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AI AND INEQUALITY

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Expemo code:
16JX-47QC-UQIX

1 Warm up

Read these facts about Artificial Intelligence. One of them is false. Can you guess which one?

> 1. Robo Farmers will soon be able to grow crops and look after animals in farms around the UK to the extent that humans will never have to go into a field again.

> 2. Artificial Intelligence has beaten all human records on the puzzle game, *2048*.

> 3. Bill Gates, founder of *Microsoft Computers*, said that Artificial Intelligence was the greatest threat to humanity.

> 4. There's an organisation called the *2045 Initiative* which aims to use Artificial Intelligence combined with human emotions to create beings which will never die.

1. What else do you know about Artificial Intelligence?
2. Do you have a positive or a negative opinion about Artificial Intelligence? Why?

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2 Focus on vocabulary

Part A: Match the words to their definitions.

1. nomad (n)

   a. a situation when something is easy to understand and doesn't hide anything

2. displaced (adj.)

   b. being without things that many other people take for granted, usually education and money

3. persistence (n)

   c. in a way that allows something to be used but replaced so that it can continue to be used

4. disadvantaged (adj.)

   d. in a way that follows beliefs about what is the right way to do something

5. transparency (n)

   e. someone who doesn't have a fixed place to live and moves from area to area

6. ethically (adv.)

   f. the quality of continually trying to do something even when it is difficult or when people are trying to stop you

7. sustainably (adv.)

   g. to leave someone or something out of a grouping of some kind

8. exclude (v)

   h. used about someone who has to leave their home, usually due to war or natural disaster

Part B: Now complete the following sentences with a different form of the words in brackets from Part A.

1. He was dismissed from his job in the Police Force due to his _____ behaviour. (ethically)

2. I find it hard to settle down in one place. I've always been quite _____ . (nomad)

3. The speed at which they are cutting down trees in the rainforest is entirely _____ . We need to bring in more protections. (sustainably)

4. We need someone with a background in Computer Science for this job. It would be particularly _____ . (disadvantaged)

5. As an accountant, you are expected to conduct yourself as _____ as possible. (transparency)

6. She has _____ refused to co-operate with police and may well be looking at jail time. (persistence)

7. The volcano eruption caused _____ of a large proportion of the local population. (displaced)

8. I'm worried that Beatrice is focusing on her work to the _____ of all other things. It's not healthy. (exclude)

Now answer the following questions.

1. Have you ever felt **disadvantaged** in a professional situation? Why? What happened?

2. In what ways have you shown **persistence** in your career?

3. Is there enough **transparency** in your company when it comes to salaries and how to get promoted? Or not? How would you get a promotion if you wanted one?

4. Does your company operate **ethically** as far as you know? Or could there be improvements? What are they?

5. Does your company use **sustainably** created materials for its products or in the office, for example, paper? What are they? If not, do you think they should?

6. Have you tended to be a **nomad** in your work life so far, or have you always worked in the same area?

7. Have you ever been **excluded** in a professional or personal situation? What happened? How did it make you feel?

3 Rephrasing

Look at the following sentences from the script and underline the option which best rephrases it.

1. When I was 18, my father realised Somalia was headed for a civil war...

When I was 18, my father realised **Somalia needed to have/Somalia was on the verge of having/he had to go and fight in** a civil war.

2. The family was scattered to the wind.

The family was **separated and sent to different destinations/torn apart by a tornado/left without food or housing.**

3. Now, that couple's kindness set me on a path...

The couple **kindly asked me to leave/gave me supplies for my journey ahead/gave me a foundation for the future with their kindness.**

4. AI is making amazing things possible for organisations and for people who otherwise would have been left behind.

Without AI, there wouldn't have been the same possibilities for people **living in poorer countries/who haven't had the same advantages as most/with no access to decent transportation.**

5. And to help break down those barriers is one of the reasons I founded my company.

I created the company to **make things more accessible/remove walls and doors/explain difficulties** for people.

6. In fact, one of our customers has 49 languages spoken in some of their facilities, with English long way down the list.

In many facilities, the employees are multilingual and **many/few/most** of them speak English.

7. I was so scrawny because we didn't have enough to eat.

Due to lack of food, I was **slim/slender/skinny**.

8. I want to live in a world where people are not limited by local language...

The inability to understand the local language **could/should not/ought to** be a barrier for people in an ideal world.

4   Watching for details

Look at the following aspects from the video. Watch the video and see how they are connected to Jamila Gordon's story.

1. a backpacker

2. a Japanese restaurant

3. 14 children

4. every 20 metres

5   Comprehension

Watch the video again and answer the following questions.

1. Jamila Gordon was affected by ... in the first 18 years of her life.

    a. living in a place with lots of crime

    b. not having access to education due to civil war

    c. a natural disaster, a war, and a civil war

    d. an incurable disease and a civil war

2. Her journey took her ...

    a. to Europe and then eventually to America.

    b. to Australia via Kenya.

    c. first to Australia and then to Kenya.

    d. to Japan via Australia.

3. After starting out washing dishes in a restaurant, Jamila Gordon was eventually able to ...

    a. complete a degree in software development.

    b. buy her own airline.

    c. run her own kitchen in a restaurant.

    d. start her own successful business.

4. She wants to use Artificial Intelligence to ...

    a. increase automation so that fewer people need to work.

    b. find the best people for the top jobs, regardless of their backgrounds.

    c. make significant savings for poorer people in terms of time and financial investment.

    d. empower less fortunate people and help them find work and stay safe.

5. When talking about what AI can do, Jamila Gordon does not mention its ability to ...

    a. deliver training to employees in a variety of different languages.

    b. encourage employees to follow safety protocols.

    c. monitor the stress levels and well-being of employees.

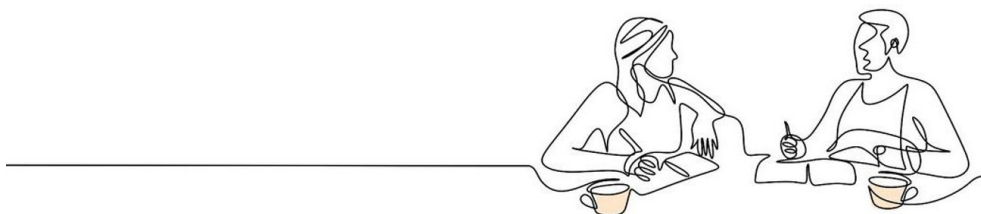   d. aid employees in improving their performance.

6. According to Jamila Gordon, people employed in the food industry are often ...

    a. illiterate and unable to speak the local language.
    b. working at more than one job to make ends meet.
    c. supporting large families with their salary.
    d. able to work longer hours than people in other industries.

7. When Jamila Gordon looks back on her childhood, she ...

    a. wants people to understand what she went through.
    b. needs governments to understand the effect of their decisions on children.
    c. doesn't want other children to have to repeat her experiences.
    d. is very grateful for the situations she was able to experience.

8. Jamila Gordon's main desire for the future is to ...

    a. integrate AI into the everyday lives of millions of people around the globe.
    b. help people to travel globally and understand different cultures.
    c. enable governments to prevent poverty and wars and to promote peace.
    d. remove the limitations on people's access to information and safe working conditions.

6 Talking point

In pairs, answer the following questions.

1. What is your reaction to Jamila Gordon's story of her life? How does it make you feel?

2. What was your first job when you were younger? What did it teach you?

3. Who was an influence in your life when you were just starting in your career? What did you learn from them ? What did they do to set you on a path?

4. What is your opinion about Jamila Gordon's plans for using AI? What do you think the positives and the negatives are about increased used of AI in the workplace?

5. What help can disadvantaged people receive in your country? What difficulties do they have if they arrive in your country from somewhere else?

6. Would you want children to have the same experiences as you did when you were a child, or not? Which experiences do you think would be useful for them? What did your childhood teach you?

7   Extended activity/homework

Jamila Gordon ended the video talking about the world she would like to live in and her hopes for the future and how the work she does can affect that.

Write a paragraph or two to explain your hopes for the future and what you can do to improve the situation in the world.

I want to live in a world where ...

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

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