

Technology and Society Lesson Plan

Title: Technology and Society		Grade Range: 6
Integrated Curriculum Area: Language Arts	Concepts and Competencies: Interview, Research, Oral Communication	Tool: Computer
Summary: Students perform research and then deliver a speech to educate their classmates about how a specific technology application has affected society.		

Warm-up

- Make sure students have completed the EasyTech lesson **Computer Fundamentals: Software, Buttons, and Controls** and its prerequisites.
- Discuss different ways technology has impacted people's lives. What were some key developments in history that encouraged the development of technology (industrial revolution, the invention of the car, the availability of the personal computer, etc.)? How did these historical developments change society?

Activity

Students research a technology application and write a speech about it for the class:

- Students choose a technology application.
- Students record personal observations about how the software application has affected people's lives.
- Students choose someone to interview who uses the technology application, write interview questions, and take notes during the interview.
- Students use their notes to write a speech outline.
- Students deliver their speeches to the class and take notes on other classmates' speeches.

Wrap-up

- Talk about some recent technological developments. How do the students think these developments will affect future life?

Extension

- Have students write a short report about the software application and type it using a word processor.

Name: _____

Technology and Society Activity Page

Technology applications have changed the way people live. Some applications include:

- Word Processing Software
- Spreadsheet Software
- Presentation Software
- Database Software
- Web Browsing Software

Choose a software application from the list above to research:

Gather information about how the software application has affected people's daily lives.

First, think about how you have seen the software application affect people's lives. How has it changed the way people work, organize information, and complete daily tasks? Record your personal observations in the space below. (Use a separate piece of paper if necessary.)

Personal Observations Notes

Think of someone you know who uses that software application. Interview this person to better understand how people use the software application.

The person I will interview is:

Think of a list of three to five questions you can ask this person that will help you understand how the software application has affected his or her life and the lives of others.

Take notes during the interview in the space below. (Use a separate piece of paper if necessary.)

Interview Notes

Technology and Society Model

Choose a software application from the list above to research:

Database Software

Gather information about how the software application has affected people's daily lives.

First, think about how you have seen the software application affect people's lives. How has it changed the way people work, organize information, and complete daily tasks? Record your personal observations in the space below. (Use a separate piece of paper if necessary.)

Personal Observations Notes

- Libraries organize information using database software instead of paper
- Businesses use database software to organize customers' information
- Using a database makes it easier and quicker to find information
- Stores keep a database of their inventory
- My mom uses a database to record her recipe collection
- My teacher uses a database to record our grades

Think of someone you know who uses that software application. Interview this person to better understand how people use the software application.

The person I will interview is:

My Mom

Think of a list of three to five questions you can ask this person to better understand how the software application has affected his or her life and the lives of others.

What are ways you use a database?

What did you use before you had database software?

How has it made your life easier and harder?

What are ways you've seen other people use databases?

Take notes during the interview in the space below. (Use a separate piece of paper if necessary.)

Interview Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use databases to organize recipes at home and organize clients at work• Before databases, used index cards and rolodexes• With a database, information is much easier to find• “Changed my life”• Dad uses a database at work to organize car parts• Aunt Sherry uses a database for keeping track of shipments for her home business

Organize your research about the software application into a two to three minute speech to present to your classmates. Your speech should include three parts:

- An introduction that introduces the software application
- A main body that explains how the software application has affected people’s lives
- A conclusion that tells how you feel about the topic

Using the notes from your research, write an outline of main points for your speech. (Use a separate piece of paper if necessary.):

I. Introduction

A. Define database software

B. Explain what it does and what it’s used for

II. Main Body

A. Changed the way people organize and search information

1. Mom organizes recipes

2. Aunt organizes information for her home business

3. Library organizes books

B. Databases make finding information easier

1. Used index cards and rolodexes before

2. Databases let people find information quickly

3. “Changed my life”

III. Conclusion

A. Databases have changed the way people live

B. I think life is easier when we use databases

Name: _____

Technology and Society Rubric

Student Evaluation

Activity Page:

- _____ One topic is chosen from the provided list
- _____ Personal observation notes are listed
- _____ Appropriate interview subject is chosen
- _____ Three to five questions for interview are listed
- _____ Notes are taken from interview
- _____ Outline for speech is completed
- _____ Notes from classmates' speeches are taken

Speech:

- _____ Appropriate speed, clarity, and volume are used
- _____ Ideas are organized
- _____ Speech is two to three minutes long

Teacher Evaluation

Activity Page:

- _____ One topic is chosen from the provided list
- _____ Personal observation notes are listed
- _____ Appropriate interview subject is chosen
- _____ Three to five questions for interview are listed
- _____ Notes are taken from interview
- _____ Outline for speech is completed
- _____ Notes from classmates' speeches are taken

Speech:

- _____ Appropriate speed, clarity, and volume are used
- _____ Ideas are organized
- _____ Speech is two to three minutes long