**Response to lecturer’s comment – Collaborative discussion no. 1**

Dear Dr <LECTURER\_SURNAME>,  
  
Thank you for your kind appreciation and insightful response.  
  
The relevant situation and promises you described with Industry 3.0 in the UK are currently reoccurring with Industry 4.0. Nevertheless, the progress with automation technologies with Industry 4.0, such as RPA, AI, and in Software Development, such as automated deployments, has led to some of those targets being slowly but progressively met. For instance, a six-month pilot of a 4-day week by over 70 companies in the UK, whilst still paying the same 5-day salary to employees, enhanced their overall productivity, thus leading many of these firms to retain such a 4-day work week after the end of the pilot (BBC, 2022). However, whilst jobs in Industry 4.0 may result in higher wages for people with technical or digital skills (Schmidpeter & Winter-Ebmer, 2021), it is also important to consider the broader societal impact of automation resulting in the displacement of some traditional, manual jobs (Schwabe & Castellacci, 2020).  
  
A lesson learnt from the reading that may be applied to the assessment scenario may include considering the data security-related concerns brought by the internationalisation and digitalisation of the supply chain (Kurpjuweit *et al*., 2021) and, therefore, the need to perform an adequate risk assessment, including competence-related risks to mitigate to ensure the costs associated with the supply chain can be reduced sustainably.   
  
**References**  
  
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Schwabe, H., & Castellacci, F. (2020) Automation, workers’ skills and job satisfaction. PLOS One 15(11): e0242929.