

'Science and technology have made life more unpleasant despite all the convenience they have brought about.' Write an essay in which you either agree or disagree with this statement. Give at least three reasons to support your opinion.

Science and technology have made life simply unpleasant. Admittedly, science and technology has brought convenience and some comforts to us and has improved our living standard. However there is also plenty of unpleasantness that science and technology has brought about, for instance, the worsening of human relationships, pollution and the potential danger to our health and life. It cannot be denied that scientific inventions are sometimes more damaging rather than beneficial to us. That's why I agree that 'science and technology have made life more unpleasant despite all the convenience it has brought about.'

It is sometimes suggested that science and technology have brought people closer and better interpersonal relationships have been developed by the invention of the online chat rooms or ICQ. However this argument can not apply to human relationships because human relationships can hardly be enhanced without physical contact. It may be true that people of different places can communicate easier and more efficiently but it should be restricted for the business sector only. For intimate human relationships, communication through machines will only make people emotionally detached. If you are happy, you type an exclamation mark; if you are angry, you also type an exclamation mark. The feeling is so 'dead' and distant, and there is a lack of 'real touch' in it. The more we rely on technology, the more it indeed worsens our relationships rather than bringing us closer.

There is no doubt that scientific inventions have brought us some comforts and convenience. Just imagine how difficult it would be to survive these days without motor cars, mobile phones, televisions or computers. However, the pollution created by these inventions should not be overlooked. In fact, science and technology are destroying our ecosystem. Think about the toxic fumes emitted by vehicles, the noise made by planes and the polluted water disposed of by factories into our lakes and rivers.

The damages created by these scientific inventions aren't just empty talk. You can find evidence everywhere; just consider the 'growing' hole in the ozone layer in the southern hemisphere caused by the use of toxic chemicals such as CFCs. The pollution problem is that close to us and should not be neglected. It may be thought that the facilities developed by science and technology have a greater benefits than harm. However, how can we benefit from or enjoy these facilities if our health is also 'polluted' because of them. The question is no longer "How can we survive these days without motor cars?" but "How can we survive these days with these scientific and technological pollutants?"

True, science and technology helped to enhance the level of security and safety. Inventions such as electronic gates and closed circuit television keep us safe and secure. Science and technology even developed cures for many diseases. Nevertheless, if the inventions are used incorrectly, the outcome can be disastrous and pose an even greater threat than security to our safety. Some examples of the potential dangers to our health and life nowadays are radiation exposure from nuclear energy and more powerful nuclear weapons. For instance, the atomic bomb used in WW II caused enormous number of deaths and casualties in Japan. In addition, the damage left behind to later generations has been too huge to be estimated today. It has been argued that the scientific and technological inventions in the medical sector are significant and save the lives of many people. Yes, but what about the serious side-effects brought on by newly-developed medicines such as antibiotics. We should think deeply whether science and technology protect our life or destroy it. We seem to be a bit safe in our daily life with better security system but actually science and technology lead to an immense potential for danger. Can we hardly afford to bear this cost?

All this convenience is just short-term comfort. What we should really consider is the long-term destruction brought by science and technology to the environment and to us. Of course, we cannot turn the clock back and deny all science and technology but we'd better think twice before employing new technology and exploring new science.