

Skills for the Future

Many people are worried that robots and machines will take everyone's jobs away. How about you? Do you feel excited about the way technology is changing the workplace or do you think it's terrifying?

Before you read

Match the words with the definitions.

terrifying	computer programs that copy some qualities of human intelligence
priorities	to think creatively
to think outside the box	scary, frightening
valuable	precious, dear
artificial intelligence	things that are more important and need attention before anything else
coding	not probable or likely to happen
unlikely	writing computer programs

Article

For some people, the way technology is changing the workplace is exciting; for others, it's terrifying. Many people are worried that robots and machines will take everyone's jobs away. It's true that companies will use robots more in the future, but this doesn't mean that human jobs will completely disappear. People will still have to work, but job priorities will change. For example, the owner of a business could spend less time analyzing reports if artificial intelligence could do it better, leaving more time for team training. The human side of business, which includes creativity and interpersonal skills, will become even more important than it is today.

Even though it's difficult to guess which jobs will be around twenty-five years from now, it's clear that technical skills will still be very important in the future. Today, many jobs are connected to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), and this won't change in the next few years. As technology continues to develop, people had better improve their STEM skills and knowledge of coding if they want to keep up.

Yet technical skills aren't the only things that will help you get a job in the future. Critical thinking and people skills will become increasingly important, too. Even though robots can do a lot of things better than humans, human interaction is best done by humans, and this is unlikely to change. In order to work together effectively, people need to have good communication skills and be able to listen to and understand their coworkers and customers.

Finally, if somebody wants to get a job in the next 25 years, they should also be creative. At the moment, robots are good at locating a problem or analyzing data, but they are not creative in the same way that humans are. They don't think outside the box. Although technology will bring many changes to the way employees work, what makes us human will always make us valuable.

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After you read

What's your take on the topic? Talk to a friend and see if they have the same idea. Also, try to use three new words that you have learned from the article.

