

A

- a. What predictions can you make about future? Do you think future will be better than today?
 b. Read the paragraphs and match them with the headings below.

1. The Effects of Overpopulation
2. Energy Revolution
3. High Technology
4. Changes on Earth

A.

Since life first appeared on the Earth four billion years ago, there have been tremendous changes. Ice ages have come and gone and volcanoes have erupted. Earthquakes have shattered ancient mountains and changed the course of rivers. Some species have been displaced by others which are more favoured by new environments. Nowadays scientists are studying the changes which are likely to take place in 50 years' time. Here are some of them:



B.

A rapidly increasing population is one of the causes of social and environmental problems. The population growth brings the problem of consumption. If we cannot feed 6 billion people today, how will we satisfy the needs of 8 billion people or more by 2030? Global food shortages will become much more serious than today, leading to poverty.

C.

Renewable energy technologies are now ready to be used and will meet the world's energy demand by 2030. We will find new energy sources like wind and solar power that won't pollute and will never run out. They are also less expensive compared to other sources of energy.



D.

Wireless technology will be everywhere. There will be no wires on and behind your desk. We'll be able to control people around us with a tiny microchip and through the access to the Internet. Here are some more predictions about the future:

- Electric currents applied to the soil will make valuable plants grow larger and faster.
- There will be no street cars in our large cities. All traffic will be below or high above the ground.
- People will be able to see the bus coming closer to their stop by means of a web-site.

c. Match the reasons to the given effects due to the changes in our planet.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>Reasons</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 1. Electric currents</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 2. Earthquakes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 3. Growing population</p> | <p>Reasons</p> <p>a. change in the course of rivers</p> <p>b. changes in the levels of consumption</p> <p>c. make plants grow faster</p> |
|---|---|

d. Work with a partner and write your own predictions which are likely to happen in 50 years' time. Then report what your partner has predicted as in the example.

e.g. A: I believe people will commute from the Earth to space every day simply by pushing a button.
B: My partner said that s/he believed people would commute from the Earth to space every day simply by pushing a button.

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B

a. Rewrite the quoted sentences using indirect speech.

0. 'Will passengers in a rocket suffer from the low temperature?', asked my son.
My son asked if passengers in a rocket would suffer from the low temperature.
1. My teacher told me, 'You should get a space school diploma in order to become an astronaut.'

2. My friend said, 'I hope to work for NASA when I graduate.'

3. Our science teacher told us, 'We will have the chance to see the neighbouring planets by the year 2050.'

4. The children said, 'We want to stop the violence between people and nations in the near future.'

5. I told my brother, 'You're getting out of touch with reality while you're making predictions about the future.'

6. Futurologists predicted, 'Water shortages could be the cause of war among nations if we don't take some measures now.'

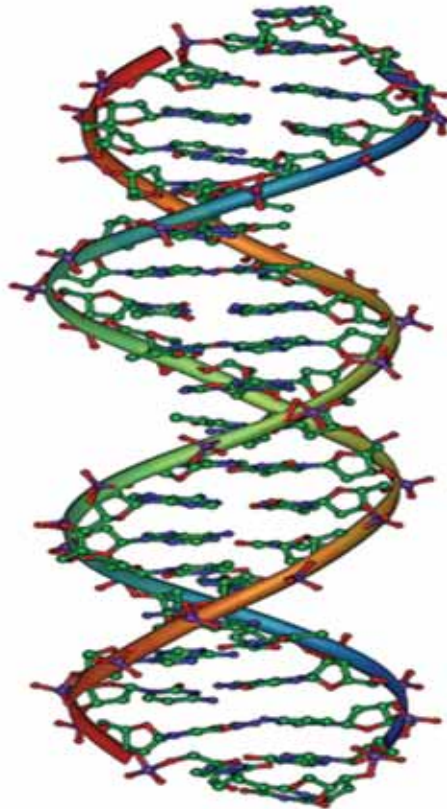
7. My father told me, 'Big companies will prefer robots as they don't go on strike.'

8. The scientist warned, 'Global warming is threatening our planet.'

9. The authorities predict, 'By 2070, lots of big cities will have become uninhabited due to air pollution.'

b. Rewrite the predictions using the modals given.

1. It isn't possible for us to use electric cars in the future unless the cost is decreased. **(can't)**
.....
2. It is possible that people will live longer in the future because of anti-aging pills. **(may)**
.....
3. I don't think the next generation of computers will understand spoken instructions. **(might not)**
.....
4. Thanks to computer technology, scientists are able to map genes. **(can)**
.....
5. A soya-based fuel will have replaced petrol in the future. **(could)**
.....



c. Use a suitable future tense.

1. High technology (have) the greatest effect on people's lives in the next fifty years.
2. What do you think are the most important changes that (take place) in thirty years' time?
3. Computers (able / understand) our oral commands so we (not need) to use a keyboard.
4. As technology has been developing very rapidly, I think computers (take over) our lives.
5. When scientists find a way of transmitting our thoughts to other people, we (able / communicate) without talking to each other.



Read the sentences and fill in the blanks using the words given in the box.

shortages population process pollution import tremendous impact

1. There has been a (n) achievement in stopping the over-population in China.
2. The government is in the of finding new energy resources.
3. The environmental of increased pollution threatens our planet.
4. Most of the world's is suffering from poverty.
5. Drought causes water during summer.
6. To reduce air, we should encourage public transportation more.
7. The government eventually banned the of electricity when they started to use other resources.

D

Match the adjectives with their synonyms.

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. global | a) well-organized |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2. urgent | b) several |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3. sensitive | c) unreal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4. efficient | d) enormous |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5. harmful | e) worldwide |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6. serious | f) important |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7. imaginary | g) increasing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8. tremendous | h) damaging |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9. booming | i) tender |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10. various | j) immediate |

E

- Can you tell different types of energy sources? Which ones do you use?
- Listen and find out what Alex Campbell informs us about.
- Write T (True) or F (False).

1. After the development of an electric generator, people didn't use hydropower.
2. The use of windmills provide energy for industrial tasks.
3. By burning wood, you can get biomass energy.
4. Agricultural and animal waste products can be used as solar energy source.
5. Man has known about solar power for thousands of years.
6. The sources of solar energy are infinite.

F

Write an essay about the most important problems that our planet is facing today.