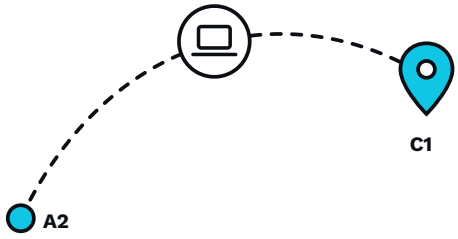
SPEAKING TOPICS TEMAS DE CONVERSACIÓN · A2 → C1

Technology



Words, phrases and questions to talk about phones, the internet, AI and the future — at your level.

Todo lo que necesitas para hablar de tecnología en inglés, ordenado por nivel del Marco Común Europeo (MCER).

1 **Find your level.** Start with your column, then try the next one.

2 **Say it out loud.** Read every example sentence aloud — twice.

3 **Make it yours.** Answer the questions on page 3 about **your** life.

1 Vocabulary by level

Vocabulario por nivel

A2 Elementary

- **mobile phone** — móvil
- **laptop** — portátil
- **screen** — pantalla
- **password** — contraseña
- **app** — aplicación
- **download** — descargar
- **email** — correo electrónico
- **online** — en línea

B1 Intermediate

- **social media** — redes sociales
- **device** — dispositivo
- **battery** — batería
- **charger** — cargador
- **video call** — videollamada
- **search engine** — buscador
- **update** — actualización
- **notification** — notificación

B2 Upper-int.

- **cloud storage** — almacenamiento en la nube
- **artificial intelligence** — inteligencia artificial
- **cybersecurity** — ciberseguridad
- **tech-savvy** — experto en tecnología
- **user-friendly** — fácil de usar
- **screen time** — tiempo de pantalla
- **privacy settings** — ajustes de privacidad
- **streaming** — streaming

C1 Advanced

- **algorithm** — algoritmo
- **data breach** — filtración de datos
- **cutting-edge** — de vanguardia
- **digital native** — nativo digital
- **obsolete** — obsoleto
- **encryption** — cifrado
- **virtual reality** — realidad virtual
- **misinformation** — desinformación

2 Phrasal verbs in action

Phrasal verbs con ejemplos

turn on / off — A2
start / stop a machine
Please **turn off** your phones.

plug in — B1
connect to electricity
Is the charger **plugged in**?

back up — B2
make a copy of files
Always **back up** your photos.

keep up with — B2
stay informed about changes
It's hard to **keep up with** new technology.

log in / out — A2
enter / leave an account
You need a password to **log in**.

scroll through — B1
move up or down a screen
I **scroll through** Instagram on the bus.

shut down — B2
turn a computer off completely
My laptop **shut down** in the middle of my exam!

hack into — C1
enter a system illegally
Someone **hacked into** my email account.

3 Technology, technique or technical?

Falsos amigos

NOUN
technology
Machines, devices, the internet... "tecnología".

> **Technology has changed the way we work.**

NOUN
technique
A **way of doing** something — "técnica" (method).

> **She has a great swimming technique.**

ADJECTIVE
technical
Related to how machines or skills work.

> **We had a technical problem with the projector.**

4 Idioms & expressions

Para sonar como un nativo

at the click of a button B2
very quickly and easily
You can order food at the click of a button.

behind the times B2
old-fashioned
My dad's a bit behind the times — no smartphone!

a double-edged sword C1
something with good and bad sides
Social media is a double-edged sword.

in the pipeline C1
being developed
A new update is in the pipeline.

be glued to (your phone) B2
unable to stop looking at
Teenagers are glued to their phones.

state-of-the-art B2
the most modern
The gym has state-of-the-art equipment.

go viral B2
spread very fast online
Her video went viral overnight.

cutting-edge C1
very new and advanced
They use cutting-edge AI.

reinvent the wheel C1
waste time creating something that exists
Use the template — don't reinvent the wheel.

the nuts and bolts C1
the basic practical details
I know the nuts and bolts of coding.

5 Spanish speakers' traps

Errores típicos

✗ ~~I'm going to connect to Instagram.~~
✓ **I'm going to go on Instagram.**
go on / check social media

✗ ~~My phone has no battery.~~
✓ **My phone is dead / out of battery.**
natural: **my phone's dead**

✗ ~~Put the wifi password.~~
✓ **Enter the Wi-Fi password.**
enter / type in a password

✗ ~~I have the last model.~~
✓ **I have the latest model.**
"último" (más nuevo) = **latest**

✗ ~~I found it in internet.~~
✓ **I found it on the internet.**
on the internet

✗ ~~Actually, everybody has a phone.~~
✓ **Nowadays, everybody has a phone.**
"actualmente" = **nowadays / currently**

6 Quick check

¿Lo has pillado?

1. Did you back up / back down your files?
2. I bought the latest / last iPhone.
3. It's a double-edged / double-sided sword.
4. I scroll through / scroll over my phone.
5. Nowadays / Actually, most people work online.
6. My phone is dead / is died.

Answers: 1 back up · 2 latest · 3 double-edged · 4 scroll through · 5 Nowadays · 6 is dead

7 Questions for your level

Practica en voz alta

A2 Cambridge A2 Key style

1. How often do you use your phone?
2. What apps do you use every day?
3. Do you prefer calling or sending messages?
4. What did you use the internet for yesterday?

B1 Cambridge B1 Preliminary style

1. What would you find difficult to live without: your phone or your laptop?
2. How do you use technology to learn English?
3. Do you think people spend too much time online?

B2 Cambridge B2 First style

1. Are you tech-savvy, or do you need help with new devices?
2. How has technology changed the way we communicate?
3. Should children have smartphones before they are 14?

C1 Cambridge C1 Advanced style · discussion

1. To what extent should AI be used in education?
2. Who should be responsible for stopping misinformation online?
3. Has technology made us more or less productive?

8 Level up your answer

Sube de nivel

"How important is technology in your life?"

A2	It is **very important**. I use my phone every day for messages.	Simple adjectives + one example.
B1	It's really important. I **couldn't live without** my phone because I use it for work, music and maps.	Conditional "couldn't" + list of uses.
B2	Honestly, I'm **glued to** my phone. It's handy, but I've started **limiting my screen time** because it was affecting my sleep.	Idiom + present perfect + cause.
C1	It's **a double-edged sword**. It makes life easier, **yet** I worry about how much data we hand over **without a second thought**.	Idiom + formal contrast "yet" + expression.

9 Keep talking

Frases para alargar tu respuesta

Advantages

The main benefit is...
It allows us to...
It makes it much easier to...

Disadvantages

The downside is that...
One risk is...
It can lead to...

Predict

I reckon that in the future...
It's likely that...
We'll probably end up...

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