

Technology advances

1. The way people use technology is changing quickly. Today, new devices and apps are easier to use. People can talk to machines, use hand gestures, or even use their face to control them. This helps make technology feel more natural and simple. It also improves how we use technology in our daily life and at work.
2. Smart machines and software are now doing boring and repeated tasks in many workplaces. These tools, often powered by artificial intelligence (AI), save time and help workers focus on more important and creative jobs. As a result, companies work better and grow faster in many fields.
3. More and more schools are using technology in their lessons. They teach students skills like computer coding, robotics, and how to use digital tools. These programs help students prepare for future jobs, and also build creativity and problem-solving skills, which are important in the digital world.

4. Using digital devices too much can cause problems. Spending too much time in front of screens can make people feel lonely, stressed, or tired. It can also make it harder to focus or talk with others. That's why it's important to have a good balance between screen time and offline activities like exercise, talking with friends, or enjoying nature.

5. Not everyone has the same access to technology. Some people don't have fast internet or modern devices, so they miss chances to learn or find jobs. This creates unfair gaps in society. To fix this, we need good plans and community programs to give more people access to the tools they need.

6. Technology communities are groups of people who love working with tech. They share ideas, help each other, and work together on new projects. These communities support learning and help turn smart ideas into real products or services that can help others.

7. As technology grows, people are also thinking about the environment. Many companies are now creating eco-friendly products and using green practices to reduce harm to nature. These actions help protect the Earth and make sure that digital progress is good for our planet in the long term.

Read the text. Match the headings to the paragraphs

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

Digital Transformation

1. Many companies are now changing the way they operate by shifting from traditional models to digital ones. Instead of running physical stores, for example, they may move entirely online or create hybrid experiences for customers. This transformation allows them to reach wider markets, reduce costs, and offer more personalized services. Digital tools are not just supporting business — they're completely reshaping it.
2. Automated systems, such as robotics and artificial intelligence, have significantly improved workplace efficiency. Tasks that once took hours can now be completed in minutes. Employees are able to focus on more complex or creative work, while machines handle the repetitive jobs. This has led to higher productivity and faster results across industries.

3. As technology continues to advance, there is a growing need to equip people with the right skills to succeed. Governments and organizations are investing in training programs to teach digital literacy, coding, data analysis, and cybersecurity. Ensuring that both young people and adults have these skills is essential for a future-ready workforce.

4. While automation brings many benefits, some companies have become too dependent on it. When systems fail or encounter unexpected issues, operations can come to a complete stop. This over-reliance can lead to serious risks, especially if there's no human oversight or backup processes in place. Balance is key when integrating technology.

5. With more personal and financial data being stored online, cybersecurity has become a top concern. Hackers are constantly developing new ways to attack systems, steal information, or cause disruption. Businesses must invest in strong security measures and regularly update their software to protect themselves and their customers.

6. To create a truly digital world, it's important that no one is left behind. This means designing platforms and systems that are accessible to people of all backgrounds, including those with disabilities or limited access to technology. Digital inclusion helps close the gap between different social groups and creates equal opportunities for all.

7. As technology becomes more powerful, so does the responsibility of using it wisely. Developers and companies are being urged to consider the ethical impact of their innovations. From protecting user privacy to avoiding bias in AI, ethical development ensures that technology serves society in a fair and positive way.

Read the text. Match the headings to the paragraphs

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

The Arrival of the Four-Day Work Week

1. For many decades, working five or even six days a week was seen as the norm. However, with modern technology, changing values, and a greater focus on work-life balance, that lifestyle is becoming less relevant. Employees and companies alike are beginning to question whether spending most of one's week at work is still necessary or productive.
2. Supporters of the four-day work week argue that it offers numerous advantages for workers. With an extra day off, employees have more time to rest, spend with family, or pursue hobbies. Studies show that many people become more focused and productive when working fewer hours, leading to better performance and increased job satisfaction.

3. Despite its appeal, a shorter work week can also lead to financial strain. Businesses may face higher costs due to hiring additional staff or adjusting pay structures. Some industries—especially those that rely on hourly workers—might struggle to maintain profit margins, potentially resulting in reduced services or even layoffs.

4. Not all employees adjust easily to a new schedule. Some may find it difficult to complete the same amount of work in fewer days, which can increase pressure and stress. In fast-paced industries, unexpected challenges may arise, such as scheduling conflicts or missed deadlines, making the transition more complicated than expected.

5. For those who have followed a traditional work schedule for years, switching to a four-day work week can be uncomfortable. Old habits and routines are hard to break, and some individuals may resist change even if it's beneficial. It often takes time and support to help people adapt to a new way of working.

6. Although the four-day work week sounds ideal for many, it might not be fair to everyone. For example, essential workers, healthcare staff, or those in hospitality may not have the option to reduce their hours. This could create inequality between different groups of employees and cause tension in the workplace.
7. Rather than applying a four-day work week to all companies, experts suggest looking at flexible solutions. Some propose allowing employees to choose their working days, while others support shorter daily hours. These alternatives can offer similar benefits without disrupting businesses that rely on traditional schedules.

Read the text. Match the headings to the paragraphs

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

Technology

1. The way people interact with technology is constantly evolving. Modern devices and software are designed to be more intuitive, allowing users to communicate through voice commands, gestures, or even facial recognition. This redefinition helps make technology more accessible and natural to use, improving both personal and professional experiences.
2. Smart automation tools are transforming workplaces by taking over repetitive and time-consuming tasks. These technologies, often powered by artificial intelligence, help employees focus on higher-value work, leading to increased efficiency and innovation across various industries.
3. Educational institutions are increasingly incorporating technology into their curricula to prepare students for future careers. Programs that focus on coding, robotics, and digital literacy equip learners with essential skills needed in the digital age, fostering creativity and problem-solving abilities.

4. While digital devices offer many benefits, excessive dependence on screens can have drawbacks. People may experience reduced social interaction, attention difficulties, and increased stress. It is important to balance digital engagement with offline activities to maintain mental and physical well-being.

5. Not everyone has equal access to technology, which can create significant social and economic gaps. Those without reliable internet or modern devices may miss out on educational and job opportunities, making it essential to address these disparities through policy and community initiatives.

6. Tech communities bring together individuals passionate about technology to share ideas, support projects, and collaborate. These groups foster innovation and creativity, providing mentorship and resources that help turn new concepts into reality.

7. As technology continues to advance, there is a growing emphasis on sustainability. Companies are developing eco-friendly products and adopting green practices to minimize environmental impact, ensuring that digital progress supports long-term ecological health.

Read the text. Match the headings to the paragraphs

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

Women mathematicians (2)

1. For centuries, the achievements of women in mathematics were either omitted from historical records or attributed to male colleagues. Hypatia of Alexandria, one of the earliest known female mathematicians, was respected in her time, yet many of her contributions were later credited to male scholars. Such erasure has been a recurring theme in the history of women in this field.
2. Emmy Noether, often described as the most important woman in the history of mathematics, revolutionized abstract algebra and theoretical physics. Albert Einstein referred to her work as “the very expression of the spirit of modern algebra.” Only recently has her legacy gained the widespread recognition it deserves, demonstrating a growing effort to acknowledge those once overlooked.
3. In many historical accounts, the success of male mathematicians has overshadowed the collaborative efforts of their female peers. For example, the development of chaos theory often credits Edward Lorenz, yet contributions by female mathematicians working in the same field are frequently omitted from textbooks and academic narratives.

4. Mary Cartwright had a mathematical career spanning over six decades. Her work in nonlinear differential equations laid the groundwork for chaos theory, influencing both mathematics and engineering. Despite the challenges faced by women in academia during her time, she maintained a consistent output of high-quality research throughout her life.

5. When female mathematicians are described as “women geniuses” or “female prodigies,” the gender label, while well-intended, often implies that excellence is rare among women. Such terms, though celebratory, can unintentionally reinforce the idea that women’s success in mathematics is unusual, rather than simply the result of talent and hard work.

6. To address the gender imbalance in mathematics, many universities and organizations now run outreach programs, offer scholarships specifically for women, and encourage female mentorship in STEM fields. These efforts aim not to give unfair advantage, but to create equal opportunities in a domain where women have historically been underrepresented.

7. In efforts to level the playing field, some institutions have implemented standardized criteria for admissions or research evaluation. However, such uniform methods can sometimes ignore the diverse paths and challenges faced by individuals, particularly women balancing academic and societal expectations. A one-size-fits-all approach may not always foster true equity.

Read the text. Match the headings to the paragraphs

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____