

SERIE: 2

Building a better human

PART ONE: READING COMPREHENSION

Answer the following questions according to the information in the text ***Building a better human***

[1 point each correct answer]

1. Say two reasons why the writer is suspicious of new technologies

Possibilities:

- Technology is evolving a thousand times faster than our ability to change our social
- institutions.
- We don't know whether we can keep technology away from destructive uses
- The new technologies will be within the reach of the individuals
 - [Engineers tend to associate history with progress]
 - [He is afraid that some kinds of knowledge are too terrible to be explored]
 - [Sometimes the best intentions can lead to brutal outcomes]

2. What is for the writer the most important question posed by the new technologies?

- "Are some kinds of knowledge so terrible they simply should not be explored?"
 - [The great decision of the next decades will be: "One way: every possibility is welcome, no matter how dangerous, because our species loves knowledge. The other: we don't want to be overcome by technology."]

3. Mention three possible results of the new technologies

Possibilities:

- Gene therapy can bring diseases like cancer under control
- Nanotechnology will enable the creation of new plant species or viruses
- Robotics will make intelligent and self-replicating machines possible
- By 2040 biological and quantum computers will be a million times faster than today's machines

4. Which of these sentences summarizes the text best?

B