

# STUDENT VOICE

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SUMMER 2022

## Future Shock

*"I never think of the future, it comes soon enough." - Albert Einstein*

### The Future of Humanity

**Diae El Rhoul El Alaoui**  
Junior 6 Advanced

In the future we will all be cyborgs, we will no longer be 100% human by 2050. Indeed, each human being will be augmented. The first major evolution will include us being equipped with micro-robots circulating in our bodies and with a personal assistant grafted into our brains, called "mini-me".

Our five senses will be enhanced and duplicated to counter-balance the technological developments of the all-digital world. Scientific progress will enable us to have 17 senses including an internal global orientation system, ultra-sound incorporation, sensation of magnetic waves and an ability to communicate with the animal and plant world for example. The new augmented human of 2050 will therefore be more receptive to his/her environment and more linked to the world.

Our housing will change to reflect a dramatic conservation in

water usage. Water will not exist in rooms of the house except for drinking. Most of our water using

expand horizontally but in height. Each level will accommodate different systems of transport.

At ground level, autonomous rolling vehicles will circulate and transport drones will fly at the level of the buildings. Finally, a green canopy will monitor the city's oxygen and allow people to move freely within it without risk. The new harmony between technological mankind and "nature" will be increasingly important. The conceptualisation and launch of new products will be facilitated thanks to ultra-rapid proto-typing, virtual reality and hologram promotions and customer trialling. Thus the world of 2050 will be ultra-connected and linked with AI that controls and manages every aspect of our lives. Our brain-bots will take care of the organisation of mundane tasks of daily

life, and we will just mentally "let go" and enjoy all the new time that has been granted us.

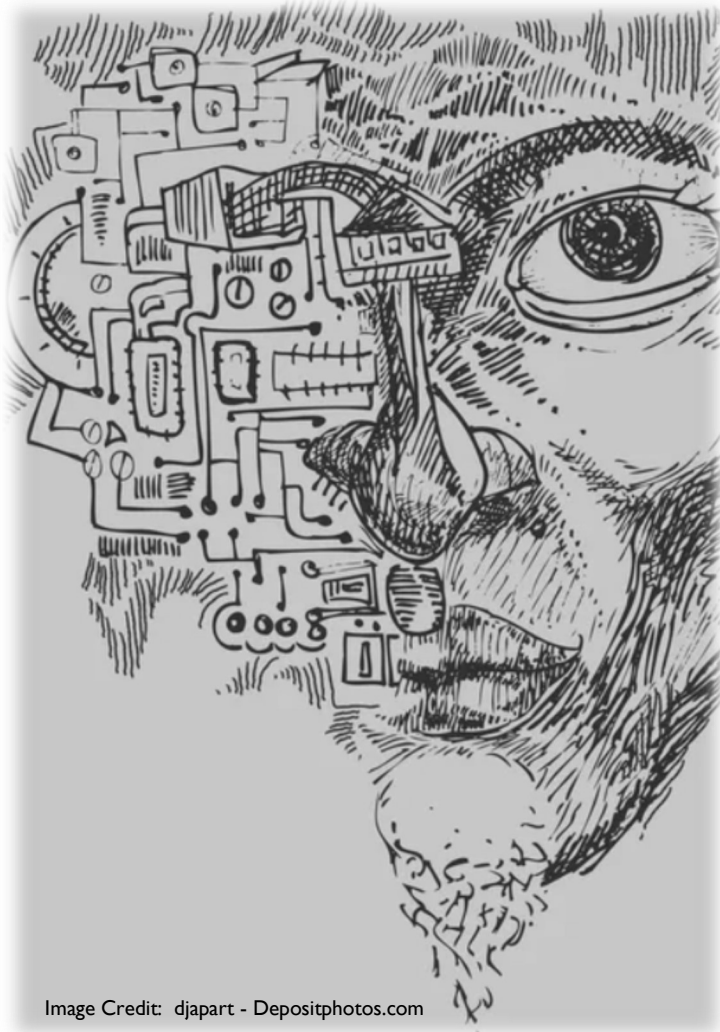


Image Credit: djapart - Depositphotos.com

household appliances will be replaced with forced-air cleaning devices. The city of 2050 will be vertically oriented, and will not

## WE ARE LOSING CONTROL OF OUR LIVES

**Aya Benjelloun – Advanced 2**

Smartphones are a bad influence on the world. They have completely changed society. People are now addicted to this device that isn't actually as beneficial as it looks.

There is no doubt that phones are very useful when it comes to communicating with others, sending messages, or taking pictures. But nowadays we're no longer using them for just that - they've become vital. And excessive use leads to social isolation, a term which has become very familiar these days. Smartphones are actually destroying our inter-personal relationships and our lives. They make us feel like we're surrounded by people, when in reality

we're not. Social media is just a lie, there is no real relationship if



Image Credit: Christopher Ott—Unsplash.com

there isn't any eye contact or actual verbal conversation. Humans are supposed to be social for good mental health and smartphones are not helping. I remember when I was 6 years old. I used to live with my grandparents. There were no smartphones, no TV and life was still possible and even enjoyable! I used to play with my cousins, we were very creative and played lots of fun games, compared to my little cousin now, who is addicted to her cell phone. It's so sad and unfortunate. I feel really sorry for her. Smartphones are the worst invention I've ever seen because of their negative impact on society.

## NUMBERS CONTROL US

**Ihssane Nejjari - Advanced 2**

We live in a society controlled by numbers, how many followers do you have on Instagram? How many calories did you eat today? What's the number in your bank account? All these questions make us think that our worth is controlled by a number too, which leads to low self-esteem and low self-confidence. We feel pressured

to please other people's expectations and to give up on our dreams and ourselves, so that numbers become the thing that heals us (I ate too many calories but I got 19/20 on my last test). It gives us temporary satisfaction based on the pain and lies of the status quo. We shouldn't measure ourselves against these societal scales, because these unrealistic rules don't consider

our amazing differences and skills. We can't compare two completely different things. And since we are obsessed with counting, we should be counting our blessings instead of our insecurities, counting our skills instead of our calories, counting our successes instead of our marks, will transform our daily lives.

## EVERYTHING POPULAR IS WRONG

**Aya Boutaleb – Advanced 3**

Oscar Wilde's famous quote that *everything popular is wrong*, is very true now. We aren't obliged to follow random stuff that goes viral on the internet. What we need to do, instead of following famous people, and "liking" popular stuff, is to focus on becoming ourselves and doing what makes *us* happy and satisfied. Following the crowd in order to fit into society is not what makes a person cool or open-minded. What makes a

person unique are their values and their ways of seeing things. When something becomes popular, everyone starts talking about it and it's sometimes not easy to find yourself in the middle of other people's opinions. It's also important to think about *why* society makes things popular; is it to influence us in a bad way? We need to be more and more media-wise and know how to separate the good from the bad. I don't believe that things are just

black and white, it's not that easy. There is always a little bit of grey in the middle. Therefore, not everything that is popular is automatically wrong or bad. Sometimes we can take advantage of it, we just have to know how, and this is the most difficult part. Generally, society will always be creating the "popular" for some specific reason and it is up to us to choose whether or not these popular things are what we need or want as individuals.

## SOCIAL MEDIA INCREASES STUPIDITY

**Omar El Amrani & Taha Khalil - Advanced 2**

Social media has given rise to a pandemic of stupidity that is ruining the world. Social media promotes and expands brainless content in a way that users become addicted to it. At the moment, the kings of this stupidity are the TikTokers. TikTok is an application that has become a worldwide phenomenon, assisting talentless people to make money from their stupid viewers, to become famous with minimal effort and near-zero talent. Meanwhile, other people are doing their hardest to improve their country doing real work, but alas, they earn less than 1% of a TikTokers salary.\*

\*Source not provided.



TikTok has also led to a manifestation of vapid teenagers earning large amounts of money just by recording themselves dancing in their bedrooms. These behaviours are a direct contradiction of Moroccan societal values of modesty and self-respect. People are becoming more and more addicted to these 1 minute videos, and use them as a way to disconnect from their increasingly meaningless lives.

I strongly believe that the government should shut TikTok down, because it is promoting an increase in stupid behaviors that are currently ruining the moral fibre of our world.



## TIME TRAVELLERS DIARY

Ilyas Chergui Hali – Juniors 7 Advanced

### Day 0

Ok, before telling all my chaotic adventures; let me present myself. I'm Greg Morgan, I'm 15 years old, I'm not very good at school but I think you will agree that I'll be the 1st in history class after this adventure!

My grandfather, the great Dr. Morgan, was a famous scientist who worked on nuclear weapons for the government. He decided in his retirement, to work on creating his own inventions. After many months, he finally did it! A time travelling machine in the form of a telephone booth! That was pretty smart because instead of just dialing a telephone number, you dial a date in the past or the future!

### Day 1

When my grandfather finally completed his project, I went directly into his workshop. I was so excited, perhaps too much, because my grandfather said that there were still a few system problems that needed to be fixed before it was used. Of course I wasn't supposed to touch anything, but I didn't listen. As soon as he left the

workshop, I entered the machine. At first, I just wanted to see how I would be in the future; maybe a great basketball player, or an internet influencer or a Mangaka. I was so excited, I dialed in 2032



Image Credit: Rachael Ren—Unsplash.com

but then I heard the words of my grandfather. The problem was with the date dialing mechanism, and instead of being in in 2032, I was now in 1944! If I remember my history lessons correctly, that

means I'm now in the Second World War!

### Day 2

I'm still in 1944. I am on a military ship alone in my compartment. I can hear soldiers (are they Canadian or Spanish?) talking about Normandy, which I think it's a region of France? Oh! Now, I understand! I am on a ship landing in Normandy. Quickly, I run up to the ship's deck but a Senior Soldier yells at me "Where is your uniform!?" I stutter "I, I ... forgot to put it on", to which he commands "So!? What are you waiting for?" I descend again directly to the compartment below, I am so scared, the military world is very weird to me. One thing is for sure; I'll never become a soldier. A few hours later, we land on a beach in Normandy and I can see it...the Telephone Booth! I make sure I am the last to leave the ship, and I run

to the telephone booth as fast as I can. Please send me anywhere else, but not into a war, please!

**To be continued...**

## THE FUTURE in 2100

### Amina Echchiakhi Advanced 2

Curiosity killed the cat but satisfaction brought it back. The same can be said for humans and our endless search for technological perfection. We will continue to experiment even when the current result is good, we always want better. Perhaps in 2100 we will be normalized to see more grey than green, more robots talking and less birds chirping. In 2100 there could be flying cars, electronic magazines,

floating buildings and even teleportation. The possibilities would be infinite and so would the damage. Unfortunately technology comes at the cost of nature. It has already made our society lazy and now it's going to make it totally machine-based. The fun of life will be lost in the new world of zeros and ones. With nothing to do manually, humanity's

future is marching towards a silent depression.

Where do we draw the line?



Image Credit: Dreamstime.com

### Abdelhadi Mabroukki Advanced 2

Isn't it fascinating how humankind has developed smarter and smarter technology like smartphones, self driving cars and now robots, but we are getting more stupid? These inventions and developments sound great but they have plenty of drawbacks too. We all love our smartphones, but they're invasive and addictive, don't you think?

Lets also consider self-driving cars –well we can all agree that this invention is pretty helpful, on the other hand several car accidents have happened since their launch. Robots are now being developed by some countries to upgrade their military power, including robots that can hold weapons and kill other soldiers and even innocent civilians. This is utterly despicable.

Thus, as technology alone is not the answer, before developing new technologies, humans ought to know their limits, thoroughly consider the societal benefits and use technology to help each other.

## THE HOLLOW MEN

T.S. Eliot (1925)

**I**  
 We are the hollow men  
 We are the stuffed men  
 Leaning together  
 Headpiece filled with straw. Alas!  
 Our dried voices, when  
 We whisper together  
 Are quiet and meaningless  
 As wind in dry grass  
 Or rats' feet over broken glass  
 In our dry cellar  
 Shape without form, shade without colour,  
 Paralysed force, gesture without motion;  
 Those who have crossed  
 With direct eyes, to death's other Kingdom  
 Remember us-if at all-not as lost  
 Violent souls, but only  
 As the hollow men  
 The stuffed men.

**IV**  
 The eyes are not here  
 There are no eyes here  
 In this valley of dying stars  
 In this hollow valley  
 This broken jaw of our lost kingdoms  
 In this last of meeting places  
 We grope together  
 And avoid speech  
 Gathered on this beach of the tumid river  
 Sightless, unless  
 The eyes reappear  
 As the perpetual star  
 Multifoliate rose  
 Of death's twilight kingdom  
 The hope only  
 Of empty men.

**V**  
 Between the idea  
 And the reality  
 Between the motion  
 And the act  
 Falls the Shadow  
*For Thine is the Kingdom*

Between the conception  
 And the creation  
 Between the emotion  
 And the response  
 Falls the Shadow  
*Life is very long*

Between the desire  
 And the spasm  
 Between the potency  
 And the existence  
 Between the essence  
 And the descent  
 Falls the Shadow  
*For Thine is the Kingdom*

For Thine is  
 Life is  
 For Thine is the

*This is the way the world ends  
 This is the way the world ends  
 This is the way the world ends  
 Not with a bang but a whimper.*

**SUMMARY:** Uncanny and dream-like, “The Hollow Men” describes a desolate world of now and into the future, populated by empty, defeated people. It’s also a reflection on Europe after WWI. For the speaker, the horrors of war have plunged Europe into deep despair—so deep that European culture itself is fading away into nothingness.