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## Technology superstars ask kids to code

**1st March, 2013**

[http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1303/130301-computer\\_programming.html](http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1303/130301-computer_programming.html)

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# THE ARTICLE

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer\\_programming.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer_programming.html)

The biggest names in technology want today's children to learn computer programming. Other stars, from the world of sport, entertainment, fashion, etc., also say kids need to learn to code. People like Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg and Microsoft founder Bill Gates have appeared in a video to tell children coding is fun. Dropbox creator Drew Houston believes coding is like learning to play a musical instrument or playing a sport: "It starts out being very [scary], but you kind of get the hang of it over time," he said. Black Eyed Peas member will.i.am also appeared in the video. He said: "Great coders are today's rock stars." Basketball star and coder Chris Bosh told kids he thought coding was cool.

The video is from Code.org – a non-profit foundation that wants schools to give children more lessons on computer programming. Its website says: "Every student in every school should have the opportunity to learn to code." The site contains dozens of quotes from high-profile figures. The first is from the late Steve Jobs, co-founder of Apple, who said a long time ago: "I think everybody...should learn how to program a computer because it teaches you how to think." Video game designer Gabe Newell explained how coding can really change children's lives. He said: "The programmers of tomorrow are the wizards of the future. You're going to look like you have magic powers."

Sources: <http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2415918,00.asp>  
[http://news.cnet.com/8301-1023\\_3-57571377-93/zuckerberg-and-gates-join-the-learn-to-code-movement/](http://news.cnet.com/8301-1023_3-57571377-93/zuckerberg-and-gates-join-the-learn-to-code-movement/)

# WARM-UPS

**1. COMPUTER PROGRAMMING:** Walk around the class and talk to other students about computer programming. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

*biggest names / technology / entertainment / musical instrument / coding / rock stars / foundation / computer programming / quotes / Apple / game designer / magic powers*

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. CODING:** What kind of software would you like to make? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What would it do?	Why?
To study		
For music		
Social networking		
For mail		
For games		
Other _____		

**4. COOL:** Students A **strongly** believe computer programming is very cool; Students B **strongly** believe it isn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. TECH COMPANIES:** Which company would you like to work for? Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Apple
- Google
- Twitter
- Samsung
- Microsoft
- Facebook
- Blackberry
- Sony

**6. TECHNOLOGY:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word 'technology'. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer\\_programming.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer_programming.html)

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| a. The longest names in technology want children to learn coding.       | T / F |
| b. The article says people like Facebook's CEO and Microsoft's founder. | T / F |
| c. The creator of Dropbox said learning to code was like playing sport. | T / F |
| d. Musician will.i.am said great coders are the same as rock stars.     | T / F |
| e. Code.org is hoping to make a lot of money from its website.          | T / F |
| f. The code.org website has quotes from 12 famous people.               | T / F |
| g. Steve Jobs said everybody should learn computer programming.         | T / F |
| h. A game designer said coders look like they have magical powers.      | T / F |

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the following synonyms from the article.

- |                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 1. programming     | a. frightening |
| 2. founder         | b. people      |
| 3. scary           | c. trendy      |
| 4. get the hang of | d. abilities   |
| 5. cool            | e. chance      |
| 6. children        | f. dead        |
| 7. opportunity     | g. coding      |
| 8. figures         | h. kids        |
| 9. late            | i. creator     |
| 10. powers         | j. learn       |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. The biggest names                   | a. foundation            |
| 2. from the world                      | b. the hang of it        |
| 3. coding is like learning to play a   | c. was cool              |
| 4. you kind of get                     | d. high-profile figures  |
| 5. Bosh told kids he thought coding    | e. in technology         |
| 6. a non-profit                        | f. wizards of the future |
| 7. dozens of quotes from               | g. musical instrument    |
| 8. it teaches you how                  | h. powers                |
| 9. The programmers of tomorrow are the | i. of sport              |
| 10. look like you have magic           | j. to think              |

# GAP FILL

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer\\_programming.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer_programming.html)

The biggest (1) \_\_\_\_\_ in technology want today's children to learn computer programming. Other stars, from the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of sport, entertainment, fashion, etc., also say kids (3) \_\_\_\_\_ to learn to code. People like Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg and Microsoft founder Bill Gates have (4) \_\_\_\_\_ in a video to tell children coding is fun. Dropbox creator Drew Houston believes coding is like learning to play a (5) \_\_\_\_\_ instrument or playing a sport: "It starts out being very [scary], but you kind of get the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of it over time," he said. Black Eyed Peas member will.i.am also appeared in the video. He said: "Great (7) \_\_\_\_\_ are today's rock stars." Basketball star and coder Chris Bosh told kids he thought coding was (8) \_\_\_\_\_.

*hang*  
*need*  
*coders*  
*names*  
*musical*  
*world*  
*appeared*  
*coders*

The video is from Code.org – a non-(9) \_\_\_\_\_ foundation that wants schools to give children more lessons on computer programming. Its website says: "Every student in every school should have the (10) \_\_\_\_\_ to learn to code." The site (11) \_\_\_\_\_ dozens of quotes from high-(12) \_\_\_\_\_ figures. The first is from the late Steve Jobs, co-founder of Apple, who said a long time ago: "I think everybody...should learn how to program a computer because it (13) \_\_\_\_\_ you how to think." Video game (14) \_\_\_\_\_ Gabe Newell explained how coding can really change children's lives. He said: "The programmers of tomorrow are the (15) \_\_\_\_\_ of the future. You're going to look like you have magic (16) \_\_\_\_\_."

*profile*  
*opportunity*  
*wizards*  
*profit*  
*designer*  
*powers*  
*contains*  
*teaches*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer\\_programming.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer_programming.html)

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ technology want today's children to learn computer programming.
  - a. The biggest names in
  - b. The biggest name in
  - c. The biggest names on
  - d. The biggest named in
- 2) appeared in a video to tell children \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. coding is funny
  - b. code in is fun
  - c. coding is fun
  - d. coding isn't fun
- 3) coding is like learning to play a \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. music instrument
  - b. musical instruments
  - c. music instruments
  - d. musical instrument
- 4) but you kind of get \_\_\_\_\_ over time
  - a. the hung of it
  - b. the hangs of it
  - c. the hanging of it
  - d. the hang of it
- 5) Basketball star and coder Chris Bosh told kids he thought \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. coding was cool
  - b. coding is cool
  - c. coding was hot
  - d. coding is hot
- 6) Every student in every school should have \_\_\_\_\_ learn to code.
  - a. the opportunity too
  - b. the opportunity two
  - c. the opportunity tool
  - d. the opportunity to
- 7) The site contains dozens of quotes from \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. high-profit figures
  - b. high pro-file figures
  - c. highly-profile figures
  - d. high-profile figures
- 8) learn how to program a computer because \_\_\_\_\_ to think
  - a. it teaches you how
  - b. it teaches me how
  - c. it teaches us how
  - d. it teaches all how
- 9) The programmers of tomorrow are the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. wizards of the future
  - b. wizards of yesterday
  - c. wizards of yesteryear
  - d. wizards of the futures
- 10) You're going to look like you \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. have magical powers
  - b. have magician powers
  - c. have magic powers
  - d. have magically powers

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer\\_programming.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer_programming.html)

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ technology want today's children to learn computer programming. Other stars, from the world of sport, entertainment, fashion, etc., (2) \_\_\_\_\_ to code. People like Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg and Microsoft founder Bill Gates have (3) \_\_\_\_\_ children coding is fun. Dropbox creator Drew Houston (4) \_\_\_\_\_ learning to play a musical instrument or playing a sport: "It starts out being very [scary], but you kind of (5) \_\_\_\_\_ over time," he said. Black Eyed Peas member will.i.am also appeared in the video. He said: "Great coders are today's rock stars." Basketball star and coder Chris Bosh told kids (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

The video is from Code.org – (7) \_\_\_\_\_ that wants schools to give children more lessons on computer programming. Its website says: "Every student in every school (8) \_\_\_\_\_ to learn to code." The site contains (9) \_\_\_\_\_ - profile figures. The first is from the late Steve Jobs, co-founder of Apple, who said a long time ago: "I think everybody...should learn how to program a computer because (10) \_\_\_\_\_." Video game designer Gabe Newell explained (11) \_\_\_\_\_ children's lives. He said: "The programmers of tomorrow are the wizards of the future. You're going to look (12) \_\_\_\_\_."

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer\\_programming.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer_programming.html)

1. Who wants kids to learn computer programming?

---

2. What did the Dropbox creator liken coding to?

---

3. What did Drew Houston say coding was like at the beginning?

---

4. What did will.i.am say coders were like?

---

5. What did a basketball star say about coding?

---

6. What kind of organization is Code.org?

---

7. What did Code.org say every kid should have?

---

8. What did Steve Jobs say computer programming teaches you to do?

---

9. Who is Gabe Newell?

---

10. What did Gabe Newell say coding can change?

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# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer\\_programming.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer_programming.html)

1. Who wants kids to learn to code?
  - a) the biggest name in technology
  - b) all of the big names in technology
  - c) some of the biggest technology names
  - d) some of the biggest names in technology
2. What other stars said kids needed to code?
  - a) rock, tech and soccer stars
  - b) fashion, entertainment and sports stars
  - c) sports, business and movie stars
  - d) pop, fashion and sports stars
3. What did Drew Houston say coding is like?
  - a) learning to play the piano
  - b) learning to play soccer
  - c) learning to play a musical instrument
  - d) learning to play cards
4. What did Drew Houston say coding was like at the beginning?
  - a) scary
  - b) exciting
  - c) impossible
  - d) boring
5. How did a basketball star describe coding?
  - a) He said it was a waste of time
  - b) He said it was awesome
  - c) He said it was cool
  - d) He said it was life-changing
6. What kind of organisation is Code.org?
  - a) an international coding university
  - b) a non-profit foundation
  - c) a social networking website
  - d) a spy site
7. What did Code.org say every child should have the opportunity to do?
  - a) meet famous coders
  - b) go to school
  - c) use a computer to learn
  - d) learn to code
8. How many people's comments are on the Code.org website?
  - a) dozens
  - b) 12
  - c) too many to count
  - d) countless
9. What did Gabe Newell say coding can change?
  - a) software
  - b) video games
  - c) kids' lives
  - d) the planet
10. Who did Gabe Newell say would be the wizards of the future?
  - a) kids who go to technology universities
  - b) tomorrow's programmers
  - c) people who love Harry Potter
  - d) everyone

# ROLE PLAY

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer\\_programming.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer_programming.html)

## **Role A – Coding teacher**

You believe coding is one of the most important things kids can learn. Tell the others three reasons why. You think children should learn coding for two hours a day at school instead of subjects like art, history and foreign languages. Coding will change the world.

## **Role B – Tech-hating parent**

You don't understand why people are talking so much about coding. Coding is for geeks and nerds. You want your children to learn useful things like art, history and foreign languages. Tell the others three reasons why. Also tell them coding will never change anything in the world.

## **Role C – English teacher**

You learning English is the most important thing your students can do. Tell the others three reasons why. English is the world language. Everyone can get a good job with English. Coding jobs do not pay good money. You think coding should never be a school subject.

## **Role D – Kid**

You love technology. You really want to be a coder. Tell the others three reasons why. Your school subjects are boring because you cannot create anything. You want to learn coding so you can change the future and work for cool companies like Apple or Google.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer\\_programming.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer_programming.html)

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'magic' and 'power'.

<b>magic</b>	<b>power</b>
--------------	--------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• biggest</li><li>• founder</li><li>• musical</li><li>• scary</li><li>• member</li><li>• cool</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• profit</li><li>• opportunity</li><li>• profile</li><li>• late</li><li>• designer</li><li>• magic</li></ul>
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# COMPUTER PROGRAMMING SURVEY

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer\\_programming.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer_programming.html)

Write five GOOD questions about computer programming in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

# COMPUTER PROGRAMMING DISCUSSION

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

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'computer programmer'?
- c) How important is coding?
- d) Do you think children should learn coding in school?
- e) What do you think is fun about coding?
- f) Why might learning to code be like playing a sport?
- g) Do you think being a coder is better than being a doctor or lawyer?
- h) Do you think you could quickly get the hang of coding?
- i) What do you think of the idea of great coders being like rock stars?

*Technology superstars ask kids to code – 1st March, 2013*  
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# COMPUTER PROGRAMMING DISCUSSION

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

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) What is computer programming?
- c) Which tech company would you love to work for?
- d) Are you surprised that only 1 in 10 U.S. schools teach programming?
- e) What do you think of the quote from Steve Jobs?
- f) How might coding make you feel like you have magic powers?
- g) Are coders really just nerds and geeks or are they great?
- h) What would you do if you were a coder?
- i) What questions would you like to ask the owners of Code.org?

# 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. \_\_\_\_\_

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - LANGUAGE

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer\\_programming.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer_programming.html)

The biggest names in technology want (1) \_\_\_\_\_ children to learn computer programming. Other stars, from the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of sport, entertainment, fashion, etc., also say kids need to learn to code. People like Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg and Microsoft (3) \_\_\_\_\_ Bill Gates have appeared in a video to tell children coding is fun. Dropbox creator Drew Houston believes coding is like learning to play a (4) \_\_\_\_\_ instrument or playing a sport: "It starts out being very [scary], but you kind of get the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of it over time," he said. Black Eyed Peas member will.i.am also appeared in the video. He said: "Great coders are today's rock stars." Basketball star and coder Chris Bosh told kids he thought coding was (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

The video is from Code.org - a (7) \_\_\_\_\_-profit foundation that wants schools to give children more lessons on computer programming. Its website says: "Every student in every school should have the (8) \_\_\_\_\_ to learn to code." The site contains dozens of (9) \_\_\_\_\_ from high-profile figures. The first is from the late Steve Jobs, co-founder of Apple, who said a long time ago: "I think everybody...should learn how to program a computer because (10) \_\_\_\_\_ teaches you how to think." Video game designer Gabe Newell (11) \_\_\_\_\_ how coding can really change children's lives. He said: "The programmers of tomorrow are the wizards (12) \_\_\_\_\_ the future. You're going to look like you have magic powers."

## Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- |     |                 |                 |               |                |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1.  | (a) todays      | (b) todays'     | (c) today     | (d) today's    |
| 2.  | (a) planet      | (b) Earth       | (c) moon      | (d) world      |
| 3.  | (a) beeper      | (b) founder     | (c) agent     | (d) competitor |
| 4.  | (a) music       | (b) musician    | (c) musical   | (d) musically  |
| 5.  | (a) hang        | (b) bling       | (c) king      | (d) gong       |
| 6.  | (a) cool        | (b) warm        | (c) hot       | (d) boiling    |
| 7.  | (a) nor         | (b) now         | (c) not       | (d) non        |
| 8.  | (a) opportunity | (b) conformity  | (c) gravity   | (d) security   |
| 9.  | (a) memberships | (b) quotes      | (c) roles     | (d) coins      |
| 10. | (a) they        | (b) he          | (c) it        | (d) computer   |
| 11. | (a) explanation | (b) explanatory | (c) explained | (d) explain    |
| 12. | (a) at          | (b) of          | (c) with      | (d) via        |

# SPELLING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer\\_programming.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer_programming.html)

## Paragraph 1

1. computer paimrnmggra
2. the world of sport, etnirmeanettn, fashion, etc.
3. Microsoft efnduro Bill Gates
4. a musical untsemtrni
5. will.i.am also reappdae in the video
6. Basketball star and rdcoe

## Paragraph 2

7. a non-profit diftnoanou
8. the yiprutnpoot to learn to code
9. dozens of ouqtes
10. high-profile sfgeiur
11. sawzdir of the future
12. have acgmi powers



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer\\_programming.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer_programming.html)

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) The video is from Code.org – a non-profit foundation that wants schools to give children more
- ( ) Steve Jobs, co-founder of Apple, who said a long time ago: "I think everybody...should learn how to program a computer
- ( ) wizards of the future. You're going to look like you have magic powers."
- ( ) from the world of sport, entertainment, fashion, etc., also say kids need to learn to
- ( ) hang of it over time," he said. Black Eyed Peas member will.i.am also appeared in the video. He said: "Great
- ( ) in a video to tell children coding is fun. Dropbox creator Drew Houston believes coding is like learning to play a musical
- ( ) instrument or playing a sport: "It starts out being very [scary], but you kind of get the
- ( ) lessons on computer programming. Its website says: "Every student in every school should have the
- ( ) because it teaches you how to think." Video game designer Gabe Newell explained how coding can
- ( **1** ) The biggest names in technology want today's children to learn computer programming. Other stars,
- ( ) opportunity to learn to code." The site contains dozens of quotes from high-profile figures. The first is from the late
- ( ) code. People like Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg and Microsoft founder Bill Gates have appeared
- ( ) really change children's lives. He said: "The programmers of tomorrow are the
- ( ) coders are today's rock stars." Basketball star and coder Chris Bosh told kids he thought coding was cool.

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer\\_programming.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer_programming.html)

1. fun Appeared in a video to tell children coding is.

---

2. to musical Coding learning a like play instrument is.

---

3. kind of get the hang of it over time You.

---

4. rock coders . He said : "Great stars" are today's

---

5. thought Bosh coding told was kids cool he.

---

6. should opportunity student school the Every every have in.

---

7. Dozens - of profile quotes figures from high.

---

8. should a learn computer how to Everybody program.

---

9. Programmers are of tomorrow wizards future of the the.

---

10. look have to you powers going like magic You're.

---

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer\\_programming.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer_programming.html)

The biggest *names / name* in technology want today's children to learn computer programming. Other *star / stars*, from the world of sport, entertainment, fashion, etc., also say kids need *to / too* learn to code. People like Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg and Microsoft *flounder / founder* Bill Gates have *appeared / appearance* in a video to tell children coding is fun. Dropbox creator Drew Houston *beliefs / believes* coding is like learning to play a *musical / musician* instrument or playing a sport: "It starts *in / out* being very [scary], but you kind of get the *hung / hang* of it over time," he said. Black Eyed Peas member will.i.am also appeared in the video. He said: "Great coders are today's rock stars." Basketball star and coder Chris Bosh told kids he thought coding was *cool / cold*.

The video is from Code.org – a *non-profit / profitable* foundation that wants schools to give children more lessons *on / onto* computer programming. Its website says: "Every student in every school should have the *opportune / opportunity* to learn to code." The site *contains / containing* dozens of *quotes / quoted* from high-profile figures. The first is from the late Steve Jobs, co-founder *of / for* Apple, who said a long time ago: "I think everybody...should learn *how / what* to program a computer because it teaches you how to *thinking / think*." Video game designer Gabe Newell explained how coding can really *change / chance* children's lives. He said: "The programmers of tomorrow are the *witches / wizards* of the future. You're going to look like you have magic powers."

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer\\_programming.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer_programming.html)

Th\_ b\_gg\_st n\_m\_s \_n t\_chn\_l\_gy w\_nt t\_d\_y's  
ch\_ldr\_n t\_l\_\_rn c\_m\_p\_t\_r pr\_gr\_mm\_ng. \_th\_r st\_rs,  
fr\_m th\_ w\_rld \_f sp\_rt, \_nt\_rt\_\_nm\_nt, f\_sh\_\_n, \_tc.,  
\_ls\_ s\_y k\_ds n\_\_d t\_l\_\_rn t\_c\_d\_. P\_\_pl\_ l\_k\_  
F\_c\_b\_\_k C\_\_ M\_rk Z\_ck\_rb\_rg \_nd M\_cr\_s\_ft f\_\_nd\_r  
B\_ll G\_t\_s h\_v\_ \_pp\_\_r\_d \_n \_v\_d\_\_ t\_t\_ll ch\_ldr\_n  
c\_d\_ng \_s f\_n. Dr\_pb\_x cr\_\_t\_r Dr\_w H\_\_st\_n b\_l\_\_v\_s  
c\_d\_ng \_s l\_k\_ l\_\_rn\_ng t\_pl\_y \_m\_s\_c\_l\_nstr\_m\_nt  
\_r pl\_y\_ng \_ sp\_rt: "\_t st\_rts \_\_t b\_\_ng v\_ry [sc\_ry],  
b\_t y\_\_ k\_nd \_f g\_t th\_ h\_ng \_f\_t \_v\_r t\_m\_," h\_  
s\_\_d. Bl\_ck \_y\_d P\_\_s m\_mb\_r w\_ll...m \_ls\_  
\_pp\_\_r\_d \_n th\_ v\_d\_\_ . H\_ s\_\_d: "Gr\_\_t c\_d\_rs \_r\_  
t\_d\_y's r\_ck st\_rs." B\_sk\_tb\_ll st\_r \_nd c\_d\_r Chr\_s  
B\_sh t\_ld k\_ds h\_ th\_\_ght c\_d\_ng w\_s c\_\_l.

Th\_ v\_d\_\_ \_s fr\_m C\_d\_.rg - \_n\_n-pr\_f\_t f\_\_nd\_t\_\_n  
th\_t w\_nts sch\_\_ls t\_g\_v\_ ch\_ldr\_n m\_r\_l\_ss\_ns \_n  
c\_m\_p\_t\_r pr\_gr\_mm\_ng. \_ts w\_bs\_t\_ s\_ys: "\_v\_ry  
st\_d\_nt \_n \_v\_ry sch\_\_l sh\_\_ld h\_v\_ th\_ \_pp\_rt\_n\_ty  
t\_l\_\_rn t\_c\_d\_." Th\_ s\_t\_c\_nt\_\_ns d\_z\_ns \_f q\_\_t\_s  
fr\_m h\_gh-pr\_f\_l\_f\_g\_r\_s. Th\_ f\_rst \_s fr\_m th\_l\_t\_  
St\_v\_ J\_bs, c\_-f\_\_nd\_r \_f \_ppl\_, wh\_ s\_\_d \_l\_ng t\_m\_  
\_g\_: "\_ th\_nk \_v\_ryb\_dy...sh\_\_ld l\_\_rn h\_w t\_ pr\_gr\_m  
\_c\_m\_p\_t\_r b\_c\_\_s \_t t\_\_ch\_s y\_\_ h\_w t\_ th\_nk."  
V\_d\_\_ g\_m\_ d\_s gn\_r G\_b\_ N\_w\_ll \_xpl\_\_n\_d h\_w  
c\_d\_ng c\_n\_r\_\_lly ch\_ng\_ ch\_ldr\_n's l\_v\_s. H\_ s\_\_d:  
"Th\_ pr\_gr\_mm\_rs \_f t\_m\_rr\_w \_r\_ th\_ w\_z\_rds \_f th\_  
f\_t\_r\_. Y\_\_'r\_ g\_\_ng t\_l\_\_k l\_k\_ y\_\_ h\_v\_ m\_g\_c  
p\_w\_rs."

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer\\_programming.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer_programming.html)

the biggest names in technology want today's children to learn computer programming other stars from the world of sport entertainment fashion etc also say kids need to learn to code people like facebook ceo mark zuckerberg and microsoft founder bill gates have appeared in a video to tell children coding is fun dropbox creator drew houston believes coding is like learning to play a musical instrument or playing a sport "it starts out being very [scary] but you kind of get the hang of it over time" he said black eyed peas member william also appeared in the video he said "great coders are today's rock stars" basketball star and coder chris bosh told kids he thought coding was cool

the video is from codeorg – a non-profit foundation that wants schools to give children more lessons on computer programming its website says "every student in every school should have the opportunity to learn to code" the site contains dozens of quotes from high-profile figures the first is from the late steve jobs co-founder of apple who said a long time ago "i think everybody...should learn how to program a computer because it teaches you how to think" video game designer gabe newell explained how coding can really change children's lives he said "the programmers of tomorrow are the wizards of the future you're going to look like you have magic powers"

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer\\_programming.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1303/130301-computer_programming.html)

The biggest names in technology want today's children to learn computer programming. Other stars, from the world of sport, entertainment, fashion, etc., also say kids need to learn to code. People like Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg and Microsoft founder Bill Gates have appeared in a video to tell children coding is fun. Dropbox creator Drew Houston believes coding is like learning to play a musical instrument or playing a sport: "It starts out being very [scary], but you kind of get the hang of it over time," he said. Black Eyed Peas member will.i.am also appeared in the video. He said: "Great coders are today's rock stars." Basketball star and coder Chris Boshtold kids he thought coding was cool. The video is from Code.org – a non-profit foundation that wants schools to give children more lessons on computer programming. Its website says: "Every student in every school should have the opportunity to learn to code." The site contains dozens of quotes from high-profile figures. The first is from the late Steve Jobs, co-founder of Apple, who said a long time ago: "I think everybody... should learn how to program a computer because it teaches you how to think." Video game designer Gabe Newell explained how coding can really change children's lives. He said: "The programmers of tomorrow are the wizards of the future. You're going to look like you have magic powers."







# 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 out more about [www.Code.org](http://www.Code.org). Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. COMPUTER PROGRAMMING:** Make a poster about computer programming. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. WIZARDS:** Write a magazine article about coders and the magic they create. Include imaginary interviews with people who think coding is cool and those who think it isn't.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. 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.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to the boss of [Code.org](http://Code.org). Ask him three questions about computer programming. Give him three of your ideas on how to make more kids get into coding. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F    b F    c T    d T    e F    f F    g T    h T

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 1. programming     | a. coding      |
| 2. founder         | b. creator     |
| 3. scary           | c. frightening |
| 4. get the hang of | d. learn       |
| 5. cool            | e. trendy      |
| 6. children        | f. kids        |
| 7. opportunity     | g. chance      |
| 8. figures         | h. people      |
| 9. late            | i. dead        |
| 10. powers         | j. abilities   |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. The biggest names in technology
2. Learning to play a musical instrument or playing a sport
3. Scary
4. Great rock stars
5. He thought coding was cool
6. A non-profit foundation
7. The opportunity to learn to code
8. How to think
9. A video game designer
10. Children's lives

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. d    2. b    3. c    4. a    5. c    6. b    7. d    8. a    9. c    10. b

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)