

Broadband

Level

Intermediate and above

Tasks

Discussing experiences of using broadband at work
Predicting figures from studying a graph
Scanning a paragraph to check predictions
Reading the transcript of an interview with a manager
Using some of the business phrases taken from the interview
Discussing issues arising from the interview

How to use the lesson

- 1 Check that students know the terms: broadband, wi-fi and tele-working. Broadband refers to fast Internet connections, such as an ADSL line, cable modem and satellite and wireless connections. Wi-fi stands for 'wireless fidelity' where users are able to connect to the Internet at 'hot-spots' such as hotel rooms and airports. Hand out the worksheet and ask students to compare their experiences.
- 2 Ask students to study the graph of broadband subscribers worldwide. They then predict the figures for users for the years 2006 and 2007.
- 3 Ask students to scan the first paragraph to check how close their estimates were to the market research companies' projections.

Answers

2006: over 200 million

2007: 250 million

- 4 Ask students to read the whole transcript and then summarise the key points. You may wish to deal with any tricky vocabulary here.
- 5 Ask students to practise the expressions by creating sentences or questions about their own company. You can ask them to highlight any useful collocations in the transcript.
- 6 Ask students to work in groups to discuss their answers to the questions. Monitor the discussion. Ask some students to report their ideas to the class, then hold a class feedback session.

Related websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/dna/ican/A2152423>

http://www.weca.net/OpenSection/why_Wi-Fi.asp?TID=2

http://www.broadband-help.com/cm_about.asp#2