EPISODE 269

The Story of the Internet

Full transcript · point of view · vocabulary review

Great! Let's start!

Today, we will talk about **the Internet**'s fantastic journey – how it changed from big machines to the online world we know today.

Imagine going back to the 1960s, a time of cool space adventures and bright colors. Back then, computers weren't small like today. They were as big as rooms! They were like friendly elephants, waiting for special instructions. But guess what? These big computers couldn't talk to each other.

However, scientists and researchers wanted computers to talk. They dreamed of connecting these big computers, making a web linking people everywhere. That's how the **Internet** started – they made a special language using ones and zeros so that computers could share information even if they were far apart.

Now, let's jump ahead to the 1990s. Think of slow dial-up **Internet** and colorful clothes. That's when the World Wide Web appeared. Imagine a huge library with doors open to different places when you click. But, you had to wait because pages loaded slowly, like a snail.

Remember the "You've Got Mail!" sound and the funny noise when connecting to the **Internet**? The Internet had two sides – sometimes it was super cool, and sometimes it got in the way of using the phone.

Today, the Internet is a big part of our lives. You can shop, talk to friends worldwide, and learn things without leaving your house. It's like magic, turning information into digital treasures.

Think about how far we've come – from big machines to a connected world where you can find all sorts of things, from facts to funny cat videos.

And don't forget, the Internet is not just for young people. People of all ages enjoy using it to connect with family and friends, play games, and learn new skills. It's a tool that brings people together from all around the world.

So, whether you're a student doing research for school or a grandparent staying in touch with loved ones, the Internet has something for everyone.

Awesome! That's all for now! I hope you found this topic interesting.

Now, let's practice.

Point of View

Grammar in Context

Read the same story from different points of view and notice how the grammar changes naturally.

First version

Past Tense - Third Person

I will tell you the same story twice. So make sure to focus on the changes.

In a busy town, there was a young man named Sam. He liked gadgets and making new things with electronics. One day, Sam had an idea. He thought about a small **gadget** that could do computer things and fit in a pocket. He wanted to make it simple for everyone.

Sam began to work on his idea. He got help from his friend, Alex, who was good at designing things. They worked hard and made many versions of the gadget.

After many tries, they made a gadget that looked nice and was easy to use. It could call people, send messages, and play music. Sam and Alex were happy about it.

They decided to show their gadget to people. They had a small booth at a **tech fair**. People were curious and liked the gadget. They saw it could change how people talk and do things.

But it was not easy. They had problems finding money and fixing technical things. They needed to show people it was worth buying.

Sam did not give up. He worked hard because he believed in the gadget. He made it better and easier to use.

Finally, a big tech company liked their gadget. They wanted to help Sam and Alex. With their help, the gadget got even better. It became a big thing called the "ConnectPhone."

The ConnectPhone did really well. People everywhere liked it, and it became necessary in their lives. Sam's idea to make things easy had come true.

His company grew and became **influential** in tech as time went on. His story showed how being **determined** and having good ideas can change the world.

Second version

Sam’s Point of View - Future Tense

Hi! I'm Sam, and in the future, I am sure I will like gadgets and making new things with electronics. One day, I will have an idea. I will think about a small gadget that can do computer things and fit in a pocket. I will want to make it simple for everyone.

I will begin to work on my idea. I will get help from my friend, Alex, who will be good at designing things. We will work hard and make many versions of the gadget.

After many tries, we will make a gadget that looks nice and is easy to use. It will be able to call people, send messages, and play music. Alex and I will be happy about it.

We will decide to show our gadget to people. We will have a small booth at a tech fair. People will be curious and will like the gadget. They will see it can change how people talk and do things.

But it will not be easy. We will have problems finding money and fixing technical things. We will need to show people it's worth buying.

I will not give up. I will work hard because I will believe in the gadget. I will make it better and easier to use.

Finally, a big tech company will like the gadget. They will help us improve it even further. It will become a big thing called the "ConnectPhone."

The ConnectPhone will do really well. People everywhere will like it, and it will become indispensable. My idea to make things easy will have come true.

My company will grow and become influential in tech as time goes on. My story will show how being determined and having good ideas can change the world.

Thanks for listening, and I’ll see you in the next episode.

Review

Vocabulary from This Episode

Review the most useful words and expressions before listening again.

01 the Internet the worldwide network connecting computers and devices.	**05 funding** money provided for a project or business.
02 gadget a small useful electronic device.	**06 user-friendly** easy for people to understand and use.
03 prototype an early model used to test an idea.	**07 influential** having the power to affect people or events.
04 tech fair an event where technology products are displayed.	**08 determined** firmly decided and unwilling to give up.

Continue your speaking practice

Build fluency with **guided audio lessons** and mini-stories.

Explore my Premium Courses >

Georgiana
Founder of Speak English Now Podcast
SpeakEnglishPodcast.com