

Sophie: Did you finish reading the article about sustainable development for our class discussion tomorrow?

Daniel: Yeah, I did. It was actually more interesting than I expected. I liked how it connected modern problems with lessons from history.

Sophie: Same here. I was especially interested in the section about digital infrastructure and internet access. It made me realize that even though technology has advanced a lot, many communities still don't have equal opportunities.

Daniel: Exactly. It reminded me of the Industrial Revolution. Back then, factories and railways improved economies, but poor workers often lived in terrible conditions and had limited access to education or healthcare.

Sophie: Right, and in some ways the same thing is happening today. In large cities, people usually have fast internet and access to digital services, while rural communities are often left behind.

Daniel: That's why governments should invest more in digital infrastructure. The internet is no longer a luxury; it's essential for education, work, and communication.

Sophie: I completely agree. During the pandemic, we clearly saw how unequal internet access affected students. Some people could continue learning online, while others couldn't even attend classes.

Daniel: True. Speaking of cities, what did you think about the section on smart cities and transport systems?

Sophie: I found it fascinating. Modern cities are trying to become more efficient by using technology to reduce traffic and pollution, but planners also need to learn from mistakes made in the past.

Daniel: Definitely. During the nineteenth century, many industrial cities grew too quickly without proper planning. As a result, there were overcrowded neighborhoods, pollution, and poor sanitation systems.

Sophie: Exactly. If cities today ignore environmental and social issues, history could repeat itself. That's why maintaining bridges, roads, and public transportation systems is so important.

Daniel: Yeah. Sometimes governments focus more on building new projects than maintaining old infrastructure. But when maintenance is ignored, accidents can happen.

Sophie: Unfortunately, we've seen examples of bridge collapses and transport failures in different countries because authorities didn't invest enough in repairs.

Daniel: It's frustrating because those problems are usually preventable.

Sophie: Absolutely. On the positive side, technology has also improved healthcare and education enormously over the years.

Daniel: For sure. Medical technology, for example, has increased life expectancy and improved treatments for many diseases. And digital tools have made education more accessible than ever before.

Sophie: Although, I think technology alone isn't enough. Schools and hospitals also need trained professionals and fair access for everyone.

Daniel: I agree with that. Advanced technology doesn't help much if only wealthy people can benefit from it.

Sophie: Exactly. That idea connects with another topic from the article: peace, justice, and strong institutions.

Daniel: Yeah, that section was really important. History has shown us what happens when governments become corrupt or when institutions are weak.

Sophie: Definitely. Many political scandals have damaged public trust over the years. That's why anti-corruption policies are essential.

Daniel: And independent courts are just as important. Without fair laws, people can easily be excluded or discriminated against.

Sophie: Sadly, history is full of examples of injustice caused by dictatorships or authoritarian governments. Human rights protections exist today partly because societies learned from those terrible experiences.

Daniel: Exactly. After major wars, many countries realized the importance of protecting freedom and equality.

Sophie: I also think democratic participation is crucial. People fought for decades to gain voting rights, especially women and minority groups.

Daniel: True. Sometimes people forget that democracy requires active participation. If citizens stop caring about elections or political decisions, institutions become weaker.

Sophie: That's a good point. By the way, what did you think about the section on renewable energy?

Daniel: Honestly, I think it's one of the most urgent issues today. Fossil fuels helped industrial development, but they also caused enormous environmental damage.

Sophie: Exactly. Pollution, climate change, and health problems are all connected to excessive dependence on coal and oil.

Daniel: That's why countries are investing more in solar and wind energy now. Renewable energy is cleaner and more sustainable in the long term.

Sophie: Although transitioning away from fossil fuels won't be easy. Some economies still depend heavily on oil and coal industries.

Daniel: True, but if governments don't act now, environmental problems could become much worse in the future.

Sophie: I agree. Energy efficiency is also important. Small actions at home or school, like turning off lights or reducing waste, can make a difference.

Daniel: Exactly. Past energy crises showed us that wasting resources creates economic and environmental problems.

Sophie: Another issue is energy access in rural areas. In many places, people still don't have reliable electricity.

Daniel: Yeah, unequal development remains a huge challenge. Renewable technologies could help remote communities gain access to energy without depending on expensive infrastructure.

Sophie: That would improve education, healthcare, and economic opportunities at the same time.

Daniel: Definitely. Finally, the article mentioned international cooperation and global partnerships.

Sophie: I think that's essential because no country can solve global problems alone. Climate change, poverty, and conflicts affect everyone.

Daniel: Exactly. History has shown that isolation and lack of cooperation often lead to conflict and instability.

Sophie: Meanwhile, international partnerships can help countries share knowledge, technology, and resources more effectively.

Daniel: I completely agree. Even though countries have different interests, cooperation is necessary if we want sustainable development and peace in the future.

Sophie: Well said. Honestly, reading this article made me realize that history isn't just about the past — it can also guide the decisions we make today.

Daniel: Exactly. If societies learn from previous mistakes, there's a better chance of building a fairer and more sustainable future.

**Instructions:** Choose the options that best reflects the ideas from the reading.

1. Digital infrastructure is important because it supports (entertainment and leisure activities / education, work, and communication systems).
2. Smart cities aim to improve urban life by using technology and learning from (future predictions and modern trends / poorly planned industrial cities and past mistakes).
3. Poor maintenance of bridges and roads often results in (better traffic flow and improved efficiency / accidents and infrastructure failures in transport systems).
4. Technology in healthcare has significantly improved (life expectancy and medical treatment quality / hospital architecture and building design standards).
5. Anti-corruption policies are created to reduce (government transparency and citizen participation / dishonest behavior and political scandals in institutions).
6. Human rights protection has developed through lessons learned from (wars and dictatorships and historical injustices / economic growth and industrial expansion programs).
7. Democratic participation involves citizens actively (avoiding political debates and public decisions / voting in elections and engaging in civic processes).
8. Renewable energy systems focus on replacing fossil fuels like coal and oil with (solar and wind energy sources / nuclear weapons and military technologies).
9. Energy efficiency practices aim to reduce (energy waste in homes and schools / energy production in industrial power plants).
10. International cooperation is necessary for addressing (local business competition and national markets / global challenges and shared world problems).