

Student Worksheet

Task 3: Reading into Writing
Jobs and Times

Text A

Times change. Jobs as well. Some jobs that still exist today may no longer exist tomorrow. The postman, for example, was once someone you could see every day in any street anywhere around the world. Today because of email and the internet the postman is less important than before. The daily visit to the supermarket may change too. A number of supermarkets already have self-service tills. The cashier who helps you pay for your groceries may soon be a thing of the past. Advances in technology are the main reason. The travel experience has also changed a lot because of this. Booking tickets and hotels online is a lot easier than going to a travel agent. In some modern airports you check in your own luggage without anyone helping you. Most people know that airplanes have computer systems. However, I guess that a lot of people don't like flying on a plane with an empty cockpit.

Text B

I watched a clip online of a driverless car and it made me feel uncomfortable. Taxi drivers and bus drivers are jobs that may disappear. I have no problem with filling up my car without the help of a petrol station attendant. I love driving but when I don't drive myself, I like talking to a taxi driver or a bus driver. I also like talking to a cashier, travel agent or a postman doing his rounds. Technological advances come at a price.

Text C

Infograph on jobs that were common 30 years ago but may disappear in the near future.

Jobs	Common 30 years ago	May disappear in several years from now
Postman	✓	✓
Doctor	✓	
Software developer		
Dentist	✓	
Lift operator	✓	✓
Pilot	✓	✓
Bus driver	✓	✓
App developer		
Cashiers	✓	✓
Travel agent	✓	
Nurse	✓	
Petrol station attendant	✓	✓
Policeman	✓	

1. **Read text A quickly.** Are advances in technology indeed the main reason why jobs disappear?
2. **Read text B.** What does the author think about jobs disappearing?
3. **Talk to your partner. Read text C and discuss:**
 - Which jobs may disappear? Why?
 - Which jobs didn't exist 30 years ago? Why?
 - Which jobs are of all times? Why?
4. **Use the information from the three texts you have read and the model answer to write a short summary (100 words) with an introduction, a body and a conclusion.**

Answer Key:

1. Yes.
2. *The author doesn't like it that some jobs disappear because he likes talking to people.*

Model Answer:

Summary

Jobs disappear mainly because of technological advances. It might not be something to be that sad about.

Jobs such as postmen, cashiers, and taxi drivers may become less common than before. They may even disappear because of advances in technology. However, a number of jobs such as nurses, doctors and policemen will always be important. Technology often also means that new jobs are created such as, for example, software developers and app developers.

Jobs come and go and this is normal. There is nothing to be sad about as some jobs will always be needed and thanks to technology new jobs can replace the old ones.