

Topic 6 SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY – THE FUTURE STARTS HERE

1 Complete the text using vocabulary from topic 6.

Science & technology

The world today is moving at such a fast pace that the future never seems too far away. Whereas _____, self-driving cars and _____ would have been found in science fiction movies in the past, they are a reality nowadays. In fact, innovations in technology are moving so quickly that the level of _____ in certain industries has become a _____ to some people who worry what will happen when machines start to _____ the traditional _____.

The increased presence of technology in our daily lives opens up many issues. Some people _____ that we will witness an _____ on technology and that people will lose their skills and instincts, or become lazy and weak as a result. On the other hand, others argue that robots cannot only help make production more efficient and cost-effective, but also offer _____ for elderly people or _____ for children when their parents are at work.

One of the most spoken-about topics at the moment is that of autonomous vehicles, or driverless cars, as they are also known. In theory, these cars should make the roads safer as they cut out _____ as a cause of accidents. However, driverless cars also _____ of whether the car is programmed to avoid a collision with another car or _____ and thus injure or even kill its own _____. Would you buy a car that made this decision for you?

Of course, science and technology is not just about machines and engineering, but also genetics. We often hear the phrase “you are what you eat”, and there is an _____ level of _____ to know exactly what _____ are in the food we buy and eat. There is a lot of _____ about _____. Whereas some people argue that genetically-modified _____ are more _____ and can be _____, others do not like the idea of their food being engineered in this way.

Another issue is the use of technology to _____ people, whether it be through visible methods such as _____, or more secretive forms of _____ such as tracking online behaviour and transactions. If you ask some people, the way things are going, we will soon be living in a society very similar to the one George Orwell _____ in his dystopic novel *1984*. Big Brother is watching!

2 Match the words on the left (1-8) with their synonyms on the right (A-H).

1	distinctly	A	to sabotage something
2	concern	B	expensive
3	severe	C	clearly
4	to undermine something	D	dislike
5	to mind somebody	E	serious
6	costly	F	healthy
7	wholesome	G	to look after somebody
8	distaste	H	worry

3 Match the words on the left (1-8) with their definitions on the right (A-H).

1	to nap	A	to put into action
2	to depict something	B	changing back and forth
3	alternately	C	to keep somebody busy
4	to deploy	D	continuous observation
5	to occupy somebody	E	to sleep for a short time
6	surveillance	F	to keep something from happening
7	mandatory	G	to represent something
8	to prevent	H	something you have to do

4 Fill in the gaps.

- If you are _____ to something, you are used to it.
- The employees in a company are also known as the _____.
- If you do something for _____, you do it for the benefit of more people than just yourself.
- A lot of car accidents aren't caused by technical malfunctions, but _____.
- The contents of food are known as _____.
- AI is short for _____.
- If something is _____ it is immune to disease.
- An _____ is a reason for doing something.

5 What is it in German?

- conceivable _____
- to scrutinize something _____
- virtually _____
- to sacrifice _____
- query _____
- claim _____
- companionship _____
- sustainable _____