

Technology: What's to come in the next few years?

Read the texts below and find the statements 1-7 that best match each one of them.



A

According to Dr Pearson, a futurologist for tech site, Futurizon, football fans will get used to seeing a robot linesman in less than 12 years because AI is not prone to human error. And he believes robots are set to replace the human referees currently officiating the sport's biggest games. Developments in technology will mean that there will be possibilities for tech to be introduced into sport to help benefit it, much like VAR. Dr. Pearson previously revealed how AI is set to replace human coaches in sport because they will offer up better tactical plays than real people.

B

We've seen a lot of impressive Augmented Reality hardware over the last couple years. Yet, we haven't seen much that you could fairly call *stylish*. That's been the drawback of heads up AR since the dawn of the technology. No matter how appealing it might be to have access to a computer overlay on the real world, AR technology is going to be a tough sell if it makes you look like a cyborg. That's the philosophy that, beginning in 2015, motivated Charles Sun to begin developing a pair of smart glasses that could pass for Ray-Bans. Discretion is the name of the game. All of the components are embedded discreetly inside the lightweight frames, including CPU, memory, storage, battery, speakers, microphones, camera, and optical system that can display digital information in the user's field of view.

C

Imagine this. Instead of giving away your personal data so web giants can show you ads, you cut out the middle person and allow advertisers to pay you directly for your data. It's a novel idea for a new startup that bills itself as a "data privacy" company. [OzoneAI](#) says it preserves users' privacy by allowing them more control over who gets their data. In the startup's utopian vision, companies can skip over the major advertising giants like Google and Facebook and buy access to anonymized data from the users themselves. That could mean companies buying your Spotify playlists, your Amazon wish list, or your access to your social media. The user is paid for the access, and the company gets to use the data for better targeting their ads.

D

Technology that allows us to connect our minds to computers will have such huge implications that the government needs to look at the ethical risks involved. Neural interfaces are devices implanted in the body, or worn externally, which are capable of recording or stimulating activity in the brain. The idea of such technology, also known as [brain computer interfaces \(BCI\)](#), isn't all that new: many people worldwide already benefit from medical neural interface technologies like the cochlear implants that provide hearing for around 400,000 people. The Royal Society report predicts that within a couple of decades neural interfaces could be used to help people to walk after paralysis, tackle depression, or even help to treat diseases like Alzheimer's. Facebook has previously said that it is working on mind-reading technology that would allow users to think messages onto a screen rather than type them, or even to share thoughts independent of language.

	TEXT
1. One of the problems with this technology is that it is unattractive.	
2. Ordinary people will be more in charge thanks to this development.	
3. Some people will become redundant if this development finally is adopted.	
4. There are concerns that people may not be interested in this kind of technology.	
5. This development is described as a bit idealistic.	
6. This technology can raise moral questions about its use.	
7. This technology could be beneficial for mentally and physically disabled	
8. This technology will improve the quality of the work being done at the moment.	

Vocabulary

Find a word or phrase that matches these definitions in the texts indicated.

TEXT	Definitions	Word or phrase
A	(adjective) Having a tendency to.	
A	(verb phrase) To be ready to do something.	
B	(adjective) difficult.	
B	(noun) disadvantage.	
B	(noun) the beginning of something.	
C	(verb) to omit, ignore.	
C	(verb) to direct something towards a particular goal.	
D	(verb) To work with something so as to find a solution.	
D	(adverb) Active or existing throughout the world.	