

# Man and machine 11

## Words and phrases

### Lead in

#### 11.01 famine /'fæmɪn/ (n)

when there is not enough food for people to eat and live ◆ *Lack of rain means crops can't grow and this causes famine in many hot countries.*

#### 11.02 disease /dr'zi:z/ (n)

illness that often passes from one person to another ◆ *Our teacher caught a disease when she was on holiday and she's in hospital now.* ► *diseased* (adj)

#### 11.03 specification

/,spesɪfɪ'keɪʃn/ (n)

details about how sth is or should be designed or made ◆ *Friends of my parents built an amazing house to their own specifications.* ► *specify* (v), *specifically* (adv)

#### 11.04 fuel consumption

/'fju:əl kən,səmpʃn/ (n)

the amount of fuel sth uses ◆ *The fuel consumption of our new car is very low and my dad's pleased about that.*

#### 11.05 partially /'pa:ʃəli/ (adv)

not completely ◆ *The flat is partially heated but one bedroom still needs a radiator.* ► *part* (n), *partly* (adv)

#### 11.06 electrical appliance

/ɪ,lektrɪkl ə'plæɪəns/ (n)

sth you use in the house that needs electricity ◆ *We'll need some more wall sockets in the study with so many electrical appliances.*

#### 11.07 fuse /fju:z/ (n)

small device that breaks an electrical circuit if the current is too strong ◆ *I need to check the fuse because this lamp isn't working.* ► *fuse* (v), *fused* (adj)

#### 11.08 plug /plæg/ (n)

used to connect an appliance to the electricity supply ◆ *My new hair drier hasn't got a plug. Have you got one I could have?* ► *plug in* (v)

#### 11.09 manual /'mænjuəl/ (n)

booklet that tells you how sth works ◆ *The PC comes with a manual in case you don't know how to use it.*

#### 11.10 model /'mɒdl/ (n)

particular type or design of product ◆ *Toyota are bringing out a new model in their luxury range.* ► *model* (v)

#### 11.11 end-of-line

/,end əv 'lan/ (adj)

cheap because it's a design which is not going to be sold any more ◆ *I bought this in an end-of-line sale and it was half the original price!*

## Reading

#### 11.12 awesome /'ɔ:səm/ (adj)

amazing ◆ *The film is awesome. I've seen it ten times!* ① informal ► *awe* (n)

#### 11.13 count /kaʊnt/ (v)

Here: can be considered ◆ *The tests you take at primary school don't count when you're applying for college.* Usually: say numbers in order ► *count* (n), *countable* (adj)

#### 11.14 far-fetched /,fa: 'fetʃt/ (adj)

unlikely to happen ◆ *William had some far-fetched idea of crossing the Atlantic Ocean in a canoe.*

#### 11.15 capable (of)

/'keɪpəbl (əv)/ (adj)

having the ability to do ◆ *The teacher says we're all capable of learning another language but we have to work hard.*

#### 11.16 artificial intelligence

/,ɑ:ti,fɪʃl ɪn'telɪdʒəns/ (n)

area of study concerned with making computers copy intelligent human behaviour ◆ *Scientists have been trying to develop artificial intelligence for a long time with little success.*

#### 11.17 annual /'ænjuəl/ (adj)

happening every year ◆ *There's an annual singing competition at our school.* ► *annually* (adv)

#### 11.18 award /ə'wɔ:d/ (v)

give sth to sb as a prize, payment, etc. ◆ *The judges awarded Martina seven points for her dance.* ► *award* (n)

#### 11.19 emerge (as)

/ɪ'mɜ:dʒ (əz)/ (v)

come out as ◆ *After a hard competition John emerged as the clear winner.* ►

#### 11.20 battle it out

/,bætl it 'aut/ (phr)

fight hard for sth ◆ *In the club tennis championship finals Terry and Brian battled it out for three hours but Terry finally won.* ► *battle* (n)

**11.21 declare /dɪ'kleə(r)/ (v)**  
say officially ♦ *Our school was declared the winner of the football trophy.* ► declaration (n)

**11.22 bronze /brɔːnз/ (adj)**  
metal used for medal given for third place in a competition ♦ *Our country won two golds and ten bronze medals in the last Olympics.* ► bronze (n)

**11.23 retain /rɪ'teɪn/ (v)**  
keep ♦ *How long do you think the golfer Tiger Woods will retain his position as number one in the world?* ► retention (n)

**11.24 database /'deɪtəbeɪs/ (n)**  
organised store of information used for reference ♦ *I'll enter your details onto the database and you should automatically get a letter next month.* ► data (n unc)

**11.25 subjective /səb'dʒektɪv/ (adj)**  
having an opinion based on a personal point of view ♦ *The judges' opinion in the singing competition is always subjective because they each like a particular type of music.* ► subject (to) (v)

**11.26 scoop /sku:p/ (v)**  
win ♦ *Our neighbours scooped two million pounds on the Lottery!*  
❶ informal.

**11.27 long haul /lɔːŋ 'hɔ:l/ (n)**  
sth that takes a long time ♦ *People who want to be successful entertainers have to be prepared for the long haul.*

**11.28 primitive /'prɪmətɪv/ (adj)**  
very basic and old-fashioned ♦ *Making fire with a couple of sticks is a rather primitive way of doing it.*

**11.29 conceivably /kən'si:vəblɪ/ (adv)**  
possibly ♦ *This time next year we could conceivably be in South America.* ► conceivable (adj), conceive (of) (v)

**11.30 store (of) /'stɔ:(r) (əv)/ (n)**  
quantity that is available for use ♦ *Our store of copier paper is running low. We must order some more.* ► store (v)

**11.31 call centre /'kɔ:l ,sɛntə(r)/ (n)**  
place where people work answering calls from customers

## Grammar

**11.32 burn an album /bɜ:n ən 'ælbəm/ (phr)**  
copy an album on to a CD ♦ *I can burn the album for you. It won't take long at all.*

## Listening

**11.33 sensor /'sensə(r)/ (n)**  
device that reacts to movement, temperature or pressure

**11.34 diamond /'daɪəmənd/ (n)**  
very expensive stone ♦ *Tom bought Susie a ring with a huge diamond when he asked her to marry him.*

**11.35 circuit board /'sɪ:kit ,bɔ:d/ (n)**  
board that holds electrical circuits inside a piece of electronic equipment

**11.36 lens /lens/ (n)**  
part of the eye or spectacles that enables you to see clearly ♦ *I need a new lens for my glasses because I dropped them yesterday.*

**11.37 attachment /ə'tæf'mənt/ (n)**  
document that can be sent with an email ♦ *The attachment contained two files that we needed for the project.* ► attach (v)

**11.38 handy /'hændɪ/ (adj)**  
useful ♦ *It's very handy to have a friend who's good at English! He can help me with my translations.*  
❶ informal ► hand (n)

**11.39 aerial /'eəriəl/ (n)**  
piece of equipment made from wire or metal that receives signals for radio or TV ♦ *Someone broke the aerial on our car and now we can't listen to the radio.*

**11.40 detect /dɪ'tekt/ (v)**  
discover or notice sth ♦ *The car alarm can detect when someone is trying to open the door.* ► detective (n), detection (n unc), detected (adj)

**11.41 function /'fʌŋkʃn/ (v)**  
work ♦ *My computer is very old and doesn't function well if I have too many programs running at the same time.* ► function (n), functional (adj)

**11.42 wearable /'weərəbl/ (adj)**  
able to be worn ♦ *Scientists have invented wearable transmitters – they can be fitted inside a jacket.*  
► wear (v)

**11.43 apparatus /,æpə'reɪtəs/ (n)**  
tools or equipment needed for a particular activity ♦ *You need a lot of complex apparatus to carry out this experiment.*

**11.44 sinister /'sɪnistə(r)/ (adj)**  
seeming dangerous or evil ♦ *There's a very sinister character in this horror movie.*

**11.45 surveillance /sə'veiləns/ (n unc)**  
watching and recording people and their actions on secret or public cameras ♦ *The police use surveillance when they think someone may commit a crime.*  
► survey (v)

**11.46 privacy /'prɪvəsɪ/ (n unc)**  
the state of being not watched or disturbed by other people ♦ *There's no privacy in this house! Everyone knows everything about everyone!*  
► private (adj)

# Use of English

**11.47 menial** /'mi:nɪəl/ (adj) routine, done by hand ◆ *Many people don't like doing menial work around the home so they employ others to do it for them.*

## 11.48 talk back

/tɔ:k 'bæk/ (phr v) argue ◆ *My mum used to get cross if I talked back to her when I was young.*

**11.49 battery** /'bætəri/ (n) device that is put inside a clock, radio, etc. and produces electricity to make it work ◆ *How many batteries do I need for this torch?*

**11.50 mission** /'mɪʃn/ (n) important official job a person or group is asked to do ◆ *The army sent my brother on a special mission to South Africa.* ► **missionary** (n)

# Writing

**11.51 overcharge** /,əʊvə'tʃa:ðʒ/ (v) charge too much money ◆ *My dad complained because we were overcharged in the restaurant.* ► **charge** (n, v)

**11.52 unbeatable** /ʌn'bi:təbl/ (adj) impossible to do better than ◆ *The advert says that the prices in this shop are unbeatable and they certainly are good.* ► **beat** (v)

## 11.53 leave a lot to be desired

/,li:v ə ,lɒt tə ,bi dɪ'zaɪəd/ (phr) inadequate, not as good as it could be ◆ *Our doctor's handwriting leaves a lot to be desired. You can hardly read it!*

**11.54 guarantee** /,gærən'ti:/ (v) official promise to do sth ◆ *The shop guarantees to refund our money if there is something wrong with the product.* ► **guarantee** (n), **guaranteed** (adj), **guarantor** (n)

**11.55 via** /'vaiə, viə/ (prep) through a place, along a route ◆ *We went to London via all the small roads.*

## 11.56 acknowledgement

/ək'nɒlɪdʒmənt/ (n) information that sb has received sth from you ◆ *I complained to the shop about the appliance but after a brief acknowledgement I haven't heard anything else.* ► **acknowledge** (v)

**11.57 engaged** /ɪn'geɪdʒd/ (adj) Here: busy ◆ *I've phoned Gloria twenty times today but her number is always engaged.* ► **engage** (v) Usually: planning to get married ► **engagement** (n)

**11.58 refund** /'ri:fʌnd/ (n) money returned if a product or service is not satisfactory ◆ *The dress didn't fit so I got a refund the next day and bought a coat instead.* ► **refund** (v)

# Review

## 11.59 contribution

/,kɒntrɪ'bju:ʃn/ (n) an action or service that adds to sth, making it bigger or better ◆ *The Beatles' contribution to pop music in the twentieth century is impossible to calculate.* ► **contribute** (to) (v), **contributor** (n)

**11.60 update** /,ʌp'deɪt/ (v) change sth according to the most recent information ◆ *This book needs to be updated. It's using statistics from fifty years ago!*

**11.61 shorten** /'ʃɔ:tən/ (v) make shorter ◆ *My boss has asked me to shorten my holiday because we're very busy at the moment.* ► **short** (adj)

**11.62 moody** /'mu:di/ (adj) bad-tempered or upset for no obvious reason ◆ *Ken is always moody when the weather's bad.* ► **mood** (n)

# Workbook Reading

## 11.63 disposable culture

/dr'spəʊzəbl ,kʌltʃə(r)/ (n) modern habit of throwing things away when they stop working or using things that only last a short time ◆ *The disposable culture makes us all much lazier and is really bad for the environment.*

## 11.64 razor

/'reɪzə(r)/ (n) device used for shaving ◆ *I got my dad an electric razor for his birthday.*

## 11.65 harm

/ha:m/ (n) hurt, damage ◆ *James might not be able to help but it can't do any harm to ask.* ► **harm** (v), **harmful** (adj)

## 11.66 consumer

/kən'sju:mə(r)/ (n) person who buys sth ◆ *Consumers should refuse to buy the products until the company becomes more environmentally friendly.* ► **consumer** (adj), **consumerism** (n unc), **consume** (v)

## 11.67 spare part

/,speə 'pa:t/ (n) new part you buy to replace an old or broken part of a car, machine, etc. ◆ *The garage are going to fix my brakes but they're waiting for a spare part.*

## 11.68 blade

/bleɪd/ (n) part of knife that cuts ◆ *The blade on this knife isn't very sharp. Have you got another one?*

## 11.69 landfill

/'lændflɪ/ (n) the process of burying large amounts of rubbish ◆ *We can't use landfill forever – we'll run out of space.*

## 11.70 set-top box

/,set ,tɒp 'bɒks/ (n) small machine needed to be able to receive digital TV channels ◆ *Our new digital TV doesn't need a set-top box – it's all inside the TV.*

**11.71 modem** /'məʊdəm/ (n)  
device that connects a computer to the Internet via a phone line

**11.72 router** /'ru:tə(r)/ (n)  
device used to connect a computer to a broadband service

**11.73 persistence**  
/pə'sistəns/ (n) unc  
fact of continuing to do or try to do sth until you succeed ◆ *You certainly need persistence if you want to be a good journalist.*  
► persist (in) (v), persistent (adj)

**11.74 be better off** /,betər 'ɒf/ (idm)  
having more money or being in a better position ◆ *You'd be better off asking Rita about the homework. I wasn't listening!*

**11.75 dilemma** /dɪ'lɛmə, dai-/ (n)  
problem of knowing what is best to do in a situation ◆ *It's a real dilemma. I don't know whether to travel for a year or to go straight to university.*

**11.76 next to worthless**  
/nekst tə 'wɜ:θləs/ (phr)  
having almost no value ◆ *Billy's car is next to worthless. He's going to have to pay to get it taken away!*

**11.77 figure out**  
/,fɪgər 'aʊt/ (phr v)  
understand sth ◆ *I can't figure out what I've spent all my money on this month.*

**11.78 glue** /glu:/ (n)  
a sticky substance that is used for joining things together ◆ *I used some glue to mend the broken vase and now it looks fine.* ► glue (v)

**11.79 triumph** /'traiʌmf/ (n)  
great achievement ◆ *Beating the other colleges at football was a triumph and I'm really proud of the team.* ► triumph (v), triumphant (adj)

**11.80 track down** /,træk 'daʊn/ (v)  
find sb/sth after a difficult search  
◆ *I finally tracked my brother down. He was playing computer games at his friend's house.*

## Vocabulary

**11.81 power cable**  
/'paʊə ,keɪbl/ (n)  
set of wires, covered in plastic, that carries electricity to an appliance ◆ *I need the power cable for my laptop because the battery's low.*

## Grammar

**11.82 rubber** /'rʌbə(r)/ (n)  
strong material that stretches and bends ◆ *He braked suddenly in the car and you could smell the rubber of the tyres.* ► rubber (adj)

**11.83 mess** /mes/ (n)  
Here: situation with a lot of problems ◆ *I'm in a real mess. I'm supposed to be in two places at the same time.* Usually: untidy place  
► messy (adj)

## Listening

**11.84 unmanned** /,ʌn'mænd/ (adj)  
without a driver or controller ◆ *In Superman an unmanned spaceship carries the baby to earth.*

**11.85 buggy** /'bʌgi/ (n)  
small vehicle used for a particular purpose, e.g. on a golf course, on the moon

**11.86 novelty** /'nɒvlti/ (n)  
sth attractive because it is different  
◆ *At the moment being at home and not at work is a novelty but I'm sure it will get boring soon.*  
► novel (adj)

**11.87 range** /reɪndʒ/ (n)  
how far sth can go ◆ *My car radio can't receive London stations because they're out of range.*

**11.88 steam** /sti:m/ (n unc)  
hot gas that rises from boiling water ◆ *Early trains were powered by steam and made a lot of noise.*  
► steam (v)

**11.89 conventional**  
/kən'venʃənl/ (adj)  
normal, traditional ◆ *Many people think conventional means of transport like the car and bus will not exist in the near future.*  
► convention (n)

**11.90 potential** /pə'tenʃl/ (n)  
qualities that exist and can be developed ◆ *Leo's singing is OK now but I think he has a lot of potential for the future when he's a little older.* ► potential (adj)

## Use of English

**11.91 sb's days are numbered**  
/... ,deɪz ə 'nʌmbəd/ (idm)  
not going to last long ◆ *After his terrible mistake the politician's days are numbered.*