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**Reducing for summary…**

**“Passengers” by Nicholas Carr**

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Reduce each of the following chunks by half. To get a word count of a paragraph, click anywhere in the paragraph 3 times (this will highlight the paragraph), then look in the bottom left corner of the screen (if working in MS Word) or use the “Tools” feature (if working in Google Docs).

* Decide what the most important ideas are in each paragraph and work to keep those ideas.
* Look at quotes and decide if you can cut the quote entirely or reduce how much of the quote is used.
* Shorten sentences and trim phrases or words that are unnecessary.

PARAGRAPH 1: [ 155-160 words]

The core question underlying these efforts to create a truly autonomous self-driving car relates to what we imagine computers can and cannot do. Carr clarifies this distinction between human and computer thinking by differentiating between tacit and explicit knowledge: tacit knowledge refers to innate skills, **whereas** explicit knowledge refers to tasks with clear steps that could be conveyed via a set of instructions. **Carr sums up the long-held belief that computers can replicate skills based on explicit knowledge but not tacit** knowledge; however, computers can do those same **tacit-knowledge** tasks using explicit knowledge because of their extreme ability to process large quantities of data in seconds. The implications of developments such as IBM’s Deep Blue, Carr explains, is that automation not only threatens manual labor but also intellectual work as well. This does not mean, however, that computers will fully replace such jobs, but it does mean that computers are gradually changing how various aspects of those professions are done.

PARAGRAPH 2: [140-150 words]

For Carr, this raises questions around how we value work and leisure and automation’s role in changing them. Carr argues that we overvalue leisure and undervalue the satisfaction of working. He cites Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi’s work on flow **and specifically his term “the paradox of work” to prove that** “people were happier **…** while they were at work than during their leisure hours **. . .** and yet they didn’t like to be at work” (Carr 14).  **Despite being more fulfilled at work**, humans consistently misjudge the benefits of work **and crave the boredom of leisure**, a mental paradox referred to by psychologists as “*miswanting*” (Carr 15). According to this principle, “we’re inclined to desire things we don't like and to like things we don’t desire” (Carr 15). **Carr sums up** that people experience flow when at work, which gives them a deep sense of meaning and satisfaction in their lives.