

High-speed Internet

Level

Intermediate and above

Tasks

Comparing the speeds of students' internet connections at home and work
 Completing a chart about broadband speeds in different countries
 Reading an article about the future of broadband
 Guessing the frequency of some of the words in the article
 Discussing questions arising from the article

How to use the lesson

- 1 Tell students that this lesson is about the future of high-speed Internet. Hand out the worksheet. Ask students to tick the adjective which best describes the speed of their Internet connection. Ask students to compare their answers. Elicit some responses. Allow students to tell you who has a fast / slow connection.
- 2 Ask students to complete the chart with four of the countries listed.

Answers

(1) Japan (2) Sweden (3) The Netherlands (5) South Korea

- 3 Students read the whole article. Ask them to tell you about the problems facing the UK. You may wish to look at any useful vocabulary, such as: *infrastructure* / *regulator* / *sophisticated*.
- 4 Remind students of the star system for word frequency used in the *Macmillan English Dictionary*. Ask them to guess how frequent each of the words in the box are.

Answers

Three star: *estimate* (n) / *access* (n)
 Two star: *installation* / *sophisticated* / *coverage*
 One star: *generation* / *dilemma* / *infrastructure*
 Black: *broadband* / *fibre optic*

- 5 Divide the class into small groups in order to discuss the questions. Elicit feedback from each group. Encourage discussion. Finish the lesson by providing language feedback.

Related websites

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

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Broadband>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fibre_optic

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/technology/7600834.stm>

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/technology/7610534.stm>