



FACTSHEET 5

A typical John Lewis office in 1979

When Shelley Gibson started work at John Lewis in 1979, Margaret Thatcher was prime minister of Britain, the Iron Curtain still separated Western Europe from Russia, the first Star Trek movie was showing in London, and rap music was brand new to the charts.

That's not all that was different. Half a century ago, Shelley's office looked very different from the modern office. Lots of the machines and equipment that a secretary uses today still hadn't been invented - or if they had been invented, they weren't on sale to the general public.

Which of the objects below do you think Shelley would have found in her John Lewis office in 1979?

In the box next to each photo, write Available in 1979 or Not invented yet

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