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Vocabulary: *virtual reality* 词汇: 虚拟现实

Most people associate virtual reality with the world of **gaming** or entertainment. What is all the fuss, you may wonder, about a **futuristic contraption** you wear on your head that makes you look like a creature from *Star Wars*? But this emerging technology has been spreading rapidly into many other areas and could **fundamentally** change your life in the future.



*Virtual reality allows us to interact with a digital world.*

Virtual reality, or VR, is a **computer-generated** technology that creates a **three-dimensional** digital world that you can not only see and observe, but explore and interact with it as if you are there. Once you put on the special equipment – a helmet or goggles with a screen inside or gloves fitted with **sensors** – you become **immersed** in the virtual world.

VR now has serious applications in fields as wide-ranging as business and medicine. VR has already proved effective as a training tool as it **simulates** real experiences. One simulation programme educates young drivers about the dangers of bad driving. Participants experience a dangerous car journey and a virtual accident. It is now being used to train surgeons. Connor Pierce of Samsung's IT for UK and Ireland thinks it will **impinge** on all walks of life: "We'll socialise via VR, we will do business via VR, we'll have VR team-meetings, we'll have VR education, museums will have virtual reality experiences...". Its benefits have been felt in the field of psychology and the treatment of mental health patients. Professor Daniel Freeman at the Warford Hospital in Oxford uses it to treat **vertigo** and other anxiety disorders. He explains that by **exposing** patients to what they fear most in a virtual environment and showing them that nothing bad happens, they can eventually overcome their panic.

In the world of work too, VR may change our lives dramatically. Working individually at home, we can connect to our colleagues in a virtual space. We can be at home and at the office at the same time. For the first time, we can really be in two places at once.

Some VR developers predict that the **impact** of VR could be as significant as the internet or mobile phones. Google alone has sold 2 million cardboard VR headsets in the last two years. Is a new age of reality about to **dawn**?

## 词汇表

<b>gaming</b>	玩电子游戏
<b>futuristic</b>	未来的，超前的
<b>contraption</b>	奇怪的装置
<b>fundamentally</b>	根本地
<b>computer-generated</b>	计算机生成的
<b>three-dimensional</b>	三维立体的
<b>sensor</b>	传感器
<b>immersed</b>	沉浸在，深陷于
<b>to simulate</b>	模拟
<b>to impinge</b>	对.....起作用，影响
<b>vertigo</b>	眩晕
<b>to expose</b>	使（某人）接触.....
<b>impact</b>	影响
<b>to dawn</b>	开始

## 测验与练习

### 1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. True or false? *Virtual reality will have little impact on our lives, according to the author of the article.*
2. What special equipment is needed to create a virtual world?
3. Give two examples of how virtual reality has been used for training.
4. How does virtual reality help people deal with anxiety?
5. What benefits have VR brought to the world of work?

### 2. 请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. The introduction of credit cards in the 1950s brought about a \_\_\_\_\_ change in the way consumers paid for things.

central	fundamental	basic	new
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2. Wearing a virtual reality headset enables the wearer to move around and \_\_\_\_\_ with a virtual world.

impinge	impact	interact	immerse
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3. That lens cleaning spray you recommended was really \_\_\_\_\_! It got rid of all those fingermarks on the screen straight away.

affective	educational	effective	essential
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4. Virtual reality is being used to help people with anxiety disorders over \_\_\_\_\_ their fears.

come	treat	expose	work
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5. I don't know why the director rang up the boy's parents. He'd only been late a couple of mornings. As I see it, it was a lot of \_\_\_\_\_ about nothing!

anxiety	anger	fuss	fear
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## 答案

### 1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. True or false? *Virtual reality will have little impact on our lives, according to the author of the article.*

**False. According to the author, virtual reality will change our lives dramatically.**

2. What special equipment is needed to create a virtual world?

**A headset or goggles with a screen inside or pair of gloves with sensors**

3. Give two examples of how virtual reality has been used for training.

**A VR driving programme educates young people about the dangers of bad driving by simulating a car journey and a virtual accident.**

4. How does virtual reality help people deal with anxiety?

**It exposes them to their greatest fear and by showing that nothing bad happens, helps them to overcome their anxiety.**

5. What benefits have VR brought to the world of work?

**It allows people to be at home and at the office at the same time, by connecting them to their colleagues in a virtual space.**

### 2. 请你在不参考课文的情况下完成下列练习。选择一个意思合适的单词填入句子的空格处。

1. The introduction of credit cards in the 1950s brought about a **fundamental** change in the way consumers paid for things.

2. Wearing a virtual reality headset enables the wearer to move around and **interact** with a virtual world.

3. That lens cleaning spray you recommended was really **effective**! It got rid of all those fingermarks on the screen straight away.

4. Virtual reality is being used to help people with anxiety disorders **overcome** their fears.

5. I don't know why the director rang up the boy's parents. He'd only been late a couple of mornings. As I see it, it was a lot of **fuss** about nothing!