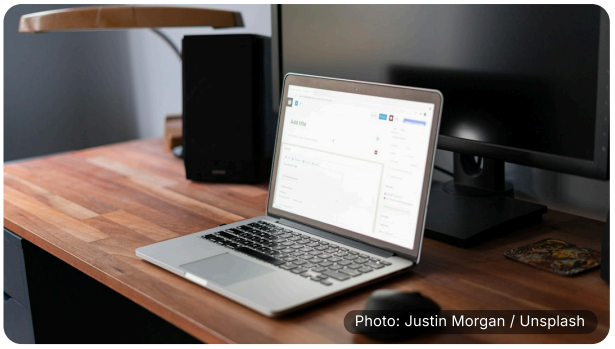
Apple M6 MacBook Pro adds power

LEVEL B2


Photo: Justin Morgan / Unsplash

I. WARM-UP

1. What do you look for first in a new laptop?
2. When did you last upgrade a device, and why?
3. Does battery life or performance matter more to you?

II. KEY VOCABULARY

predecessor
the model or version that came before the current one

brightness
how much light a screen gives out

sustained
kept at the same level for a period of time

graphics
the part of a computer that handles images and video

recycled
made from materials that have been used before and processed again

portability
how easy something is to carry and use on the move

overshadow
to be more noticeable or important than something else

cycle
one complete charge and discharge of a battery

III. READING

Apple's base-model MacBook Pro M6 adds more power to a familiar 2021 design that may be the last of its generation and is partly overshadowed by a newer, pricier OLED version. It costs from £1,999, which is £300 more than its predecessor but about £500 cheaper than Apple's other new Pros.

It offers most of the features from pricier siblings but keeps the older look. The M6 only comes with a 14.2in miniLED screen. It reaches a sustained 1,000 nits brightness for work and up to 1,600 nits for HDR.

The 120Hz display, strong port selection with MagSafe, and first-class keyboard and trackpad support portability and comfort. The review finds the chip is about 11% faster in day-to-day use and 24% faster in multi-core tasks than M5 models, with up to 57% faster graphics.

Battery life is a standout: roughly three days of light work, and about two days for photo editing. Sustainability features include a body made from 45% recycled materials. The battery is rated for over 1,000 full-charge cycles and Apple can replace it for £225. Trade-in and free recycling schemes are available.

Reading text adapted from reporting by **The Guardian***: "Apple MacBook Pro M6 review: probably the...". Original article linked at theenglishwire.com.*

IV. COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. What screen size does the MacBook Pro M6 offer?
2. What is the starting UK price of the M6 model?
3. How long can the battery last with light work?
4. How much faster is the M6 versus M5 in daily and multi-core tasks?
5. What recycled share and battery cycle figure does the review mention?

V. DISCUSSION

1. Is the price fair for the performance and battery life? Why?
2. Do you prefer portability or a larger screen for work?
3. How important are recycled materials when you buy tech?
4. Is a proven design fine if the internals improve? Why or why not?

VI. GRAMMAR FOCUS

Used to / would

Use used to + base verb for past states or habits that are not true now. Use would + base verb for repeated past actions only (not states like be/have).

"When I was at school, I **used to save** *for big purchases."*

"When I travelled for work, I **would edit** *photos on long flights."*

VII. GRAMMAR EXERCISE

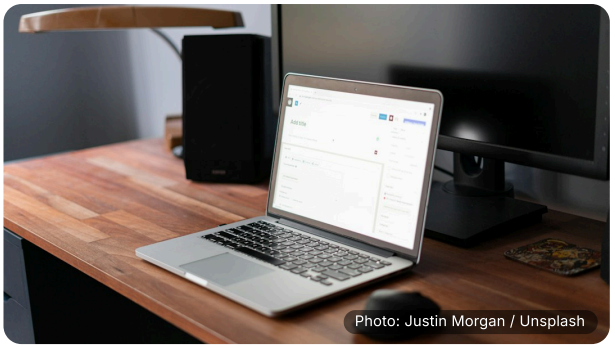
Complete each sentence with used to or would, in the correct form.

1. As a student, I (prefer) ___ cheaper Pros. _____
2. As a teenager, I (own) ___ a cheap laptop with a dim screen. _____
3. Before my first Pro, I (borrow) ___ my sister's laptop. _____
4. Before my upgrade, I (work) ___ on a heavier laptop. _____
5. On trips, I (carry) ___ a charger everywhere. _____

Teacher's Notes

TEACHERS ONLY

These notes are designed to help you get the most out of this lesson. Please do not share this page with students.


Photo: Justin Morgan / Unsplash

I. LESSON GUIDE

- Timing: 8–10 minutes warm-up, 10 minutes vocabulary, 12–15 minutes reading and comprehension, 8–10 minutes grammar, 10 minutes discussion.
- Pre-teach numbers and units (nits, percent, inches) and check students can say prices and compare figures clearly.
- During reading, set a first scan for price, screen size and battery claims, then a second read for performance percentages before tackling comprehension.
- For discussion, pair weaker with stronger students first, then regroup for whole-class sharing; prompt examples from students' own devices and upgrade choices.

II. DISCUSSION FACILITATION TIPS

1. Poll the room first, then ask pairs to justify their choice with two reasons.
2. Have students list tasks they do daily, then match them to screen size needs.
3. Elicit one pro and one con of recycled materials before opening the floor.
4. Split class: one side argues for new design, the other for proven design; then swap.

III. EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

Writing: Write an 80-word buyer's guide paragraph comparing the M6 model with the newer OLED version for a student on a budget.

Role-play: In pairs, act as salesperson and customer with £1,999 to spend; agree on a configuration based on the review's specs.

IV. ANSWER KEY OVERVIEW

Comprehension questions: short factual answers from the text.

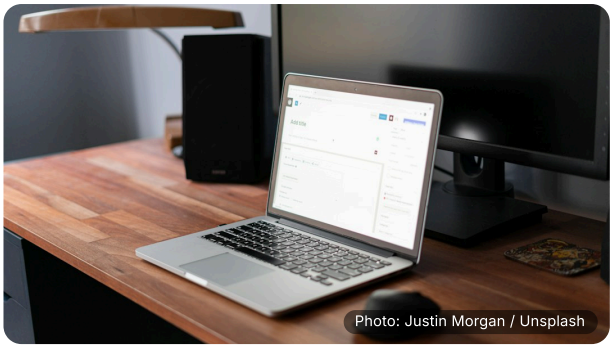
Grammar exercise: Used to / would

Discussion: open-ended. Accept any reasonable ideas supported by examples and reasoning.

Answer Key

TEACHERS ONLY

These answers are for teachers only. Please do not share this page with students.


Photo: Justin Morgan / Unsplash

IV. COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. What screen size does the MacBook Pro M6 offer?
   14.2 inches.
2. What is the starting UK price of the M6 model?
   £1,999.
3. How long can the battery last with light work?
   About three days between charges.
4. How much faster is the M6 versus M5 in daily and multi-core tasks?
   About 11% for daily use and 24% for multi-core tasks.
5. What recycled share and battery cycle figure does the review mention?
   45% recycled materials and over 1,000 cycles.

V. DISCUSSION

Open answers. Accept any reasonable ideas supported by examples and reasoning.

VII. GRAMMAR EXERCISE

Complete each sentence with used to or would, in the correct form.

1. As a student, I ___ cheaper Pros. **used to prefer**
2. As a teenager, I ___ a cheap laptop with a dim screen. **used to own**
3. Before my first Pro, I ___ my sister's laptop. **used to/would borrow**
4. Before my upgrade, I ___ on a heavier laptop. **used to/would work**
5. On trips, I ___ a charger everywhere. **used to/would carry**

VI. GRAMMAR FOCUS

Key point: Use used to + base verb for past states or habits that are not true now. Use would + base verb for repeated past actions only (not states like be/have). (Examples constructed.)

"When I was at school, I **used to save** *for big purchases."*

"When I travelled for work, I **would edit** *photos on long flights."*