

II. Written Essay

A British national newspaper is running a series of articles on the advantages and disadvantages of social media in different contexts. For the next issue they want to focus on social media and teenagers and have invited readers to contribute opinions.

Write an opinion letter to the editor addressing the question given below. Your letter should be between 175 and 200 words and pay particular attention to the following criteria:

- appropriate tone and style
- clearly organised and expressed ideas
- correct use of vocabulary
- correct use of grammar
- correct spelling and punctuation

Plan and organise your essay (use the rough paper provided). Write your definitive version in the space below, then read it carefully and make corrections if necessary.

How seriously do you take the information in social media about a person's reputation?

ENGLISH ENTRANCE EXAM: JUNE 19, 2018

Time allowed for this exam: 3 Hours

Before starting, please read the following carefully:

- ☞ All mobile phones must be turned off
- ☞ No internet devices are permitted.
- ☞ There are three parts to this exam:
 - I. Resum en català / Resumen en Castellano (50%)
 - II. Language Work (25%)
 - III. Written Essay (25%)
- ☞ Write all your answers in this exam booklet. Use the spaces provided.
- ☞ All rough paper will be collected after the exam.

POLITE WARNING!
**ANY TALKING, COPYING OR USE OF NON-AUTHORISED DEVICES DURING THE EXAM
WILL MEAN AUTOMATIC AND IMMEDIATE DISQUALIFICATION**

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| I. Resum en català / Resumen en castellano (50%) | _____ |
| II. Language Work (25%) | _____ |
| III. Written Essay (25%) | _____ |

Artificial Intelligence: Tendencies and Consequences

I. Language Work

1 People often wonder whether there will come a time when computers
or machines are cleverer than a human. Well, in some ways they
already are: my computer can do multiplication and division way
better than I can. The notion of intelligence is difficult to define
5 because it usually makes us think of it as something specific to
humans, whereas I think that human intelligence is only one way of
being intelligent. We can answer a simple question like if you dangle a
mouse from its tail, is its nose or ears closer to the ground? Even a
child can answer that question because we have an intuitive image of
10 what it's like. But that's precisely the kind of question that would
probably throw most current AI devices.



But, the big challenge for AI today is what is called “general
artificial intelligence”, that is, systems that can solve problems and operate ethically in the much more unpredictable real
world in a way that seems to obey the rules of common sense. Can the surprisingly effective powerful artificial
15 intelligence techniques that we now have move beyond specific domains and operate in this arena? However, the ways in
which computers will develop intelligent behaviour shouldn't just replicate human intelligence. In many contexts human
intelligence is actually a bit rubbish because we make irrational decisions all the time and we're notoriously bad about
really understanding the long-term consequences of actions or decisions we make. For instance, society's responses to
things like climate change is really pathetic. So, how much inspiration should we take from human behaviour? Maybe
20 we shouldn't be looking to replicate human intelligence in general AI; maybe it's more of a complementary relationship
that we should be seeking.

One issue is the “brain-body” mismatch problem. When we make decisions, when we act in the world, when we
perceive the world, we do it with and through our bodies. Emotional responses and body responses are absolutely core to
both consciousness and intelligence, but so far AI hasn't successfully incorporated the meaning of a body or respect for
it. We can make robots that look like people, but we cannot make robots that behave like people, and that is a
25 fundamental ethical problem.

At Bristol Robotics Laboratory they are trying to make progress in this area. Their research focuses on what they
call the “consequence engine”, which would allow robots to predict the future and act in a simple ethical manner. For
example, if you're walking along the pavement and you see a hole in the ground, and you see someone who is about to
30 fall into that hole, then it's likely that you'll intervene. Now why is that? Well, it's not just because you're a good person;
it's also because you have the ability to predict the likelihood that you might be able to save them. So, the robots in their
research project are programmed to simulate what another robot is likely to do and then take action according to simple
ethical criteria.

The increasing influence of AI in the physical world unfortunately means it is also vulnerable to AI misuse. The
35 most widely discussed example involves weaponising swarms of drones called “slaughterbots”: they are fitted with small
explosives, self-driving technology and then released to carry out untraceable assassinations. At another level AI can be
used in a subtler manner to persuade people to act in a particular way based on their social profile. This could be
anything from encouraging a user to click on an option to buy something, download a malicious link or even vote for a
particular political candidate. The recent scandal with Facebook illustrates how algorithmic profiling of millions of
40 people can be used as a product to sell to a third party.

In contrast, there are other projects which make use of AI or robots for other ends. Researchers at Carnegie Mellon
University have designed a series of non-lethal “snakebots” used to gather useful information from sewers or even
earthquake sites. At the National University of Singapore, researchers have designed a robot, Mantadroid, which looks
and swims like a manta. It is used to gather information about marine life and can swim through turbulent seas. Recently
45 NASA announced that it is developing “Marsbees” – flying robot bees which will be released on Mars and can access
areas other vehicles cannot reach.

Whatever the use, AI is still limited to specific domains, essentially because it lacks the dimension of awareness,
or consciousness, of the world at large where humans interact. But, if we are able to create machines that are aware or
“conscious” of themselves and others, this in turn poses a question for humans. How do you know if the machine you've
just switched on is conscious or not? If it's conscious, then you probably will feel very differently about switching it off.

Adapted from various sources

Explain briefly in English the meaning of the following words / phrases according to the context in which
they appear in this article – use the space provided (4 points)

1. whereas (l. 6):
2. actually (l. 17)
3. likelihood (l. 31):
4. swarms (l. 35):

Find a synonym (word or phrase) in the text for the following, which has the same grammatical function
(noun, adjective, adverb, verb etc.) (4 points):

1. much:
2. confuse:
3. central:
4. purposes:

What do the following words / phrases refer to? (2 points)

1. it (l. 23)
2. this area (l. 27)

Etiqueta: _____

Resumiu en **català** el contingut de l'article (aprox. 250 paraules).

La versió definitiva en net del resum en català l'heu d'escriure en aquest full.

Etiqueta: _____

Resumid en **castellano** el contenido del artículo (aprox. 250 palabras).

Escribid la versión definitiva en limpio del resumen en castellano en esta hoja.