2B READING AND VOCABULARY

1 **Skim the text: look at the photos, the title, and quickly read the headings and the first line of each paragraph to get the general idea of the text. Then answer the questions.**

1 Where do you think you would you read this text?
- **a** in a magazine
- **b** in a person's blog
- **c** on a website

2 What is the main idea of the text?
- **a** the science behind micro-chipping humans
- **b** the reasons for and against micro-chipping humans
- **c** the history of micro-chipping humans

2 **Read the text again and complete the sentences with one or two words in each gap.**

1 In the future, people will have micro-chips in their *bodies*.
2 People have been receiving heart pacemakers since _____.
3 A pet's microchip stores details such as its name _____.
4 Many workers at a _____ get micro-chips in their hands.
5 These micro-chips are unable to read _____.
6 In the future microchips could carry information about our _____ history.
7 One superpower that chips might give us is _____.
8 There are concerns that employers could use chips to follow their workers' _____.

Vocabulary extension

3 **Complete the sentences with the highlighted words from the text.**

1 My gran's *eyesight* isn't very good and she wears thick glasses.
2 There's a medical _____ that can check for problems inside the stomach.
3 At college there are some _____ about students using smartphones in class.
4 When you get older your _____ can rise.
5 My friend got a tooth _____ and it cost a fortune!
6 Severe depression is a mental _____, but it can be treated with counselling or medication.
7 Technological _____ in the next ten years will solve a lot of health problems.
8 The school keeps _____ of all its students' achievements.

ACTIVE VOCABULARY | Suffixes *-ity, -ility, -osity*

We can add the suffix *-ity, -ility* or *-osity* to some adjectives to create nouns.

- If the adjective ends with a consonant, we add *-ity*, e.g. *human – humanity*
- If it ends with a consonant and *-e*, we take off the *-e* and add *-ity*, e.g. *secure – security*
- If it ends with *-le*, we take off the *-le* and add *-ility*, e.g. *able – ability*
- If the adjective ends with *-ous*, we take off the *-ous* and add *-osity*, e.g. *curious – curiosity*

4 **Read the information above and write the nouns of these adjectives.**

adjectives	nouns
1 moral	*morality*
2 real	
3 creative	
4 electric	
5 public	
6 probable	
7 responsible	
8 generous	

5 **Complete the sentences with the nouns from Exercise 4.**

1 You need a lot of *creativity* to become a good artist.
2 The actors' wedding got a great deal of _____ in the media.
3 The _____ is that we will all have micro-chip implants in thirty years' time.
4 Organising the music for the party is Aidan's _____.
5 Sometimes it's difficult to return to _____ after a holiday.
6 We must thank your parents for their _____ in paying for the trip.
7 The house in the country is pretty but it hasn't got _____!
8 Some people question the _____ of developing AI.

6 **ON A HIGH NOTE** **Write a comment to post after the article, giving your opinion with reasons and examples.**

LIVEWORKSHEETS

TO CHIP OR *NOT* TO CHIP

02

That is the question!

THE WAY FORWARD

Smart phones have become part of our daily lives, connecting us with everyone and everything, and the development of smart watches means that we can now have this means of connectivity with us all the time. However, experts believe that soon microchips will move from our phones and watches into our bodies! Man and machine will merge, and we shall become true 'cyborgs'!

NOTHING NEW

The idea of implants – putting electronic devices inside a living body – is not new. It's been happening for a long time. The first electronic heart pacemaker, a device to support the heart, was implanted in 1958 and the first cochlear implant (to help hearing) was in 1982. We have been microchipping pet animals since the 1990s to provide information about the pet's name and owner. But what about implanting humans with information microchips? Well, that's already happening too! A group of people called bio-hackers have been microchipping themselves with chips that can unlock doors or even pay for things with a movement of their hand! Who needs keys or wallets?

WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW?

If you think bio-hackers are an extreme group, then think again. A Swedish company regularly implants its employees with microchips – the size of a grain of rice – under the skin of the hand. They can then open security doors, operate printers and buy things from machines. The technology is similar to that used in contactless credit cards. The chips are 'passive' – that means other devices can read the information on them, but the chips can't read other devices. The employers and the employees appear to be happy with this procedure and they often hold 'implant parties' for workers who are about to get microchipped!

IS THIS PROGRESS?

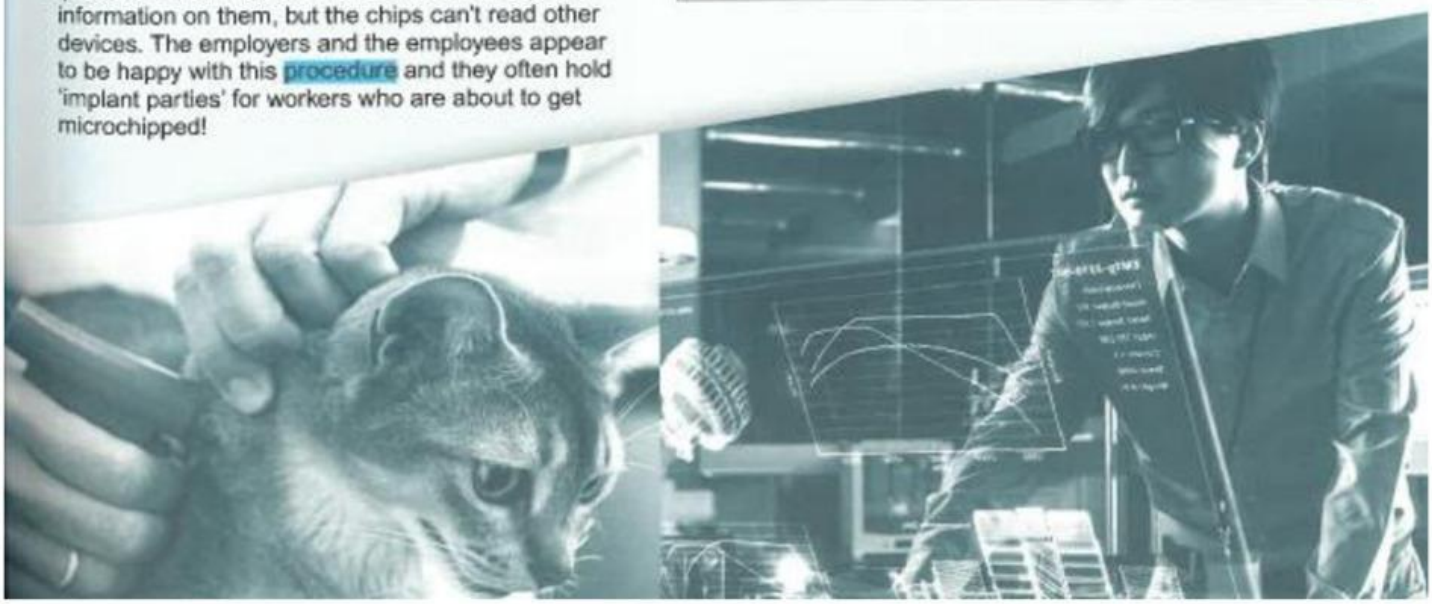
The main benefit of having an implanted chip is that it makes life easier. It saves time and money and security cards are no longer necessary. In the future, chips could even replace passports. They might improve our health, too. They could store our medical records, with information about our blood type, allergies and so on. They could perform health checks on blood sugar levels and blood pressure, and even release medicines into the blood at the correct times. Looking even further into the future, experts believe that implanted devices could improve our eyesight, prevent brain disorders or possibly even give us super powers such as night vision or the ability to see things over a long distance.

SO, WHAT ARE THE DOWNSIDES?

As with all scientific advances, there are potential dangers. The Swedish company can already find out what their employees do at work, what they buy and what they eat. In the future they may be able to track their exact movements and learn about health problems and other information that the employees might not want to share. If it becomes normal for us all to have chip implants, then these privacy issues will become very important.

However, the most significant change for us will be continual connectivity. We won't be able to take the chips out and leave them on a table like a phone or a watch. We shall never be completely alone again. But perhaps that's what we want? What's your opinion? Click here to send your comments.

> This is SO exciting! I can't wait to get one. Excellent! ***Evi3***
>
> Sounds horrible! I like to be in control – thank you – not give out all my info to anyone and everyone! So, not in my lifetime please. ***Bluesue***
>
> Never in a million years! ***Pans1***



LIVEWORKSHEETS