6. Throughout the '90s, more apps were released.
7. Today, thousands of new apps are introduced every month.
8. Americans ages 18 to 24 spend the most time using apps.
9. Many of the most popular apps are owned by only two companies.

Track 73

1. For many years, shopping was a simple process. A person went into a small, local store, bought an item, and paid for it with cash. Another popular way of shopping was to buy merchandise from a traveling salesman. Many people lived far from the cities, so salesmen had to travel around the country by horse and wagon to sell merchandise.
2. In 1872, a traveling salesman named Aaron Montgomery Ward wanted to help his customers see more of his merchandise. Ward decided to print a catalog with pictures of his items. The customers could look through the catalog and order what they wanted. The first mail order catalog was printed in 1872 and became an immediate success. Some companies still print and mail out catalogs today.
3. Throughout the 1800s, store clerks put money in a drawer or cash box. When a customer bought a product, the clerk wrote a receipt by hand. In 1884, the first cash register was invented by James Ritty. The machine recorded all sales so that the clerk could easily check whether the correct amount of money was in the drawer. A later version of the machine automatically printed receipts for customers.
4. In the 1900s, stores, especially grocery stores, were becoming larger. Customers were buying more items at a time. Sylvan Goldman, the owner of a large grocery store, had an idea. He put two baskets and wheels on a folding chair, and the first shopping cart was invented. Later, Goldman formed a company to design better and larger shopping carts.
5. Until 1950, people paid by cash or check. In 1950, the first credit cards were issued. At first, only business travelers used the cards for restaurants and hotels. In the 1960s, many companies offered these cards so people did not need to carry so much cash. They could pay later.
6. Another idea that was developing around that time was the barcode. Before barcodes were invented, stock clerks had to put a price on every item, and the cashiers had to enter the price of each item into the cash register. Store owners, especially the owners of large supermarkets, needed a way to read information more quickly. The Universal Product Code, or UPC, was invented in 1973. The UPC is also called a barcode. In 1974, the first UPC scanner was installed in a supermarket in Ohio. Now, supermarket clerks simply scan the barcode on each item, and the price appears on the register.
7. In the 1990s, online shopping became popular. The internet offers an inexpensive way for companies to advertise their products to people around the world. Customers look at pictures of products, check prices, and place their orders online. This has made shopping faster and more convenient. Customers can also save money by comparing prices from several companies.

Track 74

Cellphones in the Workplace

The Pew Research Center, an organization that surveys the public on many issues, has asked Americans about their cellphone use and found some interesting results. 75% of American adults agree that using a cellphone on the street or on public transportation is acceptable. However, most agree that meetings, churches, and movie theaters are not appropriate places to use cellphones. The majority of the people surveyed reported that they used their cellphones at social events. How about in the workplace? Are workers allowed to use their cellphones while they are at work?

A survey by another organization reported that the average worker uses a cellphone for non-work-related activities 56 minutes per day. That equals approximately five hours a week. Most of that time, workers are browsing the internet and using social media. They spend less time playing games, shopping, and watching sports. Another survey discovered that 82 percent of employees keep their phones on their desks so that they can check for messages and texts, and 66 percent of workers use their cellphones several times a day. Who wastes the most time at work because of cellphones? Younger workers do. Workers 18 to 34 years old spend the most time on their mobile devices. Time spent on cellphones often decreases productivity, causing problems for many companies.

To prevent this loss of productivity, some companies have decided to institute specific policies on cellphone use. These policies range from simple advice to strict enforcement of the rules. Employees may have their cellphone use restricted to break times or certain areas other than the employees' desks or work stations. Other policies may restrict the length of calls to two or three minutes and require cellphones to be in silent mode and in a desk drawer. If an employee has to work with customers, that employee may have to keep their cellphone in a locker away from the work area. Workplaces like hospitals and government offices may have strict policies because of problems with security. An employee could even be fired for using a cellphone to take photos of patients or confidential papers.

What do you think? Is a cellphone policy necessary at every workplace?

UNIT 13

Track 75

Grandmother: What are you doing?

Grandson: I'm listening to music.

Grandmother: You're listening to music? On your phone?

Grandson: Yeah, Grandma. Cellphones are like computers now. I can download music and listen to it anywhere. Or I can stream it.

Grandmother: How do you "stream" music?

Grandson: Streaming is a way of listening to music that uses the internet.

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Grandmother: That sounds difficult. I used to play music on 45s and LPs.

Grandson: What's a 45?

Grandmother: It's a small disc, like a CD, that's made of vinyl. They're usually black. There's one or two songs on one side and one or two songs on the other.

Grandson: Did you have to turn it over to hear the other songs?

Grandmother: Yes. If I played a 45, I had to turn it over when the first songs finished. I also had LPs, which are bigger discs that can hold entire albums of songs. I used to have lots of 45s and LPs, but they take up a lot of space.

Grandson: Wow! I'm glad that technology has improved.

Grandmother: Yes, but some people still think the sound quality that LPs had was better.

Grandson: Really? Do you still have any 45s or LPs?

Grandmother: We have some in the den, and I think we have a turntable in the basement.

Grandson: A turntable? Do you have the kind that I've seen DJs using?

Grandmother: I don't think so. My turntable is like a piece of furniture.

Grandson: Let's go get it. I want to see this old technology.

Grandmother: Okay, we'll play one of my dance records from the '70s.

Grandson: Can I call my friends? They'd love to see this.

Grandmother: Sure!

Track 76

The people who first made country music in the United States lived over 100 years ago in the Appalachian Mountains. Music was an important part of the Appalachian Mountain culture. People sang while they were working, while they were in church, and while attending community events.

Some elements of country music originated in the musical traditions of the British Isles: Scotland, Ireland, Northern Ireland, England, and Wales. The people who immigrated to the United States from these countries shared the same native language of English, which may have made it easier for their music to spread. This music included both dance songs and ballads. Ballads were songs that often told sad stories of love or war.

African American music and musicians were also very important to the development of American country music. For example, the banjo, which was originally brought to the United States from Africa, was a very popular instrument in early country music.

Another important country music instrument was the fiddle, which was brought over from the British Isles. The fiddler, who carried the melody of most country songs, was usually the leader of community dances. Banjos and fiddles are still popular in country music today, but other instruments—such as electric guitars and keyboards—are also used. Jimmie Rodgers and the Carter Family, who first recorded in 1927, became the first superstars of country music.

Track 77

Music and New Orleans

The history of New Orleans is different from the history of many other US cities. The city was founded in 1718 by the French. Starting in 1763, the city was governed by the Spanish. In 1803, the Louisiana territories were again controlled by France, but they were quickly sold to the United States in a transaction called the Louisiana Purchase.

New Orleans began with a French-speaking culture that included a love of good food, wine, music, and dancing. Later, Africans, some free and some slaves, arrived in the city and brought West Indian culture from the Caribbean. French, Spanish, and African/Caribbean cultures mixed to create a new language and culture called Creole. After that, African Americans from around the US moved to New Orleans, adding yet another cultural and musical element to the city.

Jazz music began in the African American communities, but it was also influenced by the ethnic diversity of New Orleans. Bands, which were led by brass instruments such as trumpets and trombones, participated in many community events like parades and even funeral processions. Music was a part of every celebration.

In the late 1800s, some musicians started improvising, or changing the music and making up new melodies as they played. This was also a time when the Creole and African American musicians began to combine their styles. In the early 1900s, the popularity of jazz spread to other cities, especially to clubs in Chicago and New York City.

Louis Armstrong (1901–1971), who was a very popular jazz musician, was born in New Orleans. During the 1920s, Armstrong developed his style as a solo artist, but his recordings with his bands, which were called the Hot Five and the Hot Seven, made him an international star. He toured continuously until he died in 1971.

After Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans in 2005, many musicians lost their homes and had to leave the city. Two New Orleans musicians, Harry Connick Jr. and Branford Marsalis, raised money to build the Musicians' Village. This community includes 77 homes and a music center where people can learn, listen to, dance to, and produce music.

UNIT 14

Track 78

1. Marco came to the United States from Brazil when he was 24. Many years have passed. Marco has learned to speak, read, and write English very well, and he's had a few different jobs. He met Luciana, another immigrant from Brazil, and they've gotten married. Over the years, they've had a busy life. They have two children: a boy named Alonso and a girl named Zandra. Their children were born in the United States, so they're already US citizens.
2. Marco and Luciana decided to become citizens. They got their application papers from the government immigration agency. They carefully completed all of the paperwork and mailed in their documents. They expected to wait six months to a year for a response.

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