

Computer Mouse

Gap fill

Listen to the story and fill in the blanks.

A computer mouse is a small _____. Its purpose is to move a line on a _____ and help users do work and play _____. Where did the mouse come from?

The story of the mouse begins in _____.

The first mouse looked like a large _____ of wood with a red button on top. In _____, a company called Xerox _____ the mouse. It was small, _____ and easy to use.

Six years later, Steve Jobs _____ Xerox. He saw a _____ computer with advanced technology and software. This machine used a mouse to _____ small images on the screen. The images _____ files and programs.

Steve loved it. It was easy to use but _____. He directed his team to make a computer with those _____. It should have a nice design and sell for a _____ price.

In _____, Apple released a home computer called the Macintosh. People loved using the mouse. Soon, many _____ were making _____ with a mouse.

Some people say Steve took the _____ from Xerox. Maybe that's true. It's also true he saw an _____ and made it better. He also made it less _____. The first mouse cost \$300. Apple made it for \$ _____.

The story of the mouse _____ us about business. We often need a new idea to be _____. Some people, like Steve, take an old idea and _____ it. Then they tell a story. The story _____ tells people that their lives will be _____ with this machine.

Steve Jobs did not make _____ new. But, he was a good _____. And telling a good story is an _____ business skill.

Synonym match

Match the words or phrases.

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. screen | a. groundbreaking |
| 2. advanced | b. style |
| 3. features | c. monitor |
| 4. design | d. characteristic |
| 5. considered | e. unique |

True or false

Choose the correct answer.

1. The first computer mouse was made from wood. T or F
2. Apple sold the mouse for a lower price. T or F
3. Xerox made the first small, light mouse. T or F
4. The first mouse was made in 1973. T or F
5. Macintosh was Apple's first computer with a mouse. T or F

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Anagrams

Move letters. Make a new word.

PVEEXEINS _____

IAMHCEN _____

RMEVIOP _____

TNRTAPIMO _____

KCBOL _____

WOASTRFE _____

ESL discussion questions

Talk about the story

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1. What kind of story is this?
 2. Summarize the evolution of the computer mouse.
 3. Inventions often start with a problem. What was the problem in this story?
 4. What are the pros and cons of a mouse?
 5. Do you think Steve Jobs stole the idea of a mouse?
 6. What piece of technology would you like to improve?
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Writing practice

Put the words in the correct order.

1. about / of / the / mouse / story / teaches / us / The / business

2. with / like / looked / button / top / a / first / block / of / The / a / mouse / on / red / wood / large

3. machine / The / their / tells / be / lives / with / better / that / usually / will / story / people / this

4. and / should / design / price / sell / for / It / have / a / low / nice / a

5. This / on / a / machine / the / small / mouse / touch / to / used / images / screen
