ICT AND SOCIETY.
GRADE9
LESSON6

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- ICT on Society , In today's digital age, **Information and Communication Technology (ICT)** plays a pivotal role in shaping our world.
- From revolutionizing education to improving healthcare, ICT has transformed every aspect of our lives.

How ICT Has Changed Society

ICT has brought numerous changes to society, making processes faster, easier, and more efficient. Key areas influenced by ICT include:

1. Education

• Online learning platforms provide access to quality education for students everywhere.

• Digital tools like interactive whiteboards and educational apps make learning more engaging.

• Schools can manage student records and communication efficiently using ICT tools.

2.Healthcare

- ICT has enabled telemedicine, allowing doctors to diagnose and treat patients remotely.

- Digital records improve patient care and management.

- Medical research benefits from advanced data analysis and collaboration tools.

3. Commerce

- Online shopping platforms connect businesses and customers worldwide.

- Digital payment methods like mobile wallets and online banking have replaced traditional transactions.

- ICT enables businesses to analyze customer data and improve their services.

4. Public Services

- E-governance makes government services more accessible to citizens.

- Online portals simplify tasks like paying utility bills or applying for documents.

- ICT improves transparency and efficiency in government operations

The Digital Divide

While ICT has brought significant advancements, not everyone benefits equally. The **digital divide** refers to the gap between those who have access to ICT resources and those who do not.

❖ **Causes of the Digital Divide:**

- Lack of infrastructure in rural areas.

- Financial barriers preventing access to devices and internet services.

- Limited digital literacy skills.

❖ **Impact of the Digital Divide:**

- Unequal access to education and job opportunities.

- Limited participation in the digital economy.

- Social and economic inequalities are widened.

E-Waste: A Growing Concern

As ICT devices become more common, the improper disposal of **e-waste** poses a significant threat to the environment and living beings.

❖ **What is E-Waste?**

E-waste refers to discarded electronic devices like computers, mobile phones, and televisions.

❖ **Why is E-Waste Dangerous?**

- Contains toxic materials such as lead and mercury.

- Improper disposal pollutes soil, water, and air.

- Harmful to human health and wildlife.

The 3R Concept: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

To manage e-waste effectively, we must follow the **3R concept**:

1. Reduce:

- Avoid unnecessary purchases of electronic devices.

- Opt for durable and energy-efficient products.

2. Reuse:

- Donate old devices to those in need.

- Repurpose devices for different uses.

3. Recycle:

- Use certified e-waste recycling centers.

- Recycle components to minimize environmental harm.

ICT and Career Opportunities

The field of ICT offers numerous job opportunities for those with the right skills and qualifications.

❖ **Popular ICT Careers:**

- **Software Developer:** Creating applications and software programs.

- **Network Administrator:** Managing and maintaining computer networks.

- **Data Analyst:** Analyzing data to help businesses make informed decisions.

- **Web Designer:** Developing and maintaining websites.

- **Cybersecurity Specialist:** Protecting systems from online threats.

❖ **How to Prepare for an ICT Career:**

- Gain proficiency in programming languages and software tools.

- Stay updated with the latest technological advancements.

Balancing ICT Use and Responsibility

While ICT has improved our lives, it is important to use it responsibly:

- Avoid over-reliance on digital devices.

- Educate yourself about online safety and digital ethics.

- Take part in initiatives to bridge the digital divide in your community

Questions

1. What is ICT?

2. What is the digital divide?

3. Why is e-waste harmful?

4. What is the 3R concept?

5. What careers are available in ICT?

Fill in the blanks: Complete the sentences using the words provided (e.g., efficiency, communication, jobs, information, e-waste).

1) ICT has increased the _____ and speed of completing tasks

2) The internet has made collecting _____ easier

3) ICT has enhanced _____, allowing people to connect more easily.

4) Improper disposal of computers and devices creates _____, which can be harmful to the environment

5) .ICT has created many new _____, such as software engineers and network administrators.