

NEW INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES.

PROS AND CONS

D'après Michel FREISS, *CLES 2, interagir à l'oral*, Ellipses

Le débat porte sur les nouvelles technologies de l'information et de la communication, un important sujet de société où la liberté d'action individuelle et collective est en jeu. Par ailleurs, cette liberté émergente peut être entravée par de nouveaux moyens de contrôle de la part des gouvernants. Les nouvelles technologies de l'information et de la communication sont-elles donc source de liberté ou d'aliénation ?

Préparez-vous à prendre part au débat en suivant les différentes étapes.

Etape 1. mise au point

a) **La pêche aux mots.** trouvez et entourez dans la liste ci-dessous les termes qui, selon vous, concernent le champ lexical des nouvelles technologies de l'information et de la communication.

webcam ; freedom ; poverty ; energy ; manipulation ; trade union ; bug ; immigrant ; clash ; hijacker ; social networks ; security ; monitor ; cyberbullying ; box ; individualistic ; global warming ; big brother ; hacker ; camera ; mobile ; enveloppe ; district ; information ; chatting ; democracy ; injury ; government ; control ; surveillance ; facilities ; thanksgiving

b) vocabulaire

ICT: TICE	Monitoring, surveillance, contrôle
The Internet, the Web : internet, la Toile	Chip, puce
Computer: ordinateur	USB drive : clé USB
Printer: imprimante	Wireless: sans fil
Webcam: caméra	Data file : fichier informatisé
Desktop (computer): ordinateur de bureau	To delete : effacer
Laptop, portable (computer): ordinateur portable	Screen: écran
Software: logiciel	Mouse: souris
Mobile phone, cell phone: téléphone portable	Keyboard: clavier
Password : mot de passe	High-tech : technologie de pointe
Tool: outil	CCTV cameras : télévision en circuit fermé
Data bank : banque de données	Microphone (mike, familial): microphone
Data capture : saisie de données	Device: mécanisme, procédé
To chat: échanger des propos, discuter	To update : moderniser, mettre à jour
To email someone : envoyer un courriel à quelqu'un	To download: télécharger
To access (data): avoir accès à des données	Social networks : réseaux sociaux
To monitor: surveiller	To work within a network : travailler en réseau

To connect to, to link with : relier à
 Piracy: piratage
 Cyberdelinquent: cyberdélinquant
 Securize: sécuriser
 To save: sauvegarder
 To inform: informer
 To educate: éduquer
 To broadcast information : diffuser de l'information
 To track down : localiser
 To spy on somebody : espionner quelqu'un
 To infringe on : empiéter sur
 Freedom of speech or thought: liberté de parole ou de pensée
 To challenge: défier
 To influence: influencer
 To stir public opinion : faire bouger l'opinion publique
 To oppose somebody: s'opposer à quelqu'un
 The main issue : la question centrale
 To launch a petition : lancer une pétition
 Human rights : les droits de l'homme
 To encourage private initiatives: encourager les initiatives privées
 A thirst for change : une soif de changement
 To symbolize freedom : symboliser la liberté
 On the road to democracy : sur la route de la démocratie

To permit pluralism : permettre le pluralisme
 The democratization process: le processus de démocratisation
 To give an impetus to : donner un élan à...
 A call for reforms : un appel à des réformes
 To bind people : réunir les gens
 To denounce: dénoncer
 Censorship: la censure
 Brainwashing: lavage de cerveau
 Totalitarian regime: régime totalitaire
 A police state : un état policier
 Tracking device: procédé de détection
 Threatening: menaçant
 Privacy/private life: intimité
 To suspect sb of sth : suspecter qq'un de qqe chose
 To stand up to : résister à
 To enforce the law: faire appliquer la loi
 To be cautious : être prudent
 To warn sb about: prévenir quelqu'un de...
 To harass sb : harceler quelqu'un
 To charge sb with : accuser quelqu'un de...
 Coercive methods: des méthodes coercitives
 To repress: réprimer
 To muzzle: museler
 To sell/buy online: vendre/acheter sur le net
 To manipulate: manipuler
 An assumed name : un pseudonyme

Etape 2. en contexte

A) Complétez le résumé en choisissant les termes appropriés parmi ceux proposés ci-dessous.

*delinquency - security - infringes - with - increase - tool - spied -
 drawbacks - pros - privacy - advantages - stake.*

The debate deals new ways of communicating. To weigh the and cons, let us say that technology appears to be a fabulous tool but, like any other , it might have some The are clear: people can communicate more easily. So, technology seems to the opportunities to express one's opinions. But, on second thoughts, technology upon people's rights because their is no longer protected. Through CCTV cameras or their emails people can be constantly upon. Conversely, we can retort that CCTV cameras might

reduce and make society safer. But at what cost? Finally, this is the usual debate between and liberty which is at

B) Le bon réflexe : Retrouvez la bonne traduction.

1) Hoax	a) Feuilletter des pages WEB
2) To allow	b) Faire avancer des points de vue
3) Preconceived notions	c) Dans un proche avenir
4) The absolute epitome	d) Qui sévit
5) Browsing	e) Canular, blague
6) Democratic yearnings	f) Des aspirations démocratiques
7) To further democratic stances	g) Galvaudé, rebattu
8) Cyberbullying	h) Les multiples sites
9) Hackneyed	i) Appeler, évoquer
10) In the nearest future	j) Le parfait exemple
11) Rampant	k) Cyberintimidation
12) Resilience	l) La capacité de rebondir
13) To be hooked on	m) Des préjugés
14) To be unbeknown	n) Etre à l'insu de...
15) To call up	o) Pays émergents
16) To be partying	p) Autoriser, permettre
17) To keep a check on someone	q) Faire la fête
18) Developing countries	r) Une info
19) Drawbacks	s) Inconvénients
20) To object to	t) Avoir l'oeil sur quelqu'un
21) A piece of information	u) Etre accro à
22) The multifarious sites	v) Trouver à redire

Etape 3. boîte à outils

a) Le vocabulaire du débat : quelques clés

Retrouvez ci-dessous des termes propres à introduire son opinion, à marquer son accord ou son désaccord.

Classez-les dans les rubriques suivantes : **opinion – agreement – disagreement**

To my mind... – I wish I could agree with you... –I don't think that... – On the contrary, I think... –

You've got a good case in point there... – Unfortunately... – Don't you think you're exaggerating ... –

Don't you believe it! – In my opinion ... – To me ... – Well, I suppose so ... – That's a shame! –

I can't object to your clever remark! – Contrary to what you're suggesting... –

I wish I could agree with you on this point but... – I don't quite agree with you on this point! –

I don't see it that way! – We have finally reached a consensus! – For my part...

b) Pour ou contre ?

Classez les arguments proposés ci-dessous en « pour » ou « contre ».

a) We have more opportunities to communicate

b) Big Brother is watching you, it's a surveillance society

c) People change mobile phones every other year

d) New technologies enable people to get better living standards

e) Cyberbullying and cyberdelinquency are on the increase

f) People can be readily influenced and manipulated on the Web

g) The youth of today becomes more and more aware of what's going on in the world

h) Webcams make people feel more secure

i) The Web promotes communication and democratic yearnings throughout the world

j) Some people assume false identities

k) Social networks give an impetus to democracy

l) The Web permits pluralism all around the world

m) The Web enables totalitarian regimes to control people

n) Consumerism has created artificial needs as regards new technologies

o) New technologies are very expensive

Etape 4 . C'EST A VOUS !

Notez directement vos propres idées ou votre propre opinion sur le thème du débat proposé dans ce chapitre.

(PROS and CONS)

Etape 5: DEBATING

Découvrez un exemple de débat type autour du thème « New Information and Communication Technologies ».

New Information and Communication Technologies : *PROS and CONS*

Student A: in favour of new technologies Student B: against

A: To my mind, new technologies enable people to live better than they used to in the past. I mean, we have, for instance, more opportunities to communicate wherever we go. It makes life incredibly safer and easier.

B: I wish I could agree with you but don't mistake chatting for communication. I don't think that people communicate with one another better these days. On the contrary, they tend to be more individualistic and selfish.

A: Preconceived notions! Thanks to the social networks the youth are allowed to exchange pieces of information even in countries that aren't the absolute epitome of democracy. So, the Web's promoting communication and democratic yearnings throughout the world. Some governments are pretty aware of this "danger" and, like China, control what's been said online more and more closely.

B: You've got a good case in point there! On the one hand, new technologies undoubtedly further democratic stances but, on the other hand, let's admit they can be easily controlled by the authorities. It's a walkover for them to defeat their opponents by checking their emails or tapping their mobile phones. You know the hackneyed theme of "Big Brother is watching you"! Unfortunately, our nightmare seems to have come true now.

A: Don't you think you're a little bit exaggerating? Moreover, the number of Internet users is getting so huge that it's still impossible to monitor any and every discussion. Besides, I think webcams are so great to communicate!

B: Don't you believe it! Technology's moving fast. I read in *The Sun* last week that, in Britain, councils are considering monitoring conversations in the street using high-powered microphones attached to CCTV cameras. Already more than 4.2 million CCTVs have been installed. Like it or not, that looks like a "surveillance society" or "Brave New World". In my opinion, things could even get worse in the nearest future.

A: Yes, but I prefer living in a town or a city monitored by CCTV cameras. I feel safer especially at night and so do most women. You know, downtown insecurity remains rampant on Saturday nights.

B: What about your sense of freedom when every step you take can be observed? I won't give up my liberty in exchange for security. Imagine a dictator taking over the leadership and profiting by the latest technology. This is the very end of a multi-party system.

A: Well, I suppose so. Anyway, don't forget that man's full of resilience and resources whatever the circumstances. Basically, history can teach us a lesson. As you know, we learn more from our failures than from our successes. History also shows how a society that rejects technology may be doomed to stagnation as well as fundamentalism.

B: There's no denying that technology's always been a source of progress but let's keep in mind it must be publicly controlled, debated and discussed. Otherwise new technologies might become a source of slavery for future generations. For instance, mobile phones are quite convenient devices enhancing your feeling of liberty because you can call anybody up at any time. At work they're very useful. Where the shoe hurts is that people carry on working with their mobiles even at weekends or on holidays, night and day alike. It's well-known that teenagers get more and more hooked on mobiles with no particular restraint. Thereby, cyber-bullying's on the increase and the end result might turn out to be fatal to some teenagers, unbeknown to their parents.

A: Parents are also very pleased to have the opportunity to ring their kids up when they're partying in order to keep a check on them. I think cyberbullying's still of minor importance compared to how useful a mobile can be. I'm convinced that each technology shows some seamy sides but its positive aspects will prevail in the end. In

some remote areas of Africa, mobile phones have contributed to save thousands of lives so far.

B: Conversely, you may know that a precious metal called coltan and extracted in Africa by young minors to build phone processors have caused the death of many of them. And finally who cares?

A: I can't object to your clever remark. The Rights of Man first. In our consumer society, comfort and happiness mustn't be at the expense of the poor living in developing countries. As I told you before, new technologies should enable people to get better living standards.

B: Unfortunately, our human conscience isn't developing as fast as our technology. Hence, the absolute necessity to lay stress on education to the use of new technologies, their advantages and their potential drawbacks. The sooner, the better.

A: For my part, I'm persuaded there's nothing like the Web to educate children and people in general. Any and every piece of information can be easily found there. It's an unprecedented tool in the hands of the youth. Contrary to what you're suggesting, thanks to this windfall, the youth of today become more and more aware of what's going on in this world and finally have more potential to try and make it a little better.

B: There's still a *but!* Some pieces of information revealed online may turn out to be false. So, how to sort out the truth from this huge mass of information?

A: I suspect a majority will guess when it's a hoax because people, after a few months spent browsing through the multifarious sites of the Internet, have got a more critical judgement about what's effectively right or wrong.

B: I wish I could agree with you on this point but, to me, this matter's still doubtful. People can be readily influenced, you know. The younger, the more subject to manipulation.

A: I can't quite agree with you on this point. I don't really see it that way. Manipulations have always existed and can't be seriously related to new technologies. Likewise, modernity's always met with fierce opposition throughout the ages.

B: Yes, the crux of the matter's to be adapted to one's time.

A: Absolutely, I think we've finally reached a consensus of sorts!

Etape 5

VOUS AVEZ LA PAROLE !

Le débat est toujours ouvert, donnez votre avis sur les propositions des deux protagonistes.

Lequel vous a véritablement convaincu ? Trouvez-vous les arguments énoncés pertinents ? Se contrebalancent-ils ? Votre opinion sur le thème a-t-elle évolué à partir de leurs échanges et au cours des étapes que vous avez successivement parcourues ?

All things considered, I now think that ...