**100 Years of Radio**

Technological developments in the second half of the 20th century led people to predict the death of traditional media such as newspapers, radio and television. However, this certainly hasn’t happened yet, and, if anything, the Internet revolution has only reinforced the importance that we place on these media. Radio is an excellent example of this. It is now possible to use your home computer to listen to radio stations from all over the world. In some cases, you can even listen to programmes that you may have missed when they were originally broadcast. Things have definitely come a long way since December 1901, when Marconi sent the first radio signal across the Atlantic Ocean, from Cornwall to Newfoundland. Until then, electronic communication had been carried out by means of the telegraph, which sends a signal along a cable or wire, but with Marconi’s transmission the age of the ‘wireless’ was born. The first radio stations began transmitting in Europe and the United States in the early 1920s, and were immediately hugely popular. The next great leap forward came in the 1950s, when transistors were developed, making small, cheap portable radios available to everyone. This came at the same time as an increased interest in popular music, giving radio a unique importance in our daily lives, a role that it still holds today. In fact, at the moment, the famous BBC World Service has a weekly audience of 188 million listeners, and this is set to rise, as the number of languages that programmes are broadcast in increases.

1. In the past, there had been concerns about the future of radio.

**A** True **B** False **C** No information in the text

1. The Internet has made newspapers irrelevant to the majority of people.

**A** True **B** False **C** No information in the text

1. Computers have replaced traditional radios.

**A** True **B** False **C** No information in the text

1. It is possible to listen to a broadcast several times.

**A** True **B** False **C** No information in the text

1. Marconi was involved in establishing the first commercial radio station.

**A** True **B** False **C** No information in the text

1. It took several years for radio to be accepted by the public.

**A** True **B** False **C** No information in the text

1. In the 1950s, everyone began to enjoy popular music.

**A** True **B** False **C** No information in the text

1. The BBC broadcasts the World Service in English only.

**A** True **B** False **C** No information in the text