The top soft skills teens need

Robots are doing more and more human jobs, but there are some jobs that need 'soft skills' robots don't have. Soft skills are different from hard skills like writing, reading and using computer programmes. Soft skills are 'people' skills like understanding how other people feel or being patient. Robots don't have these soft skills because they are machines. That is one advantage that people have over robots, for the moment! So what important soft skills do young people need for their future jobs?

Communication

The number one soft skill employers are looking for is communication. Good communication includes a number of skills such as good listening, public speaking and clear writing.

Collaboration

Nowadays nearly everybody works in a team and businesses need workers who can work well with other people. Young people have to learn to collaborate as part of a team.

Creativity

Creativity is important in many jobs because creative people are often able to solve problems effectively by thinking differently. This can save time and money.

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1 How do the ideas in the text **connect** to what you already knew about work skills?

2 What new ideas in the text **extended** your thinking?

3 What **challenges** or puzzles do you have after reading the text?

4 Share your **connections**, **extensions** and **challenges** with other students. Are they similar or different? What ideas or themes come out of your discussion?

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