



WHO IS ACCOUNTABLE?



Scan to review worksheet

Expemo code:
1A5P-G1LF-CA1Q

1

Warm up

Discuss the questions in pairs or small groups.

1. Do you think AI benefits society?
2. How could technology help the law to operate more efficiently?
3. What are the risks of AI-assisted fake news and deepfakes?
4. What role should governments play in regulating AI development?
5. How will AI change workplaces?





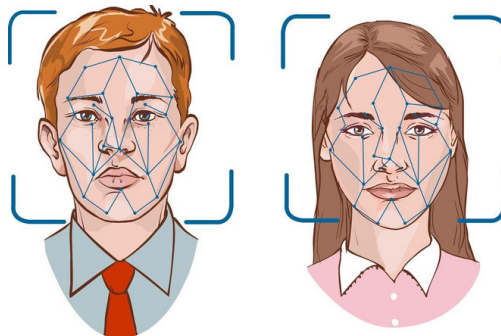
2 Focus on vocabulary

Read the sentences and then try to match the vocabulary with the correct definition.

1. They used a computer **algorithm** to predict users' preferences.
2. A **fundamental** human right is being withheld from these people.
3. The book provides a general **framework** for understanding the law.
4. **Facial recognition** is being used as part of identity checks at airports.
5. The woman's handbag really **complimented** her outfit.
6. Protesters **disrupted** the politician's speech.

- a. _____ technology that makes it possible for a computer to recognise a digital image of someone's face
- b. _____ to prevent something from continuing as usual or as expected
- c. _____ contribute extra features to something in a way that improves or emphasises its quality
- d. _____ a process or set of rules to be followed in calculations, especially by a computer
- e. _____ forming a necessary base or core; of central importance
- f. _____ a system of rules, ideas, or beliefs that is used to plan or decide something

Have you ever used facial recognition devices? Why/why not?





3

Listening for gist

You are going to watch a video on the impact of Artificial Intelligence on human existence. First, watch the video and choose the correct option.



Which of the speakers...

	Aimee	Eva	Michael
a) ...believes there should be an assessment of the impact of AI?			
b) ...thinks more work needs to be done before regulations are decided?			
c) ...does not want AI to replace humans?			

4

Listening for comprehension

Listen again and decide if the following information is true (T), false (F), or not given (NG).

- Algorithms will be able to diagnose illnesses in the future. _____
- Everyone is aware of how AI will affect society. _____
- AI was first introduced to reduce the hours people have to work in car factories. _____
- Some people are confident that AI can improve the medical sector. _____
- Aimee van Wynsberghe believes people should have to go through facial recognition as part of a job interview. _____
- Eva Kalli believes rules about AI need to be decided on a global level. _____
- Business leaders in Brussels warned against the use of AI. _____
- The meeting in Brussels highlighted human rights offences by robots. _____



5 Reading for comprehension

You are going to read the text about AI being used in Chinese courts. Use the words given in capitals below the text to form a new word that fits in the gap. There is an example (0) at the start.



AI used in Chinese courts

China claims to have used AI systems to lighten the workloads of judges by more than a third. These so-called 'smart courts' are POWERED (POWER) by machine learning. They are _____¹ (ABILITY) to screen court cases for references and provide judges with _____² (RECOMMEND) on legal parameters. They can also draft documents and are even able to amend errors in verdicts. Xu Jianfeng, who heads the information centre of China's Supreme People's Court in Beijing, said that the tool "connects to the desk of every working judge across the country."

_____³ (DETRACT) have highlighted how this system might be open to potential abuse, for example by _____⁴ (HACK). However, the AI system reportedly saved the Chinese legal system 300 billion yuan (\$45 billion) between 2019 and 2021. China has been _____⁵ (ATTEMPT) to add automation to its legal system since 2016. 'Smart courts' initially started as a database, but it has become much more. Today, if a judge _____⁶ (AGREE) with the findings of the system, they are required to provide a written explanation, showing the legal prestige already bestowed on these AI tools.

6 Talking Point

Discuss these questions in pairs or small groups.

1. What is your opinion of AI making the decisions of a judge?
2. What are some potential dangers of using a system like this?
3. Do you think AI can ever replicate the way a person thinks?
4. If a system saves a lot of money, is it okay if it does not work perfectly?



7 Focus on vocabulary

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 1. <u>carried out</u> (phr. v.) | a. brought back to life, health, existence, or use |
| 2. <u>overcomes</u> (v) | b. succeeds in dealing with (a problem or difficulty) |
| 3. <u>liable</u> (adj.) | c. a legal advisor |
| 4. <u>censoring</u> (v) | d. having (legal) responsibility for something or someone |
| 5. <u>stakes</u> (n) | e. examining something officially and not allowing unacceptable parts of it |
| 6. <u>counsel</u> (n) | f. decided that something is not worth considering |
| 7. <u>allegedly</u> (adv.) | g. encouraging someone to do or feel something unpleasant or violent |
| 8. <u>inciting</u> (v) | h. something that is bet in a contest |
| 9. <u>dismissed</u> (v) | i. finished doing or completed something |
| 10. <u>revived</u> (v) | j. according to what has been claimed |

8 Reading for detail

Read the text "American Supreme Court to Hear Cases on Content Policing" and answer the following questions.

- Who are the family of Nohemi Gonzalez bringing a case against and why?

- Are Internet companies allowed to have political views?

- Which political groups are critical of section 230 of the Communications Decency Act and why?

- Does NetChoice believe there should be more regulation of internet enterprises?

- What does Twitter claim it regularly enforces?

- What does the Gonzalez family accuse YouTube of knowingly spreading?

- Who else have tried to bring cases against technology companies?



American Supreme Court to Hear Cases on Content Policing

- Who is legally responsible for what is published on social media?

1. The Supreme Court stepped into the politically divisive issue of whether tech companies should have immunity over problematic content posted by users, agreeing to hear a case alleging that YouTube helped aid and abet the killing of an American woman in the 2015 Islamic State terrorist attacks in Paris. The family of Nohemi Gonzalez, one of 130 people killed in a series of linked attacks carried out by the militant Muslim group, commonly known as ISIS, argued that YouTube's active role in recommending videos overcomes the legal protection for Internet companies that Congress imposed in 1996 as part of the Communications Decency Act.
2. Section 230 of the Act says Internet companies are not liable for content users post. It has come under heavy scrutiny from the right and the left in recent years, with conservatives claiming that companies are inappropriately censoring content and liberals saying social media companies are spreading dangerous right-wing messages. The provision leaves it to companies to decide whether certain content should be removed and does not require them to be politically neutral.
3. The stakes could be enormous because recommendations are now the norm for online services, not just YouTube. Apps such as Instagram, TikTok, Facebook, and Twitter long ago began to rely on recommendation engines or algorithms to decide what people see most of the time, rather than emphasise chronological feeds. NetChoice, a trade group for tech corporations, said the industry needs as much flexibility as possible to decide what to take down or leave up. "Without moderation, the Internet will become a content cesspool, filled with vile content of all sorts, and making it easier for things like terrorist recruitment," NetChoice counsel Chris Marchese said.
4. Twitter's lawyers said in court papers that the company provides "generic, widely available services to billions of users who allegedly included some supporters of ISIS" and that it has regularly enforced policies preventing terrorists from using its services. The ruling in the Twitter matter will also affect claims against Facebook and Google in the same case.
5. Gonzalez was a 23-year-old college student studying in France when she was killed while dining at a restaurant during the attacks. Her family is seeking to sue Google-owned YouTube, alleging it allowed ISIS to spread its message. The lawsuit targets YouTube's use of algorithms to suggest videos for users based on content they have previously viewed. They say in court papers that the company "knowingly permitted ISIS to post on YouTube hundreds of radicalising videos inciting violence" that helped it recruit supporters, some of whom then carried out terrorist attacks.
6. Gonzalez's relatives, who originally filed their 2016 lawsuit in federal court in Northern California, hope to pursue claims that YouTube violated the Anti-Terrorism Act. A federal judge dismissed the lawsuit, but it was revived by the San Francisco-based 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in a June 2021 decision that also resolved similar cases the families of other terrorist attack victims had brought against tech companies.

Sources: CBC, NBC

Discuss these questions in pairs or small groups

1. Do you think social media companies are responsible for what appears on their platforms?
2. What laws could be introduced to stop the spreading of dangerous ideas?
3. Are social networks beneficial to society?
4. Do you think your views are affected by the type of information you read online?



9

Additional exercise/homework

The texts in this lesson contain a lot of language that is specific to the topic of technology. However, there are also several natural phrases that you can use in different settings. Look at the expressions below and with your partner talk about in what other situations you could use them:

carry out / amend errors / shed light on / come under scrutiny

Work in pairs or small groups. Personalise the vocabulary and share your opinions using these questions.

1. What tasks have you recently **carried out**?
2. Do you always check your work/homework in order to **amend errors**?
3. Do you think the news always tries to **shed light on** important issues?
4. Who has recently **come under scrutiny** in your country?

Alternative extended activity

Imagine you are a lawyer who believes new laws should be introduced to limit the impact social media is having on young people. Write a report that highlights the dangers of social media and what can be done to regulate it more effectively.

You should:

- write at least 250 words,
- check your spelling and punctuation.