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Tech Bloomers

Prose

This lesson talks about the use of technology by a normal person and in empowering the disabled to do their day to day chores of life – to travel, to communicate, to learn, to do business and to live in comfort. Alisha and David's life has changed with the use of technology. Technology impacts the environment, people and the society as a whole. The way we use technology determines if its impacts are positive to the society or negative.

Have you ever thought that your refrigerator can order stuff on its own? Well, anything which is below a pre-defined limit or below certain threshold, can be self-ordered by the appliance. Your refrigerator can directly link to the ecommerce site and order for milk if it is about to be exhausted. Consumable products such as ink cartridges may be capable of self-ordering replacements when the current level falls below a certain threshold.

Have you ever wished you were better informed? Managing entertainment and home appliances by voice commands or by swapping the finger is a reality now. Getting bored by the program you watch on TV? Just tell your smart TV that you want to view your social feed instead. If you are stuck in a traffic jam, just let your kettle make some tea for you which you can sip, piping hot, the moment you reach home. Your entire water and energy management can be taken care by automating all the activities.

Technology has not only made a normal person's life easier but it is also a boon to citizens with special needs. India is home to 2.7 crore people living with one or the other kind of disability. According

to the 2011 Census, 2.21 percent of India's population is disabled. Unlike the developed world, India's disabled are deprived by attitudinal barriers as they continue to **grapple** with the challenges of access, acceptance and **inclusion**.

a. What is the future of technology?

b. How many people in India suffer with disability?

Alisha says, "I would probably still have done it because I want everyone to know the difference technology has made in my life. But it would have been frustrating and difficult."



"I have **cerebral palsy** and I can't physically type as fast as I think or anywhere near. But right now, that's what I'm doing. I bet you're wondering how!

I am using a piece of technology called **Dragon Dictate**. I speak, and the words appear on my screen and then I can