UNIT 1
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Objectives: at the end of the lesson, students will be able to:
1. define the notion of Information Technology (IT);
2. learn and implement the subject-specific vocabulary in speaking;
3. read for specific information;
4. use Present Simple to describe the processes.

Lead–in activity: Technology Timeline

1940s	1960s	1980s	2000s	2010s	2020s

Food for thought:

1. When these technologies were invented? List them by the given timeline.

2. How have these advancements impacted society, business, and personal lives?

3. Define the meaning of IT.
4. What are their predictions for future developments in IT?

Information technology (IT) is the use of computers and telecommunications equipment to store, retrieve, transmit, and manipulate data. Information Technology encompasses—computers, networks, software, data management, and communication technologies.

IT solutions in healthcare, finance, and education illustrate the diverse applications of technology in enhancing efficiency, improving services, and ultimately, benefiting end-users—patients, customers, and students alike. Here is an example of one of the case studies in the education field: learning management Systems (LMS).

Educational institutions worldwide have adopted Learning Management Systems (LMS) to facilitate online learning, course management, and collaboration among students and educators. Moodle, an open-source LMS, has been widely implemented in educational settings. Institutions use Moodle to deliver course content, conduct assessments, facilitate discussions, and track student progress. LMS platforms like Moodle have expanded access to education, enabled personalized learning experiences, promoted collaboration among students and teachers across geographical boundaries, and provided data-driven insights for continuous improvement in teaching and learning.

Let's have a look at other case studies such as Mobile Banking Applications, etc.
Vocabulary Building
Key Terms
Software – a program or instruction that makes a computer perform a specific task.
Example: He's written a piece of software which calculates your tax returns for you.
Code – a set of words and signs that give instructions to a computer.
Example: The message was written in code.

Hardware – it refers to the physical parts of a computer.

Example: The machine allows multitasking without the need to buy extra hardware.

Data processing – the act of entering, using, or manipulating data with computers.

Example: A very simple example of a data processing system is the process of maintaining a check register.

Technical support – the task of helping people use and understand technology.

Example: We had to make five calls to technical support to get the computer working.

Quality assurance – the act of checking products for problems.

Example: Quality assurance examples are: quality issues that frequently arise in manufacturing, and quality assurers monitor and help fix these problems before they cause damage.

Encoding – the act of changing data so that no one can read it until it is changed again.

Example: Encoding is the process of spelling or writing spoken words or sentences.

Activity: Match the words with the definitions.

1. Software	A. the act of checking products for problems
2. Code	B. the act of changing data so that no one can read it until it is changed again.
3. Hardware	C. a program or instruction that makes a computer perform a specific task.
4. Data processing	D. putting secret information into code.
5. Technical support	E. a set of words and signs that give instructions to a computer.
6. Quality assurance	F. refers to the physical parts of a computer.
7. Encoding	G. the act of entering, using, or manipulating data with computers.
8. Information security	H. the task of helping people use and understand technology.

Reading

IT Department Restructuring

DataPro Inc. is growing, and so our workload is increasing. But our IT department is not dealing with this increase effectively. So I am dividing the IT department into three sections: quality assurance, data processing, and information technology. The responsibilities of each section are: Quality Assurance (Testing hardware and Providing technical support), Data Processing (Writing code and Organizing data), and Information Security (Encoding online data transfers and Updating security software).

These changes are not simple or easy. But smaller groups deal with tasks more efficiently than larger ones. See your supervisors for your new section assignment.

Thomas Jenkins,
CEO DataPro Inc.

Read the text, then mark the following statements as true (T) or False (F).

1. ___ The IT Department is increasing.
2. ___ Data Processing employees new encode data.
3. ___ Supervisors know the employees' new assignments.

Grammar Focus: Present Simple

Present Simple is used to talk about habitual actions, general truths, and routines.

Affirmative sentence	Negative sentence	Interrogative sentence
I (you, we, they) load the computer every day. She (he, it) loads the computer every day.	I don't load the computer every day. She doesn't load the computer every day.	Do you load the computer every day? Does she load the computer every day?

For example: *The software updates automatically every week.*
(or)
The IT team troubleshoots computer issues daily.

Key words: every day (week, month, year), usually, always, often, sometimes, daily, etc.

Activity 1: Underline the correct form of the verb.

1. When one computer system is set up to communicate with another computer system, connectivity ***becomes/ become*** an important system element.
2. People ***is/are*** the most important component of the computer system: they ***create/ creates*** the computer software instructions and respond to the procedures that those instructions present.
3. The main memory ***holds/ is hold*** the instructions and data.
4. Computers ***play/ plays*** a crucial role in our everyday lives.
5. Data analysts ***analyze/ analyzes*** large datasets to extract meaningful insights.

Activity 2: Watch a video about how to install Software on Windows and write down the verbs that you will hear in the present simple. Then, describe the steps using this tense.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J-UUJH_3eGg&t=9s

Speaking

Activity: With a partner, act out the roles. Then, switch roles.

Use language such as "I have a question about…, I'm in the … section., I have more experience with …"

Student A: You are a supervisor. Speak with Student B to find out about their:
- current section
- desired section
- reason

Student B: You are an employee. Answer Student A's questions. Make up a name for your supervisor.

Home assignment
1. Makeup sentences using today's target vocabulary.
2. Think about one of the technologies and highlight its key features, uses, advantages, and disadvantages of it.