Name & Yr & Section: ADRIAN SAMUEL S. OLLERES   date: 02/14/24

<u>**Midterm Activity 4**</u>

1. **What are the positive and negative impact of technology on humans?**

Positive Impacts:

- **Communication and Connection:** Technology allows us to connect with people instantly across the globe, fostering relationships, collaboration, and cultural exchange.
- **Information Access:** The internet provides access to vast amounts of information and educational resources, empowering individuals and democratizing knowledge.
- **Innovation and Progress:** Technological advancements drive innovation in medicine, energy, transportation, and various fields, improving our quality of life and solving global challenges.
- **Efficiency and Productivity:** Technology automates tasks, increases efficiency, and boosts productivity in various industries, freeing up time for other endeavors.
- **Entertainment and Learning:** Technology offers diverse forms of entertainment and learning opportunities, making information and creative expression more accessible.

Negative Impacts:

- **Privacy and Security:** Technology can be intrusive, compromising privacy through data collection, surveillance, and cyber threats.
- **Misinformation and Manipulation:** The spread of false information and biased content online can lead to misinformation, manipulation, and societal polarization.
- **Addiction and Mental Health:** Excessive technology use can be addictive, negatively impacting mental health, attention spans, and social skills, especially for vulnerable populations.
- **Job Displacement:** Automation and AI can lead to job displacement in certain sectors, requiring adaptation and workforce reskilling.
- **Digital Divide:** Unequal access to technology creates a digital divide, exacerbating social and economic inequalities.
- **Environmental Impact:** The production, use, and disposal of technology can have negative environmental consequences, contributing to pollution and resource depletion.

2. Explain why computing and networking access is restricted in some countries.

The reasons for restricting computing and networking access in some countries are multifaceted, often weaving together concerns over political control, national security, social norms, and economics. Governments might utilize these restrictions to suppress dissent, control information flow, or maintain perceived stability. Security anxieties fuel efforts to prevent terrorism, protect sensitive data, and counter cyber threats. Cultural considerations lead to limitations on content deemed immoral, offensive, or harmful to traditional values. Economic factors can play a role, with governments trying to shield domestic industries, control internet fees, or manage bandwidth. While some restrictions aim for legitimate goals, it's crucial to critically examine their potential to impede freedom of expression, access to information, and fundamental human rights. Remember, the context behind each restriction varies greatly, and understanding the specific motivations is key to forming a well-informed opinion.

3. How information technology changes and affects culture as a whole?

The information technology (IT) performs a complex two-step dance with culture, which possesses the ability to change and question the culture. On the one hand, it helps us link together through borders, gives chance to everyone to get knowledge, promotes marginalized voices, keeps heritage, and inspires the artistic expression. Social media is just the buzz of the world and the internet is the key to unlocking the knowledge vault. Digital tools are cultural custodians. Nevertheless, this dance doesn't miss the foot. The globalizing effect of globalization can be disruptive, local traditions can get drowned, misinformation is rampant online and the digital divide creates an unbalanced cultural participation. Privacy issues are hesitantly tapping on their feet, and the line between what is real and what is not becomes blurred. In the end, it is the act of balancing different priorities. Technology has the ability to connect us in ways that we could not imagine, but we have to be critical thinkers, inclusive, and have the commitment to cultural diversity.

4. In what ways has the internet changed the ways of society?

Internet has transformed society in many aspects, which has led to the change in how people communicate, work, learn, shop, and participate in community. The whole process of communication has been transformed via instant messaging, social media platforms, and video conferencing tools, which have made the communication process instantaneous and global, eliminating geographical barriers. Information is now available to everyone, which means that people can learn more than ever before on so many different topics and it is easier to enter different fields. E-commerce has become a game changer in terms of shopping, nowadays consumers can order goods from anywhere and anytime thus leading to the transformation of retail landscapes. Education has been enhanced by the rise of online learning platforms and resources, giving learning opportunities to people from diverse backgrounds at the comfort of their homes. The internet has made it possible for people to work remotely and even freelance, thereby, giving them the advantage of flexibility and tapping into a global talent market for companies. Social media has reshaped the social interaction and has enabled the formation of virtual communities, as well as the exchange of information and ideas. The consumption of entertainment has moved to streaming platforms, giving users access to a wide variety of media contents whenever they choose to. Moreover, the internet has been a key factor in political participation as well as activism, giving platforms for civic participation, information dissemination, and activism. To sum up, internet has been the key factor of the society transformation, influencing all its spheres.

5. How does technology affect cultural change?

Technology proves to be the biggest factor in cultural change, for it shapes the way people interact, communicate and express themselves. With the help of the internet and social media people are able to experience the culture and viewpoints of different people and as a result they share and blend their ideas and traditions. Digital platforms offer a chance for cultural expression and preservation, and also they are the tools for rapid dissemination of cultural trends and norms. Moreover, the technology has been a crucial element behind globalization as it has allowed for the transportation and communication to be more efficient and, hence, the exchange of cultural practices and values around the globe. Though technology can be a factor in cultural homogenization and loss of traditional practices as societies adopt new technologies and ways of living, the impact of technology on culture is a complex issue. Technology, therefore, has a key function in the cultural revolution, helping to maintain and redefine the identities of the modern world.