

Multiple-choice cloze

What the machines are already changing

For questions 1–8, read the text below and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap.

What machines can now do in a morning used to take a department a month. That (1) is the point of the argument, not a side-effect of it. The same speed is what puts whole kinds of work at risk of (2): not a slower year, but a year in which the task no longer has a person attached to it.

People who sell the tools say new jobs will arrive in time. People who study wages say the (3) between those who own the tools and those who used to do the task will widen first. Alongside the money sits a quieter question. The (4) of what a system has seen – the right not to have a private life turned into training material – is now a political fact, not a preference.

Some governments are (5) rules before the next model is released. The laboratories, for their part, have started to ask for systems that are (6) enough for an outsider to see why a decision was taken. None of that holds without (7) the habit of putting the engineer and the legislator in the same room. Leave them apart and the machine will (8) more harm than good, which is an old sentence and still the right one.

	A	B	C	D
1	advancement	progression	evolution	growth
2	loss	displacement	reduction	decline
3	gaps	divides	disparities	inequalities
4	safeguard	protection	preservation	maintenance
5	implementing	enforcing	introducing	applying
6	transparent	clear	open	visible
7	fostering	promoting	encouraging	nurturing
8	inflict	cause	bring	result