



5.1 The magic washing machine

TED TALKS Watch at home

1 ▶ **5.1** Watch the TED Talk. Answer the questions.

- 1 What have been the benefits of the washing machine, according to Hans Rosling?
- 2 What conditions will be necessary for everyone in the world to have a washing machine?
- 3 What kind of energy would Hans Rosling like to see being developed?

2 ▶ **5.1** Watch the first part (0.00–4.38) of the talk again. Answer the questions.

- 1 How did Hans Rosling's grandmother wash clothes in the past?
- 2 How does Hans Rosling define the world's richest and poorest in terms of daily spending?
- 3 What are the four categories by which Hans Rosling differentiates the world's population? What are the 'lines' that separate them?
- 4 According to Rosling, at the time of this talk how many people were still without a washing machine?
- 5 How does he describe the work of washing clothes by hand?
- 6 How many of his students don't use a car? And a washing machine?

3 ▶ **5.1** Watch the second part (4.38–6.40) of the talk again. Complete the sentences with the statistics Hans Rosling shares.

- Total number of people in the world: ¹ _____
- Total number of fossil-fuel energy units consumed: ² _____
- The richest ³ _____ people use ⁴ _____ units (⁵ _____ of the total energy).
- The people with washing machines use ⁶ _____ units (of energy).
- The 'bulb' people use ⁷ _____ unit per billion people.
- The ⁸ _____ billion poorest people use only one unit.
- By the year ⁹ _____ the population of the lowest category will grow; they have ¹⁰ _____ children because of high child mortality.
- At the same time because of economic growth, the two lowest categories will each ¹¹ _____ their energy use.
- Overall, energy use will increase to ¹² _____ units.

4 ▶ **5.1** Watch the third part (6.40 to the end) of the talk again. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F), according to Hans Rosling?

- 1 People in more developed economies need to advise the less developed countries how to be more energy-efficient.
- 2 Dilma Rousseff widened access to electricity in Rio de Janeiro in Brazil.
- 3 Dilma Rousseff's policies on energy helped her to become president of Brazil.
- 4 With the new free time available to her, Hans Rosling's mother was able to educate herself.
- 5 According to Hans Rosling, we should feel grateful for heavy industry – energy, steel, chemical processing, etc.

VOCABULARY IN CONTEXT

5 ▶ **5.2** Watch the clips from the TED Talk. Choose the correct meaning of the words and phrases.

6 ▶ **5.3** Watch the clips from the talk. Complete the collocations. Then discuss your answers.

7 Complete the sentences in your own words. Then compare your sentences with a partner.

- 1 You have to be a hardcore environmentalist to ...
- 2 A lot of my fellow students ...
- 3 ... is a very time-consuming activity.
- 4 There's a high probability that ...

CRITICAL THINKING Reading between the lines

8 It is important when listening to an argument to think about what is implied as well as what is explicitly said. Work in pairs. Which of these views do you think were implied by Hans Rosling in his talk?

- 1 Technology is a wonderful thing.
- 2 Restricting energy consumption in developing countries will restrict their progress.
- 3 Overpopulation will be a serious problem in 30–40 years' time.

9 Read these comments* about the TED Talk. Do you agree with the inferences the viewers have drawn from Hans Rosling's talk? Why? / Why not?

Viewers' comments

H **Hannah** – I think Hans Rosling is saying that we must not judge people in developing countries if they use machines which pollute, because they just want a better life and what people in the developed world already have. He chose the example of the washing machine, because it is a necessary, not a wasteful, use of energy.

R **Rama** – Hans Rosling wants us to see that technological progress and education are strongly linked. It is true that machines give us more time. It is how we choose to use that time that is important. I think the point he is making is that we should use this time to educate ourselves as he and his mother did. He is kind of implying too that we often use the time we gain with machines to pursue less productive activities.

*The comments were created for this activity.

PRESENTATION SKILLS Presenting statistics

10 Work in pairs. How can statistics help you to present your ideas? What are the dangers in presenting a lot of statistics in a talk? How can these risks be minimized?

11 Look at the Presentation tips box. Compare your answers from Exercise 10 with the ideas in the box.

TIPS

Be strategic about visuals (e.g. charts, diagrams and pictures) that present statistics. Don't overuse them or you will overload your audience with information. Use visuals selectively and make sure each visual is bright, clear, simple and easily comprehensible. For example:

- a single sentence stating a striking statistic
- a graph or chart that shows a clear trend or deviation from a trend
- an infographic that illustrates data with icons or images
- an arresting photo that backs up a statistic you have given

If you are using a graph or infographic to explain a dynamic situation, try to make the visual itself dynamic so that it changes as you describe the development, rather than using a sequence of slides. The audience may remember the development better that way.

12 ▶ **5.4** Watch the clip from the TED Talk. Which of the techniques in the Presentation tips box does Hans Rosling use? Are they effective?

13 Work in pairs. Turn to page 175 and look at the information.

- Discuss how you would present the information in a dynamic slide.
- Make a sketch of your slide. Use the ideas in the Presentation tips box to help you.
- Write a few sentences to explain the idea.
- Practise presenting the idea with the slide.

14 Work with a new partner. Take turns to present the idea and the slide. Did you have similar ideas?