Lesson 4. Computing is about living

1. **Which of the quotes describes modern life better? Why do you think so? Discuss with the whole class.**

1. The PC has improved the world in just about every area you can think of. Amazing developments in communications, collaboration and efficiencies. New kinds of entertainment and social media. Access to information and the ability to give a voice to people who would never have been heard. *Bill Gates*

2. I think it's fair to say that personal computers have become the most empowering tool we've ever created. They're tools of communication, they're tools of creativity, and they can be shaped by their user. *Bill Gates.*

3. Computing is not about computers any more. It is about living. *Nicholas Negroponte*

2a. **Choose the spheres of life where the computer isn't used:**

- governments of countries;
- economies [ɪˈkɒnəmɪz] of countries;
- administration of cities, towns, villages;
- banking;
- education (kindergarten, school, college, university);
- books (book-writing, book-publishing, book-reading, libraries);
- information sources (television, radio, newspapers, magazines);
- transport (land, air, water);
- medicine (prescriptions (рецепты), data storage, tests and examinations);
- entertainment (cinema, music);
- art (graphics);
- socialising (social networks).

225

2b. **Which spheres do the following texts about the use of computers and the Internet refer to?**

1. Navigation systems help us find any place. They control movement and can inform us about the situation on the roads – any form of traffic disruption: traffic jams, car accidents, etc. These computer operated systems manage intelligent highway infrastructure: electronic collection of money for road use (toll collection), emergency vehicle notification (оповещение) system, speed cameras, changing speed limits based on the current traffic, regulating traffic lights, etc.

2. There are online libraries where you can find and read a lot of books for free. Newspapers and magazines, TV channels and radio stations have all gone online in addition to their traditional formats. Some of the online content is free, some is provided at a low cost through subscription. For example, belkiosk.by offers subscription to e-editions of 150 newspapers and magazines.

It's impossible not to appreciate that nowadays we can get information from all over the world. Bill Gates said: "The Internet is becoming the town square for the global village of tomorrow."

2c. **Describe how computers and the Internet are used in other spheres of life (ex. 2a). Work in groups.**

3a. **Think how computers and Internet technologies have changed learning foreign languages. Add examples to the following ideas.**

1. Learning to communicate orally or in writing is the main aim of learning foreign languages in modern life.
2. Google Translate makes it unnecessary to learn to translate texts. Though not perfect, one can get an idea what the text is about.
3. It's more important to listen or to read and understand immediately, as translation prevents real communication.
4. The computer and the Internet offer unlimited opportunities to learn a foreign language.

226

3b. Read the quotes about computers and learning. Interpret them from the point of view of foreign language learning.

Computers themselves, and software yet to be developed, will revolutionize the way we learn. *Steve Jobs*

Technology is just a tool. In terms of getting the kids working together and motivating them, the teacher is the most important. *Bill Gates*

4a. Read the quotes about dealing with the dangers of the Internet and answer the questions:

Where do we use passwords? Why is it insecure and unsafe to share them? Have you ever had a negative experience with social media? Have you ever posted negative comments?

Treat your password like your toothbrush. Don't let anybody else use it, and get a new one every six months. *Clifford Stoll*

Using social media to hurt and destroy is callous, acted out by cowards hiding behind computers. My advice is to ignore negativity. Focus on the love around. *Martin Garrix*

4b. Discuss other dangers of the Internet in pairs or in groups and work out Internet safety tips. Compare with the other groups.

4c. Write down your brief Internet safety tips, and then listen and compare with the presented list. Complete your own list if necessary.

5a. Describe your day from morning till night. When do you use the computer and the Internet?

227

5b. Think what you can do to make the experience healthy and useful every time you use a computer or the Internet. Copy and fill in the table below.

Time	What I do, how I use the computer	How to make the activity healthy for the mind and the body

Lesson 5. Are you addicted to the Internet?

1a. Read the joke below. Do you agree with the arguments?

The top 5 reasons why the television is better than the World Wide Web

5. It doesn't take 5 minutes to build the picture when you change the TV channels.

4. The family never argues over which Website to visit this evening.

3. A remote control has fewer buttons than a keyboard.

2. The news programme never slows down when a lot of people tune in.

1. You can't surf the Web from a couch with a fizzy drink in one hand and a packet of crisps in the other.

228