

Eye tests available on your smartphone

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There is new technology that means we may no longer need to go to the optician for an eye test. The new technology is a device that is used with a smartphone. The device tests our eyes and gives us

a number that tells us how good or bad our eyesight is. We can then take this number to an optician to order a pair of glasses, or order the glasses online. The new device is from a startup company called EyeQue. It has been used to test the eyes of 50,000 people. The company says the results of the smartphone eye test are as good as the results you get by visiting an optician. The simple device costs just \$30. An updated version will come out later this year and will cost between \$50 to \$70.

An EyeQue spokesman said the device was better than going to visit an optician. He said: "The reason for that is when you go to the eye doctor, it's one moment in time. You may be having a bad day. You may be nervous. The doctor may be in a hurry. What we do is different measures over time. We are able to average it out, and we get a better result." However, the spokesman said the device wasn't a replacement for the optician. An optician will check for things the device cannot check for, like cataracts and lens damage. One optician said, "the EyeQue, used correctly and regularly, could actually speed up identification" of problems which an optician could then help with.

Sources:
fortune.com / thegadgetflow.com / geeky-gadgets.com

Writing

Contact lenses are better than glasses. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

technology / device / optician / eye test / number / online / startup / results / version / visit / reason / moment / hurry / measures / spokesman / replacement / damage

True / False

- a) The article says new technology will mean the end of opticians this year. T / F
- b) The device gives us a color range to give to an optician to order glasses. T / F
- c) The company that made the device is called IQ. T / F
- d) The eye test device cost \$30 at the moment. T / F
- e) The company said going to an optician is better than using the device. T / F
- f) The eye test device gives different measurements of our eyesight. T / F
- g) The company said the device is not a replacement for opticians. T / F
- h) The company said the device could help opticians help you. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. optician | a. examine |
| 2. device | b. harm |
| 3. test | c. straightforward |
| 4. visiting | d. cause |
| 5. simple | e. gadget |
| 6. spokesman | f. rush |
| 7. reason | g. going to |
| 8. hurry | h. assist |
| 9. damage | i. optometrist |
| 10. help | j. representative |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) Would you prefer to use the smartphone eye test or visit an optician?
- c) When was the last time you had a bad day?
- d) What problems have you had with your eyes?
- e) Are you happy with your eye colour?
- f) Is sight the most important of our senses?
- g) What would it be like to be an optician?
- h) What questions would you like to ask the boss of EyeQue?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. we may no longer need | a. result |
| 2. a device that is used with | b. by visiting an optician |
| 3. order a pair | c. damage |
| 4. as good as the results you get | d. of problems |
| 5. An updated version will come | e. a smartphone |
| 6. it's one moment | f. a hurry |
| 7. The doctor may be in | g. out later this year |
| 8. we get a better | h. to go to the optician |
| 9. cataracts and lens | i. in time |
| 10. speed up identification | j. of glasses |

Discussion – Student B

- What are your eyes like?
- What experiences do you have of eye tests?
- What do you think of using a smartphone to test your eyes?
- Would you prefer to wear contact lenses or glasses?
- How does using a smartphone or computer affect your eyes?
- What can we do to improve our eyesight?
- Would you have surgery to improve your eyesight?
- What do you think of the cost of the eye-testing device?

Spelling

- new yecnoohlgt
- go to the nciaotp
- how good or bad our etisehgy is
- a ttsurap company called EyeQue
- the trlesus you get
- An updated vrsoein
- An EyeQue asekpnsmo said...
- The rsanoe for that
- You may be ueovnrs
- different suremase over time
- cataracts and lens aaedgm
- used correctly and leyuralrg

Answers – Synonym Match

1. i	2. e	3. a	4. g	5. c
6. j	7. d	8. f	9. b	10. h

Role Play

Role A – Sight

You think our sense of sight is the most important sense. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their senses aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): smell, taste or fashion.

Role B – Smell

You think our sense of smell is the most important sense. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their senses aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): sight, taste or fashion.

Role C – Taste

You think our sense of taste is the most important sense. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their senses aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): smell, sight or fashion.

Role D – Fashion

You think our sense of fashion is the most important sense. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their senses aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): smell, taste or sight.

Speaking – Senses

Rank these with your partner. Put the most important at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|-------------|-----------|
| • sound | • sight |
| • taste | • smell |
| • music | • fashion |
| • character | • danger |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	F	c	F	d	T	e	F	f	T	g	T	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.