

Do the preparation task first to help you with the difficult vocabulary. Then read the article and do the exercises to check your understanding.

Preparation: matching

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–j next to the numbers 1–10.

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|---------|-----------------|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1..... | app | a. | Chief Executive Officer |
| 2..... | MBA | b. | the study of sounds |
| 3..... | algorithm | c. | following |
| 4..... | smartphone | d. | a temporary state of how you are feeling |
| 5..... | cross-reference | e. | a set of rules which is followed when making calculations, especially by a computer |
| 6..... | mood | f. | a small, specialised program that is often downloaded to a mobile phone |
| 7..... | acoustics | g. | a mobile phone which can do many things that a computer can do |
| 8..... | CEO | h. | Master of Business Administration |
| 9..... | tracking | i. | to post something on Twitter |
| 10..... | tweet | j. | to check that something is right by getting information from more than one place |

1. Check your understanding: true or false

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. | The new app will be able to tell how people are feeling by the sounds their voices make, not the words they use. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 2. | This technology will probably not be used in the business world. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 3. | Much more money is spent on research in the fields of cancer and heart disease than on mental health. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 4. | Nowadays people are more conscious of mental health problems than in the past. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 5. | When talking, it is impossible to tell how somebody is feeling if you don't understand the words they are saying. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |

6. Emotional life-tracking is about saying how someone is feeling based on information from one conversation only. True False

2. Check your vocabulary: gap fill

Read the text and write the correct form of the word in brackets to complete the gaps. Look at the example at the beginning of the text.

We are becoming more and more **DEPENDENT** (**DEPEND**) on technology for almost everything in our lives. Now, a new app is being developed which may help us understand our _____ (**EMOTION**) state a little better by identifying our mood from the conversations we have on our smartphones. This _____ (**IDENTIFY**) will be possible by analysing the sounds we make when we speak, not the words we use.

This technology could also be used in other fields. Nowadays, there is _____ (**INTERACT**) between humans and computer voices in banking and it is important to have a good _____ (**UNDERSTAND**) of how changes in tone of voice communicate feelings. This technology could certainly be extremely _____ (**USE**) in the sector of mental health as well. The idea behind this technology is that it is possible to tell which emotions are being expressed when someone is talking without understanding the actual words they are saying. To do this, we must have a good _____ (**KNOW**) of which parts of the voice communicate emotions.

The near future should see the _____ (**DEVELOP**) of a free app where conversations can be emotionally analysed. There is even a possibility of emotional life-tracking taking place but there are many _____ (**COMPLICATED**) involved with this. The idea is to monitor people's mental health and understand when and why they suffer from _____ (**DEPRESSED**). However, the _____ (**ABLE**) to do this would mean developing a very complicated piece of technology.

Discussion

If you could design a new app that could do absolutely anything, what would it be able to do?

I would ...

I think ...

It would ...