

2 Which will we choose?

2 READING

Read and complete *Music to your Ears* on page 50 of the Student's Book. Then read *Smart music* below. What do you think is the most surprising information in the article?



SMART MUSIC



There are now more and more ways of listening to music. Many people now listen to music on their smartphones. But do you know what a smartwatch is? Smartwatches do far more than tell the time; they also enable you to control the music you're listening to. They are part of what people call 'wearable technology', like Google glasses.



On a smartwatch you can make phone calls, read emails and texts, and answer them. Some smartwatches have voice recognition, so you can speak your reply to a text, and others have a camera. Soon everyone will want a smartwatch.

But there are two problems. The first is that having so many functions on a small device means that the battery life is short. So the battery will need a recharge every two days or so. The second is that a smartwatch is not stand-alone. In other words, you will still need to have a smartphone. The watch 'talks' to your phone using Bluetooth.

So why get one? Well, you won't miss calls when your phone is in your bag and you don't hear it. And you won't have to look for your phone when you get a call or a text.

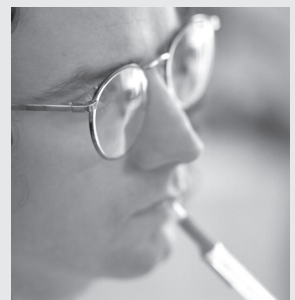
We asked two people to wear a smartwatch for a few weeks. Here are their views.

I love my smartwatch! I can check my texts and emails on my wrist. I can choose what music to listen to, and alter the volume. And I can communicate hands-free. All I do is speak to my smartwatch, and the caller will hear me, or read my text. It's brilliant.



Sue Sheer

I'm not very happy with mine. For a start, it's really quite big – bigger than an ordinary watch. And it's also quite expensive. And I can only use it when I have my phone with me. So why carry two devices? I'm sure the manufacturers will sort out these issues. But for me, now, this watch is not very 'smart'.



Martin Davies

So, two very different opinions. But we can be sure that the technology will develop, and there will be newer and 'smarter' watches soon!

3 AFTER READING**True or false?****Correct the false sentences about *Music to your Ears*.****1** *In the 19th century cylinders were more popular than records.*

2 *Thomas Edison invented the tape recorder.*

3 *Tape recorders weren't available in the USA until 1948.*

4 *LPs became less popular after the invention of the Walkman.*

5 *CDs were very expensive when they first appeared.*

6 *Most people think that CDs will replace MP3 players.*

Now correct the false sentences about *Smart Music*.**1** *You can listen to music on a smartwatch.*

2 *Every smartwatch can take pictures.*

3 *The battery needs frequent recharges because a smartwatch is a small multi-functional device.*

4 *If you don't have a smartphone, you won't be able to use a smartwatch.*

5 *Sue's smartwatch has voice recognition.*

6 *Martin has two problems with his smartwatch: its size and its price.*

Now look at *Your response* on page 50 of the Student's Book.