№1

1. Commerce: Developments in IT are expected to have a significant impact on commerce in the next few years. The rise of e-commerce and online marketplaces has already transformed the way businesses operate, and this trend is likely to continue. With advancements in technology such as artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning, businesses can expect improved customer targeting, personalized marketing, and enhanced customer service. Additionally, emerging technologies like blockchain have the potential to revolutionize supply chain management, making it more transparent and efficient.

2. Work: IT developments will continue to reshape the nature of work in the coming years. Automation and AI technologies are expected to replace certain routine and repetitive tasks, leading to job displacement in some industries. However, these advancements also create new opportunities for skilled workers, as they can focus on higher-value tasks that require creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving abilities. Remote work is also likely to become more prevalent with the increasing connectivity and collaboration tools provided by IT.

3. Relationship between computers and people: The relationship between computers and people will continue to evolve as IT advances. With the growth of AI, natural language processing, and machine learning, computers are becoming more intelligent and capable of understanding human language and behavior. This can lead to improved human-computer interactions, with voice assistants and chatbots becoming more sophisticated and intuitive. However, ethical considerations surrounding privacy, data security, and the potential for AI bias will need to be addressed to ensure a healthy balance between technology and human values.

Overall, IT developments will bring both opportunities and challenges in the areas of commerce, work, and the relationship between computers and people. Adapting to these changes will require continuous learning, upskilling, and a thoughtful approach to ensure a positive impact on society.

№2

1. The author justifies his claim that we are 'in the midst of convergence' by mentioning the convergence of hardware (computers, phones, consumer electronics) and the convergence of applications (information, entertainment, communications, shopping, commerce, and education).

2. The difference between computers and humans after 2015 will be that computers will continue to get smarter and will eventually be able to design their own offspring without human involvement.

3. The author refers to a 'positive feedback loop' in computer development, which means that each generation of improved computers assists in the design and development of the next generation, leading to continuous improvement and advancement.

4. Knowledge of a major language will be the only IT skill needed because with voice and language recognition, people will have easy access to all that the Internet can provide. They can simply tell their electronic pets what they want, and it will be sorted out for them.

5. It is subjective which of the author's predictions one accepts. Different individuals may have different opinions on the future of IT and its impact on various aspects of life.