



Essay Challenge:

Humankind continues the development of artificial intelligence to more accurately mimic the function of the human brain. Artificial intelligence has played a role in our personal lives. In a few years, the landline phone has been replaced by the smartphone, giving phone numbers to individuals instead of families. The smartwatch has replaced the wristwatch, giving consumers the chance to measure their steps and send messages from their wrist instead of only telling time.

Your task is to imagine the application or implementation of artificial intelligence toward a product and to predict the future effects of its use on both individuals and society.

Your essay should (at a minimum) address the following questions: Imagine advancement(s) in technology in which artificial intelligence is or will be implemented in the next 10-15 years that would make some aspect of life different. How would that advancement impact individuals and society as a whole? Describe both the advantages and disadvantages to individuals and to society.

Teams may choose one or more technological advancements to write about.

Regulations:

1. Essays must be no longer than 1,000 words (not including bibliography).
2. Essays must be typed and double spaced. They may not be handwritten.
3. Acceptable fonts are 12 point Times New Roman or 12 point Arial.
4. Essays should be formatted according to APA guidelines, including bibliography. A short abstract must be included. The abstract is not part of the word count.

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/>

Submission Procedure:

Essays must be submitted electronically no later than the day before the team's scheduled competition date.

Please note the following before uploading the essay:

- The adult coach of the team must submit the entry.
- Coaches with only one team submitting an entry should click on "Team A" for the entry.
- Coaches with multiple teams in a grade level must submit a separate entry for each team and assign each entry a different team letter (ie: if you have two 9/10 teams, one will be Team A and one will be Team B. These team letter assignments must remain the same for the multiple choice and design/build components on competition day.)

NOTE: The submitting coach will receive an automatic email verifying that the submission has been received. If you do not receive a verifying email within an hour of submitting the essay, please contact Sandy Honour (shonour@tsaweb.org) or Cindy Donahue (cdonahue@tsaweb.org) or call 1/888/860-9010.