

Equipment that Had a Problem

Describe a time when you had a problem with a piece of equipment (e.g., a TV or a washing machine)

You should say:

what equipment

what problem you had

when you had this problem

and explain what you did about this problem. [Or: how you fixed (resolved) this problem]

Notes

- Possibly the first line asks you to talk about some equipment that was **broken**, which is just one example of having a problem with equipment. On the other hand, if the word, "problem" is used then the equipment might not necessarily have been "broken". For example, if it was equipment that was working perfectly well but you didn't know how to correctly use it then it was you who had the problem, not the equipment.
- It could be equipment at home, at your work or study place or any other place where you go, such as the machine that dispenses tickets in the subway.
- Other examples of "problems" with equipment could be: equipment that was too big to be stored in a convenient place; equipment that

made too much noise to be used where you live; equipment that was too complex to use; equipment that was too heavy for you to use . . .

Part 3

Modern Equipment

- What are some examples of the common home appliances that people have (in their homes) today?
- Besides a mobile phone and a computer, what equipment would you say is "essential" for most people to have?
- If you had a piece of equipment (including electrical / electronic equipment) that was not working, would you try to fix it yourself or have someone else fix it?
- When a piece of equipment is no longer working, do you usually buy a new one, or get it fixed?
- What are some common reasons why equipment stops working?
- When does equipment usually stop working?
- What sorts of things can a person do to maintain equipment in good, working order?
- (Similar to above) What sorts of things can a person do to extend the working life of a piece of equipment?
- Would you say that modern equipment tends to make people lazy?

• Problem Solving

- Would you say you are a good problem solver?