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GLOBAL SUMMIT TACKLES AI RISKS

Scan to review worksheet

Expemo code:
1IC8-S1L1-D55

Source: Reuters

1 Warm up

In pairs or small groups, complete the quiz below without using any phones.

1. Which movie series features the AI system named Skynet that attacks humans?

   a. The Matrix   b. The Terminator   c. Alien   d. Blade Runner

2. Which science-fiction writer created the three laws of robotics?

   a. Philip K. Dick   b. Frank Herbert   c. Isaac Asimov   d. H. G. Wells

3. In which movie there is an AI named HAL-9000 that turns against humanity?

   a. 2001: A Space Odyssey

   b. The Terminator

   c. The War of the Worlds

   d. Ex Machina

4. Which company developed ChatGPT?

   a. Google   b. Microsoft   c. Apple   d. OpenAI

5. PCs – or personal computers – were originally known by which name?

   a. minicomputer   b. microcomputer   c. tiny computer   d. thinking box

2 Pre-listening: vocabulary focus

Match words with the correct definitions.

Group 1

1.	release (n)	a.	existing in large numbers
2.	summit (n)	b.	a person who has an important job as a manager of a company or an organisation
3.	numerous (adj.)	c.	a new plan for dealing with a particular problem or for achieving a particular purpose
4.	initiative (n)	d.	an official meeting or series of meetings, usually between the leaders of two or more governments, at which important matters are discussed
5.	executive (n)	e.	the act of making a film, recording or other product available to the public

Group 2

1.	participate (v)	a.	make something that has been officially decided start to happen or be used
2.	decline (v)	b.	take part in or become involved in an activity
3.	implement (v)	c.	refuse politely or formally to accept or do something
4.	groundbreaking (adj.)	d.	organise an event to which others are invited and make all the arrangements for them
5.	host (v)	e.	making new discoveries; using new methods

3 Listening for specific information

Listen to the report. Match the items mentioned with the things they relate to.

10   2   2024   28   5

a. _____ : the duration of the summit (in days)

b. _____ : the number of countries that signed a declaration at the summit

c. _____ : the number of countries outside the EU that backed the testing agreement

d. _____ : the number of companies that have agreed to the testing initiative

e. _____ : when the next summit on AI safety will take place

4 Listening for comprehension

Listen to the report again. Answer the questions true or false.

1. China and Australia were among the countries that signed a declaration stating that AI poses a risk to humanity. _____

2. The summit took place at a location linked to the birth of computing. _____

3. In response to the summit, the British government introduced new laws to limit artificial intelligence. _____

4. China will not be participating in the testing agreement agreed upon at the summit. _____

5. Elon Musk asked workers to see AI as a "co-pilot" rather than something that would replace jobs. _____

5 Post-listening: collocations

Part A: Match the words and phrases below to create collocations – groups of words that we often use together to form a phrase.

1. suffer   a. the balance

2. pose   b. the lead

3. tip   c. voice

4. leading   d. a setback

5. take   e. measures

6. safety   f. a risk

Part B: Look at the definitions below. Match the complete collocations from Part A to the correct definitions.

1. _____ : affect the result of something in one way rather than another

2. _____ : things you do in order to prevent something bad or dangerous from happening

3. _____ : experience a problem or difficulty that delays or prevents something, or makes a situation worse

4. _____ : an important person or organisation in a particular area or field

5. _____ : something that is likely to cause problems or danger at some time in the future.

6. _____ : take a position that is ahead of others

6 Reading: general vocabulary

Part A: Match the words in bold with the correct definitions.

Group 1

1. My husband and I think it is important to encourage **creativity** in our daughter. (n)

2. Our country has never had true **democracy**, in my opinion. (n)

3. I left the house without an umbrella, which was rather **optimistic**. (adj.)

4. Unfortunately, the film isn't **widely** available in my country. (adv.)

5. Although they may belong to the same party, politicians often have their own **agendas**. (n)

6. Since losing my job I have had time to **pursue** my hobbies. (v)

7. At the zoo, we watched a monkey try to **imitate** our son. (v)

8. The **evolution** of my city is something I find incredibly interesting. When my grandfather was young, all of this was farmland! (n)

9. In space, humans are very **vulnerable**. (adj.)

a. a system of government in which the people of a country can vote to elect their representatives

b. expecting good things to happen or something to be successful

c. copy somebody/something

d. the slow steady development of something

e. including a lot of different places, people, subjects, etc

f. continue or proceed with something

g. the intention behind what somebody says or does, that is often secret

h. the use of skill and imagination to produce something new or to produce art

i. weak and easily hurt physically or emotionally

Group 2

1. Some actors appear to be experiencing **genuine** emotion in films. (adj.)

2. It took my daughter four years to **master** the piano. She's playing at a concert this weekend! (v)

3. Government **regulation** may be necessary to control electric scooters. (n)

4. My grandfather was a true master of his **craft**. People all over the world loved the clocks he made. (n)

5. The new technology has led to online **debate** about its benefits and dangers. (n)

6. All computers require some form of **input**. (n)

7. I try not to talk to my children about the various **existential** dangers we may be facing. (adj.)

8. It's important to **praise** your children regularly. (v)

9. **Rapid** development has led to many changes in the world of computing. It's hard to keep up! (adj.)

a. controlling something by means of rules

b. learn or understand something completely

c. connected with human existence

d. sincere and honest; that can be trusted

e. say that you approve of and admire somebody/something

f. the information that you put into a computer

g. happening quickly or in a short period of time

h. all the skills needed for a particular activity

i. a formal discussion on a particular topic where two sides are arguing

Discuss these questions in pairs.

1. Do you consider humans to be more **vulnerable** in the twenty-first century than they were in the twentieth?

2. Do you try to be **optimistic** about the future? If so, is this difficult for you?

3. Could a machine ever create something that makes a human feel **genuine** emotion?

7 Pre-reading task: reading for general understanding

Part A: You are going to read a text about potential dangers of artificial intelligence. Scan the text quickly and match the heading with the correct paragraph. One heading cannot be matched to any of the four paragraphs, and should be marked 'Not given'.

- The way we live

- The way we treat diseases

- The way we vote

- The way we work

- The way we create

Part B: Read the sentences below. In pairs, discuss the meaning of the phrase in bold in each sentence. Where do you think the phrase "put the genie back in the bottle" comes from?

1. In the **best-case scenario**, we will manage to reduce the negative effects of climate change without making too many changes to our lifestyles.

2. You shouldn't **take** every video you see on YouTube **at face value**.

3. Within months of the Internet becoming available to the public, it was too late **to put the genie back in the bottle**.

Do you always take news stories that you read online at face value? What do you think the best-case scenario for artificial intelligence is? Discuss in pairs.

Article glossary:

copyright - the legal right to control the production and selling of a book, play, film, photograph, piece of music, etc.

deepfake - a video of a person in which their appearance has been digitally altered so that they look like somebody else

algorithm - a set of mathematical instructions or rules that, especially if given to a computer, will help to calculate an answer to a problem

the Industrial Revolution - the period in the 18th and 19th centuries in Europe and the US when machines began to be used to do work, and industry grew rapidly

The risks of artificial intelligence

Although many are excited about artificial intelligence, the technology could cause problems. We look at four of the biggest dangers linked to AI.

A. _____ [1]

When the Industrial Revolution* took place, many were concerned about being replaced by machines. Over a century later, these worries have resurfaced. Artificial intelligence is already changing the way we work, with some – such as Elon Musk – believing that no job is safe from AI. In the best-case scenario, the technology will be used to assist current workers in their jobs, rather than replacing them, acting as a co-pilot. However, with generative AI becoming widely available, some employers may see chatbots and other software as a cheaper option than hiring human staff. A more optimistic view is that, if AI does take our jobs, we will be free to pursue leisure activities, and that human creativity may increase.

B. _____ [2]

Some have called the twenty-first century the "Age of Misinformation". With terms such as "fake news" being popularised, and many refusing to take newspaper articles or government announcements at face value, we may well be at a particularly vulnerable stage in the evolution of democracy. Enter AI, which, in the wrong hands, can be used to create deepfake* videos and images. Algorithms* can help false information to spread quickly, with the largest social media networks now owned by powerful businessmen with their own agendas. Such concerns have led to calls for regulation, although it may be too late to put the genie back in the bottle.

C. _____ [3]

From books to poetry to paintings, generative AI has been used to imitate human creations, forging "new" images from information collected over the internet. Some have praised image and text generation systems for allowing those without talent to create something artistic. Others have pointed out that these "artworks" only exist by copying human-made works. Copyright* battles have already begun, with artists, writers and filmmakers worrying that a lifetime of hard work mastering their craft could be undone by a computer program. If publishers, production companies and gallery owners decide to support machines instead of people, it may well bring an end to thousands of years of storytelling and genuine expression.

D. _____ [4]

In the Terminator series of films, an artificial intelligence known as Skynet decides to attack humanity. Skynet, originally created for defence purposes, becomes self-aware. Humans attempt to turn it off, and the system responds with a nuclear attack. While generative AI, such as chatbots, is input-led and requires human instruction like any other computer program, there are fears that something known as artificial general intelligence (AGI) could pose an existential risk to our species. These concerns remain the topic of hot debate within the computing world. It has been argued that superintelligent machines are not likely to develop, and that, should they begin to do so, humans would be able to react in time. Others claim that, if AI became more intelligent than humans, it would be capable of hiding its rapid development until ready to act.

sources: bbc.com, theguardian.com, nytimes.com

8 Reading comprehension

Read the article again. Complete the sentences with between ONE or TWO words from the article.

1. As generative AI becomes _____, some bosses may decide to replace human staff with chatbots.

2. Due to the rise of misinformation, our _____ may be in a particularly vulnerable stage.

3. False information can _____ due to algorithms.

4. Generative AI allows images to be created from information _____ over the internet.

5. Thousands of years of genuine expression and storytelling may come to an _____ if publishers, production companies and gallery owners choose to support machines over people.

6. Some have argued that _____ are not likely to develop.

9 Talking point

In pairs or small groups, discuss the following questions.

1. Which of the dangers in the article are the most likely to happen? Which, in your opinion, are the least likely?

2. Can you think of any jobs that definitely couldn't be done by machines?

3. Would having an AI co-pilot (an assistant) help you in your work? Why/why not?

4. How can we protect democracy from AI? Is it possible to have a free and fair society if everyone has access to the internet?

5. Why do you think some people want to develop artificial general intelligence, despite the dangers?

6. If machines became more intelligent than humans, would they see us as a threat?

7. Regarding AI, is it already too late to put the genie back in the bottle, or is regulation still possible?

10 Optional extension / homework

Part A: Write an opinion essay on the topic below. Your essay should agree with or disagree with the statement, and should be between 240 – 280 words.

> The dangers of AI are far greater than the benefits. If possible, we should stop developing artificial intelligence.

Alternative extended activity: In groups, think of four potential benefits of artificial intelligence using the topics below or your own ideas. You may wish to write down a paragraph for each benefit, in a similar style to the article, or you may prefer to make notes and present your ideas to the class.

- food
- medicine
- pets and animals
- education
- entertainment
- space travel
- climate change
- cities

Part B: Complete the dialogue below. After completing the dialogue, read it out with a partner, focusing on pronouncing the key vocabulary correctly. Do you agree with Kyle, or Alexandra?

agendas	creativity	debate	evolution	existential
imitate	optimistic	pursue	rapid	regulation

Kyle: I'm a bit worried about the _____ [1] changes in artificial intelligence. It feels like we're not taking the dangers seriously.

Alexandra: What do you mean? There's a lot of _____ [2] about the risks. In fact, I think people are worrying too much about the whole thing. I can't see AI becoming an _____ [3] threat to humans.

Kyle: People are talking about it, but where is the _____ [4]? We need rules and laws, and we need them now. Instead, the people who are supposed to be protecting us from dangers like AI all have their own _____ [5].

Alexandra: If you look back at human _____ [6], there have been many times when someone invented something that was considered to be dangerous. Printing, for example. People were worried that, if everyone could read, the world would end!

Kyle: Well, that's just silly, but I don't think you can compare the two things. At the moment, AI can just _____ [7] human _____ [8], but in the future, it might begin to _____ [9] its own goals. Those goals probably won't be the same as ours.

Alexandra: I prefer to have an _____ [10] view, I suppose. I think artificial intelligence could solve all of our problems – war, disease, climate change. At least, I hope so!