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The 4 page 60 minute ESL British English lesson – 20/03/14

The end of Windows XP

Most of us use a computer. Its operating system will probably be a Windows based system, a Mac or Linux system.

Those of you who use a Windows based system will know the good versions and the bad ones! In the old days we used Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows 2000 and in 2001 onwards there was the highly popular Windows XP that is still used by many today. Later we saw Windows Vista, which was rapidly replaced by Windows 7. Now there is Windows 8. Many people prefer Windows 7 to Windows 8, as it is easier to use.

Microsoft is withdrawing support for Windows XP on April 8th 2014. Support for Office 2003 also ends on this day. Before that you will need to go out and buy a new operating system. If your pc is more than five years old it might be better to buy a new computer, as technology in five years has dramatically improved. If you run a business and use Windows XP it will mean the company investing in new computers and a new operating system.

If you keep your current Windows XP system running it will work but it won't get any updates, meaning you could suffer security issues. Your pc may become vulnerable to harmful viruses, spyware, and other malicious software, which can steal your business data and information.

Windows XP has been immensely popular. When Microsoft replaced it with Windows Vista they scored an own goal. Likewise many people detest Windows 8; to the point that Microsoft has been forced to update Windows 8 with Windows 8.1.

Naturally, Microsoft is rubbing its hands in glee knowing many people will be forced to buy a new operating system.

SPEAKING – WARM UP

Which version of 'Windows' do you use? Perhaps you use another operating system? 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) Name the company that created Windows 8.
- 2) What is the Linux system?
- 3) What happens on April 8th 2014?
- 4) What is immensely popular?
- 5) What has dramatically improved?

Student B questions

- 1) What does 'malicious software' mean?
- 2) What is a harmful virus?
- 3) What is spyware?
- 4) Who scored an own goal and for what?
- 5) Who detest what? Why?

**Category: Technology / Operating Systems / Windows XP
Intermediate / Upper Intermediate**

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WRITING / SPEAKING

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

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs – Compare the following computer operating systems:-

- 1) Windows XP
- 2) Windows Vista
- 3) Windows 7
- 4) Windows 8
- 5) Mac
- 6) Linux
- 7) Other?

Think of several advantages, disadvantages or features of each operating system. Which is best? Which is worst? Why? Which you do prefer? Which would you recommend?

The teacher will choose some students to discuss their findings to the class.

DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Which computer operating system do you use?
- 3) Which computer operating system did you used to use?
- 4) Why is Microsoft pulling Windows XP updates?
- 5) Why is Mac popular?
- 6) Would you or have you swapped to a Mac?
- 7) What do you know about Linux?
- 8) When did you buy your computer?
- 9) How often should one buy a new computer?
- 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 CNN Technology studio. Today's interview is: *The end of Windows XP*. 10 mins.

- 1) Someone who uses Windows XP.
- 2) Someone who uses Mac.
- 3) Someone who uses Windows 8.
- 4) An IT journalist.

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

SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 2

In pairs. Student A thinks Windows 7 or 8 is great. Student B prefers another operating system. 5 mins.

SPEAKING – DISCUSSION

Allow 10 minutes – As a class.

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The teacher can moderate the session.

DISCUSSION

Student B questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) How many people in the world do you think still use Windows XP?
- 3) What will happen if you have a Windows XP operating system after April 8th 2014?
- 4) Will you be buying a new computer?
- 5) Why doesn't Microsoft care about its XP users any more?
- 6) Is it right Microsoft can simply stop issuing updates for Windows XP users?
- 7) What advice would you give anyone using Windows XP?
- 8) What operating system will follow Windows 8.1?
- 9) Has this been a difficult lesson for you to understand?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

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GAP FILL: READING

The end of Windows XP

Most of us use a (1)__. Its (2)__ will probably be a Windows based system, a Mac or Linux (3)__.

Those of you who use a Windows based system will know the good versions and the bad ones! In the old days we used Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows 2000 and in 2001 onwards there was the highly popular Windows XP that is still used by many today. Later we saw Windows Vista, which was rapidly replaced by Windows 7. Now there is Windows 8. Many people prefer Windows 7 to Windows 8, as it is easier to (4)__.

Microsoft is withdrawing (5)__ for Windows XP on April 8th 2014. Support for Office 2003 also ends on this day. Before that you will need to go out and (6)__ a new operating system. If your pc is more than five years old it might be better to buy a new computer, as (7)__ in five years has (8)__ improved.

technology / computer / system / support / operating system / dramatically / use / buy

If you run a business and use Windows XP it will mean the company investing in new computers and a new operating system.

If you keep your (1)__ Windows XP system running it will work but it won't get any (2)__, meaning you could suffer security issues. Your pc may become (3)__ to harmful viruses, (4)__, and other malicious software, which can (5)__ your business data and information.

Windows XP has been immensely popular. When Microsoft replaced it with Windows Vista they scored an own goal. Likewise many people (6)__ Windows 8; to the point that Microsoft has been forced to update Windows 8 with Windows 8.1. (7)__, Microsoft is rubbing its hands in (8)__ knowing many people will be forced to buy a new operating system.

spyware / current / naturally / vulnerable / glee / detest / steal / updates

GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

The end of Windows XP

(1)__ of us use a computer. Its operating system will probably be a Windows based system, a Mac or Linux system. (2)__ of you who use a Windows based system will know the good versions and the bad ones! In the old days we used Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows 2000 and in 2001 onwards there was the highly popular Windows XP that is (3)__ used by many today. Later we saw Windows Vista, (4)__ was rapidly replaced by Windows 7. Now there is Windows 8. (5)__ people prefer Windows 7 to Windows 8, as it is easier to use.

Microsoft is withdrawing support for Windows XP on April 8th 2014. Support for Office 2003 also ends on this day. Before that you will need to go out and buy a new operating system. If (6)__ pc is (7)__ than five years old it (8)__ be better to buy a new computer, as technology in five years has dramatically improved.

still / those / many / your / most / might / more / which

(1)__ you run a business and use Windows XP it will mean the company investing in new computers and a new operating system.

If (2)__ keep your current Windows XP system running (3)__ will work (4)__ it won't get (5)__ updates, meaning you could suffer security issues. Your pc may become vulnerable to harmful viruses, spyware, (6)__ other malicious software, which can steal your business data and information.

Windows XP has been immensely popular. When Microsoft replaced it with Windows Vista they scored (7)__ own goal. Likewise many people detest Windows 8; to the point that Microsoft has been forced to update Windows 8 with Windows 8.1.

Naturally, Microsoft is rubbing its hands (8)__ glee knowing many people will be forced to buy a new operating system.

in / it / an / if / any / but / you / and

GAP FILL: LISTENING

The end of Windows XP

Most of us use a computer. _____ will probably be a Windows based system, a Mac or Linux system. Those of you who use a Windows based system will know the good versions _____! In the old days we used Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows 2000 and in 2001 onwards there was the highly popular Windows XP _____ many today. Later we saw Windows Vista, which was rapidly replaced by Windows 7. Now there is Windows 8. Many people prefer Windows 7 to Windows 8, as it is easier to use. Microsoft is _____ for Windows XP on April 8th 2014. Support for Office 2003 also ends on this day. Before that you will need to go out and buy a new operating system. If your pc is more than five years old it might be better to buy a new computer, as technology in five years has _____.

If you run a business and use Windows XP it will mean the company investing in new computers and a new operating system.

If you _____ Windows XP system running it will work but it won't get any updates, meaning you could suffer security issues. Your pc may become vulnerable _____, spyware, and other malicious software, which can steal your business data and information.

Windows XP has been _____. When Microsoft replaced it with Windows Vista they scored an own goal. _____ detest Windows 8; to the point that Microsoft has been forced to update Windows 8 with Windows 8.1. Naturally, Microsoft is rubbing its hands in glee knowing many people will be forced to buy a _____.

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WRITING/SPELLING

WRITING / SPEAKING

1) On the board - In pairs, as a class - write down 20 different shift work jobs. Talk about them! 5 mins.

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

- 1) I use _____
- 2) Windows 8 _____
- 3) Technology _____

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

GAP FILL READING

- 1) computer
- 2) operating system
- 3) system
- 4) use
- 5) support
- 6) buy
- 7) technology
- 8) dramatically

SPELLING

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

- 1) naturally
- 2) glee
- 3) system
- 4) technology
- 5) computer
- 6) probably
- 7) those
- 8) know
- 9) versions
- 10) onwards

ANSWERS

- 1) current
- 2) updates
- 3) vulnerable
- 4) spyware
- 5) steal
- 6) detest
- 7) naturally
- 8) glee

SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

Pass = 12

Good = 15

Very good = 18

Excellent = 20

- 11) withdrawing
- 12) dramatically
- 13) business
- 14) security
- 15) updates
- 16) issues
- 17) vulnerable
- 18) malicious
- 19) immensely
- 20) popular

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