


Title	Have you still got a fax machine?	Level: medium
Text:	<p>On 3rd October in history, the first facsimile was sent through a phone line in the USA. Would you believe that this event happened in 1922! Amazing!</p> <p>I remember having a fax machine at an office where I worked many years ago. It was left switched on overnight, in the same way an answerphone is to pick up messages.</p> <p>Unfortunately, the technology was not so advanced then and advertising companies used to send the equivalent of spam mail in the form of long faxes of adverts. One morning, I came in to find 20 pages of adverts like a toilet roll all over the office floor!</p> <p>The boss ordered us to switch off the phone every night after that.</p>	
Question for discussion:	<p>What old technology now do you remember using in the past?</p> <p>Do you still have a fax machine at home or at work? How often do you use it?</p>	
Words and usage:	<p>1, 'Order' has a strong meaning in English, usually associated with high authority, for example, in a military situation when a commander gives an order to soldiers.</p> <p>We often use 'ask' when we request something from someone. A more formal word we might use is 'instruct', or if reconfirming an instruction strongly, perhaps 'specifically instruct'.</p> <p>2, 'Remember +ing'</p> <p>Looking back on a past situation, we often use the gerund (ing form) with 'remember' to say that the memory is now.</p> <p>The gerund form has no time expression (past, present or future) and is purely the name for an action.</p>	
Resources:	<p>Oxford Dictionaries. http://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com</p> <p>The British Council website. https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org</p>	
Listening link:	<p>Have you still got a fax machine - audio</p> 	
Practice idea:	<p>Write about past and present technology you use, and describe the differences.</p>	

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Conversation
card:

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