



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying <http://yourspace.cambridge.org/>. The page has a 'home' button and a 'Trends' header. A text box on the right introduces Kerry Chapman as a trendspotter for a magazine. The main article discusses future technology, including touch screens, small computers, and medical applications. A comments section at the bottom features three user comments.

home Trends

Kerry Chapman is a trendspotter for a magazine. It's her job to identify what is the next big thing so she can let the readers know. She also keeps a regular blog on the magazine's online site. Readers can add their comments to the article she writes.

With it being the new year I have been thinking about what will happen to technology in the future. I think computers will change greatly in the next 50 years. They are getting smaller, more powerful and with more features. Already we know that touch screens are becoming more common and keyboards will soon be a thing of the past. I've interviewed lots of scientists and many of them tell me that in less than twenty years there will be computers which are so small they can be put into people's bodies under the skin.

In the beginning these will be used to monitor medical conditions such as blood pressure and giving medicine. The patient won't even need to visit the doctor or hospital as the information will be sent to and from the computer. The doctor will be able to change the amount of medicine and time without even seeing the patient.

Several scientists think that everyone might be fitted with computers when they are born. As the technology progresses we may use these computers to run our homes. We may just think 'I want to switch the lights on' and the computer will recognise this and do it for us. It will also mean no one will ever get lost as their computer will have GPS and will always be able to tell them where they are and how to get home.

Let me know what you think.....

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Comments

Starfish, Birmingham:

I don't agree! We won't be fitted with computers at birth – it will be too expensive.

Crazyhorse, Dundee:

The computer for medicine is already happening. I saw it in a programme about medicine in the USA last week.

Bossyboots, Bath:

I think you're right. I can't wait. It sounds so exciting. I already use my mobile phone like a computer all the time. I eat, sleep and live with it 24 hours a day, so it may be easier to have a computer under the skin instead.



Reading

1a Match the definitions (1-4) to the letters (A-D)

- 1 Kerry's job. ☐
- 2 When the article is written. ☐
- 3 A person who is ill and getting treatment. ☐
- 4 When computers might be fitted under the skin in the future. ☐

- A at birth
B Journalist
C patient
D January

2b Write a paragraph about future computers. Use the answers to the questions above to help you.

1b Read the text and decide if the statements are true (T) or false (F). Correct the false sentences.

- 1 Kerry's job means she needs to know about new things which will happen.
- 2 Kerry doesn't think computers will change much.
- 3 Kerry interviewed young people to see what they thought might happen.
- 4 According to the article, touch screens are old-fashioned.
- 5 One of the readers thought the new computers might be expensive.

Writing: Over to you...

2a Answer the questions for you.

- 1 Do you think we might be fitted with computers at birth?
- 2 Do you think new computers will stop us getting lost?
- 3 Do you think new computers will help us turn the lights on by just thinking it?
- 4 What do you think new computers will help us do?
- 5 What do you think computers may help us do?