



## Worksheet

Name :

Subject:

Reading Comprehension

Class:

9<sup>th</sup> grade

Date:

In many ways, human life on this planet is better than it's ever been. In many countries across the world, crime has been dropping steadily. This may be due to better education or perhaps to a reduction in extreme poverty. In 2018, the proportion of the world's population living in extreme poverty fell to around 10%. With luck, no one will be living in this way within a few decades. Technology is also making our lives easier and safer, and this trend is bound to continue. For example, driving is sure to become safer. Human error is the key reason for most car accidents, and well-programmed driverless cars may save huge numbers of lives. Such cars are already a reality and are going to become more common in the next few years. And finally, life expectancy is already higher than it's ever been and as a result of better medicine, people are likely to live until the age of 100. We may have seen some improvement in poverty and crime in recent decades, but why assume that this pattern will continue? I'd argue that for most people life is actually unlikely to get better. Advances in robotics and artificial intelligence will not only reduce the number of unskilled jobs available, but will also eliminate semi-skilled jobs which can be done by a computer. By 2050, young people will have been trying, and failing, to get a job for most of their 'working' lives! In 30 years' time, a few lucky people will be rich and the rest of us will be poor. Within 20 years, we will have stopped fighting over oil – we'll be fighting over water instead, as global warming is certain to lead to more water shortages.

1. The writer states several pieces of evidence which leads to a bright future. Mention two of them.

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2. What does the underlined 'their' refer to?

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3. Find a compound noun which means 'The gradual increase in the Earth's temperature'.

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4. Quote the sentence which shows the main reason for car accidents.

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5. The world has witnessed some improvement in two things. Mention them.

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6. There are several negative consequences that resulted from the advances in robotics. Mention them.

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### **Answer key**

1. Crime has been dropping steadily; technology is making our lives easier and safer.
2. Young people.
3. Global warming.
4. "Human error is the key reason for most car accidents."
5. Poverty and crime.
6. They will reduce unskilled jobs and eliminate semi-skilled jobs.