apple's Facetime and Facebook.

As a result over \_\_\_\_\_, especially since video chat came about, a chat revolution has taken place. It continues to evolve. Right now it means we can communicate instantly with people \_\_\_\_\_.

In today's world we use video chat for many things. We practically take it for granted, yet only a few years ago we could only dream of having \_\_\_\_\_.

Teachers use Skype for lessons. \_\_\_\_\_ use it to guide other doctors through operations. Families use Skype to communicate with someone who might have moved abroad.

Using \_\_\_\_\_ allows us today to see people like they are actually in the room, even though they are a great distance away. To see people across the world is truly amazing, if you are doing so \_\_\_\_\_. Even more so if you are using a giant flat screen TV.

Video chat is great if there is good news, like a baby is born, or \_\_\_\_\_. Children can speak to grandparents. Businesses also use Skype or similar for conference calls; thus saving a lot of money on travelling expenses. Lastly, TV stations use video chat technology to bring us news from around the globe where \_\_\_\_\_!

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**WRITING/SPELLING**

**WRITING / SPEAKING**

**1) On the board** - *In pairs*, write down the different networks you use. Talk about them! Which is best? Which is least popular? 5 mins.

**2) Sentence starters** - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- 1) I like to chat \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) I use \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Flat screen TV \_\_\_\_\_

**3) Homework** - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: **The chat revolution**. Your email can be read out in class.

**GAP FILL READING**

- 1) chat
- 2) message
- 3) popular
- 4) especially
- 5) revolution
- 6) evolve
- 7) communicate
- 8) practically

**ANSWERS**

- 1) guide
- 2) through
- 3) actually
- 4) truly
- 5) giant
- 6) similar
- 7) technology
- 8) globe

**SPELLING**

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

- 1) through
- 2) operations
- 3) guide
- 4) communicate
- 5) families
- 6) actually
- 7) though
- 8) distance
- 9) chat
- 10) grandparents

**SPELLING**

Use the following ratings:

- Pass = 12**
- Good = 15**
- Very good = 18**
- Excellent = 20**

- 11) conference
- 12) businesses
- 13) similar
- 14) technology
- 15) popular
- 16) especially
- 17) evolve
- 18) practically
- 19) yet
- 20) possibilities