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Microsoft launches Windows 7

MANY FLASH AND ONLINE ACTIVITIES FOR THIS LESSON, PLUS A LISTENING, AT:

<http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0910/091022-windows-7.html>

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22nd October, 2009

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0910/091022-windows-7.html>

Microsoft has finally released its new Operating System. The official launch of the OS, called Windows 7, was on Thursday, October 22. The new product replaces Windows Vista, which arrived in January 2007. Microsoft said Windows 7 will be full of amazing features. The company says it is very user friendly. It also has many new tools, including support for touch screens. A company spokesman also said Windows 7 works on PCs, laptops, and mobile devices. The version of Windows 7 Professional is \$299. The cheapest upgrade from Vista or XP is \$119.

Microsoft is hoping Windows 7 will be a big hit. Sales of its software are going down. They are 13 per cent lower than this time last year. The company hopes its latest product will be free of problems. When it launched Vista, there were many security problems, and users complained it didn't work properly. Windows 7 also has competition from Apple's latest OS, called Snow Leopard. Many people say the Microsoft product copies a lot from Apple. If I wanted to buy a new computer, I'd rather have something called Snow Leopard than seven!

PHRASE MATCH

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0910/091022-windows-7.html>

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Microsoft has finally released | a. features |
| 2. The new product | b. screens |
| 3. full of amazing | c. devices |
| 4. touch | d. its new Operating System |
| 5. laptops, and mobile | e. or XP is \$119 |
| 6. The cheapest upgrade from Vista | f. replaces Windows Vista |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Microsoft is hoping Windows 7 will | a. problems |
| 2. Sales of its software are | b. last year |
| 3. this time | c. lot from Apple |
| 4. security | d. be a big hit |
| 5. the Microsoft product copies a | e. called Snow Leopard |
| 6. I'd rather have something | f. going down |

LISTENING GAP FILL

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0910/091022-windows-7.html>

Microsoft _____ its new Operating System. The _____ OS, called Windows 7, was on Thursday, October 22. The _____ Windows Vista, which arrived in January 2007. Microsoft said Windows 7 will be _____ features. The company says it is very user friendly. It also has many new tools, including _____ screens. A company spokesman also said Windows 7 works on PCs, laptops, and mobile devices. The version of Windows 7 Professional is \$299. _____ from Vista or XP is \$119.

Microsoft is hoping Windows 7 _____. Sales of its software are going down. They are 13 per cent lower than _____. The _____ company _____ will be free of problems. When it launched Vista, there were many security problems, and users complained it _____. Windows 7 also has competition from Apple's latest OS, called Snow Leopard. Many people say the Microsoft product _____ Apple. If I wanted to buy a new computer, _____ called Snow Leopard than seven!

MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0910/091022-windows-7.html>

Microsoft has (1) _____ released its new Operating System. The official launch of the OS, called Windows 7, was on Thursday, October 22. The new product replaces Windows Vista, (2) _____ arrived in January 2007. Microsoft said Windows 7 will be (3) _____ of amazing features. The company says it is very user friendly. It also has many new tools, including support for touch screens. A company spokesman also said Windows 7 works on PCs, laptops, and (4) _____ devices. The version of Windows 7 Professional is \$299. The cheapest (5) _____ from Vista or XP is \$119.

Microsoft is (6) _____ Windows 7 will be a big hit. Sales of its software are going down. They are 13 per cent (7) _____ than this time last year. The company hopes its latest product will be free of problems. When it launched Vista, there were many security problems, and users (8) _____ it didn't work properly. Windows 7 also has competition from Apple's latest OS, called Snow Leopard. Many people say the Microsoft product (9) _____ a lot from Apple. If I wanted to buy a new computer, I'd (10) _____ have something called Snow Leopard than seven!

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | |
|-----|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. | (a) final | (b) finalize | (c) finally |
| 2. | (a) which | (b) who | (c) when |
| 3. | (a) full | (b) filling | (c) filled |
| 4. | (a) mobility | (b) mobiles | (c) mobile |
| 5. | (a) upturn | (b) upgrade | (c) upside down |
| 6. | (a) hoping | (b) hopping | (c) hopes |
| 7. | (a) decrease | (b) cut | (c) lower |
| 8. | (a) complained | (b) complaint | (c) complains |
| 9. | (a) copy | (b) copies | (c) copier |
| 10. | (a) prefer | (b) rather | (c) choose |

SPELLING

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0910/091022-windows-7.html>

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. radeeels its new Operating System
2. The official ahculn
3. full of inmgzaa features
4. othuc screens
5. lobmie devices
6. The saphtece upgrade

Paragraph 2

7. Microsoft is pngioh
8. Sales of its owatefrs
9. rtieycus problems
10. it didn't work lyoreprp
11. iceosp a lot from Apple
12. I'd rehtar have something

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0910/091022-windows-7.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () 22. The new product replaces Windows Vista, which arrived in January 2007. Microsoft said Windows 7 will be full
- () screens. A company spokesman also said Windows 7 works on PCs, laptops, and mobile devices. The version
- () of amazing features. The company says it is very user friendly. It also has many new tools, including support for touch
- (**1**) Microsoft has finally released its new Operating System. The official launch of the OS, called Windows 7, was on Thursday, October
- () from Apple's latest OS, called Snow Leopard. Many people say the Microsoft product copies a lot from Apple. If I wanted to
- () problems, and users complained it didn't work properly. Windows 7 also has competition
- () Microsoft is hoping Windows 7 will be a big hit. Sales of its software are going down. They are 13 per cent lower than this time last
- () buy a new computer, I'd rather have something called Snow Leopard than seven!
- () of Windows 7 Professional is \$299. The cheapest upgrade from Vista or XP is \$119.
- () year. The company hopes its latest product will be free of problems. When it launched Vista, there were many security

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

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With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. official of OS The launch the.

2. Vista The product Windows new replaces.

3. full Windows of 7 amazing will features be.

4. also many tools It has new.

5. Professional \$299 version 7 The Windows is of.

6. 7 Windows hit big a be will.

7. of Sales down going are software its.

8. work didn't it complained Users.

9. lot Microsoft from product Apple copies a The.

10. I new wanted computer to buy If a.

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

WRITING

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/0910/091022-windows-7.html>

Write about Windows for 10 minutes. Show your partner your paper. Correct each other's work.

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find more information about Windows 7. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about Windows 7. Include imaginary interviews with the people who made it. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

4. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

5. LETTER: Write a letter to the boss of Microsoft. Ask him/her three questions about Windows. Give him/her three of your opinions on how Windows could be better. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.