Advanced - Article on technology

Class objective: I will be able to understand the article, learn new vocabulary and answer the questions that follow.

Concept A: Reading-

One of the greatest advances in modern technology has been the invention of computers. They are widely used in industries and in universities. Now there is hardly any sphere of human life where computers have not been pressed into service by man.

We are heading fast towards the day when a computer will be as much part of man's daily life as a telephone or a calculator.

Computers are capable of doing extremely complicated work in all branches of learning. They can solve the most complex mathematical problems or put thousands of unrelated facts in order. These machines can be put to varied uses. For instance, they can provide information on the best way to prevent traffic jams.

This whole process by which machines can be used to work for us has been called 'automation'. In the future automation may enable human beings to enjoy more leisure than they do today. The coming of automation is bound to have important social consequences.

Some years ago an expert on automation, Sir Leon Bagrit, pointed out that it was a mistake to believe that these machines could 'think'. There is no possibility that human beings will be 'controlled by machines'. Though computers are capable of learning from their mistakes and improving their performance, they need detailed instructions from human beings to operate.

They can never, as it were, lead independent lives or 'rule the world' by making decisions of their own.

Sir Leon said that in the future, computers would be developed which would be small

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