

INTERMEDIATE UNIT 9

a short essay

speakout WRITING TIP

When you write an essay, you need to plan carefully and check your work. You need to ensure that you have answered the question and you need to check the paragraphs are in the right order. You also need to check things like grammar, spelling and punctuation.

1 Answer the questions about writing an essay. If necessary, use your answers to question 9 on page 106 of the Student's Book to help you.

- 1 What is the first thing you must always do when you write an essay?
- 2 What should you do immediately before you write the first draft?
- 3 When you check your first draft, what is it especially important to look at?
- 4 When you check your second draft, what is it especially important to look at?

2 Read the essay and answer the questions.

- 1 Why were William Gilbert and Michael Faraday important?
- 2 What did the electric motor replace?
- 3 Would the world have progressed without the electric motor? Why?

WHAT IF ... we had never learnt to use electricity?

For thousands of years, man has been interested in electricity. The Ancient Egyptians, for example, wrote about the electric fish that lived in the River Nile. However, the first serious study of electricity was only done in the year 1600, by the English scientist William Gilbert.

The electric motor played a fundamental role in the second stage of the Industrial Revolution. Before then, steam was the principal source of power. But what if Michael Faraday had never invented the electric motor and electricity had not become a major source of energy? What would have happened?

It is quite probable that the world would have developed rapidly without the electric motor because the nineteenth century was an age of initiative and invention. Perhaps steam, and not electricity, would have provided the power for all the new inventions. If this had happened, we might have invented light bulbs and televisions that run on steam!

One thing is for sure: without electricity, many things which now form part of our daily lives would be very different.

3 Read the paragraph below and answer the questions.

¹More and more research was done into electricity in the 18th and 19th centuries. ²Firstly, Benjamin Franklin researched using lightning as a source of power. ³Then Alessandro Volta made the first reliable electrical power source, the battery, in 1800. ⁴There were also other discoveries until finally Michael Faraday invented the electric motor in 1821.

- 1 What sentence(s) contain the topic of the paragraph?
- 2 What sentence(s) are supporting the topic?
- 3 What words are used to link the ideas and sentences together?
- 4 Where would this paragraph go in the essay in exercise 2?



4 Underline the linking words in the paragraph above. Which of the linking words and phrases in the box below could replace them?

in addition after that in the end
in the first place

5 Write an essay of 130–160 words with the title, *What if ... we hadn't invented the internet?*

Plan your writing

- Think about the content of your essay and what you are going to write in each paragraph. Remember to mention the importance of the internet, give specific examples of how we use it and say how the world would be different without it.
- Conclude by giving your own opinion of the internet.

Check your writing

- Have you structured your paragraphs carefully? Have you included an introduction and conclusion?
- Have you checked your grammar and spelling?
- Did you find any mistakes?