

English in Mind

Level 5 Project 4

A class project: a future newspaper



You are a team of journalists working on a newspaper 30 years in the future.

1 Discussion

- a) Work in groups of four to six. Imagine yourself in 30 years' time. How old will you be? Think about what will have happened by then and what the world will be like.

Think about:

- Global events, e.g. the effects of climate change, population growth
- War and peace
- Scientific advances, e.g. in genetic engineering, medicine
- Travel and transport
- Homes
- People, e.g. distribution of wealth, lifestyle, fashions, ageing
- Media and communications
- Leisure activities and entertainment

- b) Report your ideas to the class.

2 Analyse a newspaper

- a) In your groups, look at a typical modern-day newspaper. Find the different sections, e.g.

- International news
- National news
- Editorial
- Features
- Sport
- Advertisements

Where do they come in the newspaper? How many pages does each section cover?

- b) Look at the photos, artwork and layout of the newspaper. How important is the visual material? How much of the newspaper does it take up?

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3 Plan your future newspaper

- a) As a class, agree on a title for your newspaper.
- b) Your group will be concentrating on one or more sections of the newspaper. Decide together how they should be divided up amongst the class.
- c) In your groups, brainstorm ideas for articles and artwork in your section. Remember that you will be writing 30 years in the future about events happening at that time.
- d) Decide who will write which article. All members of the group must contribute some written work.
- e) Choose a section editor to co-ordinate the contributions.

4 Write your article

- a) Plan the content of your own article. To make it more realistic, you may wish to do some research on current day predictions of the future. Otherwise you will need to use your imagination.
- b) Write a first draft of your article. Look at page 101 of the Student's Book for help.
- c) Decide what photos or artwork you will include. Make a rough sketch to show what it will be like.
- d) Show your draft to the group. Help each other with suggestions for improvements, for example, in these areas:
 - Are there any grammar or spelling mistakes?
 - Is the style appropriate?
 - Does the article capture the reader's attention?
 - Is the artwork eye-catching?
- e) Re-write the article if necessary and finalise the artwork. Obviously you won't have any real photos, so you will have to draw them, or you could use images from magazines or the internet.

5 Design your pages

- a) As a group, decide on the order and layout of your section. How many pages will you need? You may need to cut and paste to make the pages look attractive.
- b) Use adverts to fill in any blank spaces. Remember you will be advertising futuristic products!

6 Put the newspaper together

- a) As a class, decide which order the sections of the newspaper will go in. Design the newspaper title for the front page. Don't forget to include your names.
- b) Put the sections in order and display the finished newspaper. If possible, make a copy for each group.
- c) Read each other's articles. After you read, discuss these questions in your groups.
 - Which did you find believable/unbelievable?
 - Are you optimistic or pessimistic about the future?