

Fill in the blanks: Technology and innovation Complete the paragraphs by filling in the blanks using the following words.

Technology

agricultural	life span	revolutionized
history	printing	technologies
information	process	vaccinations

Throughout the course of _____, humans have constantly created and implemented new _____. Some of these technologies have _____ society. For example, medical technologies such as _____ have greatly increased our average _____. Technologies such as the _____ for manufacturing chemical fertilizers have vastly increased the world's _____ output. The _____ press raised literacy rates and improved our ability to store and retrieve _____.

Technology and the product life cycle

art	down	prices
consumer	edge	products
cycle	obsolete	replaced

When _____ goods using advanced technology first hit the market, they are said to be state-of-the-_____. Companies that create new technologies can often command high _____ when their _____ first reach the market. Eventually however, competitors will copy their success and drive the price _____. As well, new technologies are constantly developed so that today's cutting-_____ technology will be _____ by even more advanced technologies and become _____ in the future. This is all part of a product's life _____.

Modifying old technologies

access	features	materials
augmenting	innovations	modified
existing	lightweight	performance

Many of the most important _____ in technology are not new inventions but are instead improvements of _____ technology. One way that old technologies can be _____ is by _____ them with new _____. Smartphones, for example, are phones that can _____ the Internet. Another way that old technologies can be altered is by changing the _____ used to make things. New sturdy, _____ metal alloys vastly improve the _____ of cars and airplanes.

Drawbacks of technology

deforming
detrimental
drawbacks

durable
materials
pesticides

point
widespread

There is no denying that the _____ use of technology has benefited humans. However, many technologies come with significant _____ as well. Many technologies have had a _____ impact on the environment, for example. The invention of plastic is a case in _____. Plastic, which is cheap, lightweight, and _____, is one of the most versatile _____ in existence. However, plastic ends up floating in the ocean and killing animals that eat it by mistake. Similarly, _____ greatly improve our ability to grow crops, but they also work their way into the food chain, _____ and killing animals.

Intellectual property rights

copyright
exclusive
incentive

intellectual
invention
patent

period
rewarded

Most people who create and innovate expect to be _____ for their effort. _____ property rights are one way to ensure that people have _____ to invent new technologies or create new works of art by giving creative individuals _____ rights to profit from their work. A _____ gives an inventor the sole right to use that _____ for a set _____ of time. A _____ gives an artist or writer the sole right to make copies of his or her works.