

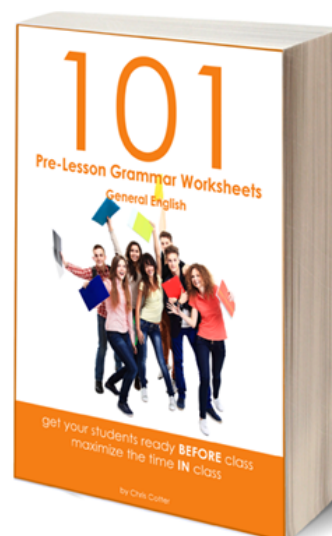
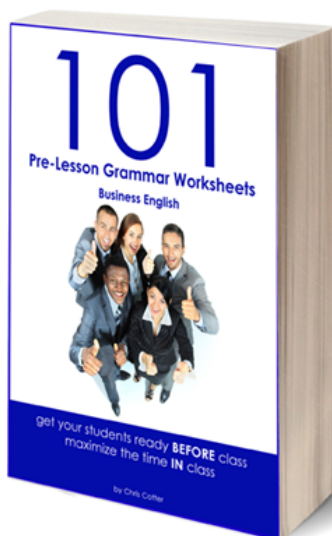
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the ARTICLE (for teachers)

The Future of the Human Race

Evolutionary theorist Oliver Curry has an interesting and unusual hypothesis on the future of the human race. His idea actually sounds more like science fiction instead of science fact. He suggests that in 100,000 years, humankind will have split into two species. In addition, one species will be the haves, and the other the have nots.

Over the coming millennium, we will see some small changes. For example, humankind will grow taller, and 6-7 feet (182-213 centimeters) will likely be the average height. Humans will live roughly 120 years, too. Increased access to resources, cosmetic and genetic therapies, and surgeries will even out the appearance of men and women within each sex. What's more, there won't be different races like today. The races will mix to produce people with a similar, latte-colored hue of skin.

That's the good news. However, our reliance on technology could have negative effects. According to Curry, people will lose social skills and empathy in the face of future technological advancements. Our immune systems won't be as strong as now, because medicines will fight off disease and lower mortality rates. Thus, over time, weak genes will spread and affect our whole species. Curry predicts that this will happen 10,000 years from now.

Further into this dark future, in the year 100,000, the genetically healthy will only breed with one another. This will produce a beautiful and intelligent class of people. The genetically unhealthy will become short and ugly, and will also have substandard intelligence levels. These are the have nots. In other words, humans will turn themselves into rulers and slaves.

Teacher's Notes:

* Underlined words in red typeface are the recommended vocabulary for this lesson.

The Future of the Human Race

Upper-Intermediate

WARM-UPS

Select one or all of the following warm-up activities.

1: **Define:** What does "science fiction" mean? Can you use it in a sentence? Can you give examples?

2: **Brainstorm:** Brainstorm with a partner(s) words and ideas associated with "science fiction" for 2 minutes. Spend another 5 minutes or less discussing the words and ideas together.

3: **Speculate:** Write in the missing words for today's article title: "The () of the Human ()." Why did you choose these words for the blanks?

4: **Title:** Speculate and/or discuss the contents of today's article from its title: "The Future of the Human Race."

5: **Do you agree or disagree? Why?**

a.	In the future, humans will live on other planets.
b.	The future of the human race will be wonderful and amazing!
c.	Humans will be more beautiful and healthy, and will live longer in the future.
d.	Technology will cause many new problems in the future.
e.	Humans will become extinct in the future.

VOCABULARY

Select one of the following vocabulary acquisition activities.

1: Vocabulary match: Individually or in pairs/groups, match the words in column A (from the article) with the best choice in column B.

a. split	q. emotion
b. millennium	r. beauty
c. access	s. reproduce
d. cosmetic	t. dependence
e. hue	u. divide
f. reliance	v. make use of
g. empathy	w. below average
h. predict	x. one thousand years
i. breed	y. forecast
j. substandard	z. color

2: Fill in the Blanks: Fill in the blank with the correct word.

	substandard	empathy	access	split	predicts
	cosmetic	millennium	breed	hue	reliance
a.	In 100,000 years, humankind will have () into two species.				
b.	Over the coming (), we will see some small changes.				
c.	Increased () to resources and surgeries will even out the appearance of men and women.				
d.	There will be () and genetic therapies, too.				
e.	The races will mix to produce people with a similar, latte-colored () of skin.				
f.	However, our () on technology could have negative effects.				
g.	People will lose social skills and () in the face of future technological advancements.				
h.	Curry () that this will happen 10,000 years from now.				
i.	In the year 100,000, the genetically healthy will only () with one another.				
j.	The genetically unhealthy will become short and ugly, and will also have () intelligence levels.				

3: Define: Define each word, correctly pronounce it, explain the meaning and/or usage, and offer an example sentence to the class.

a.	split	c.	access	e.	hue	g.	empathy	i.	breed
b.	millennium	d.	cosmetic	f.	reliance	h.	predict	j.	substandard

WORD RECOGNITION

1: **Word Search:** Find the target words (in bold). Time yourself, and see how many words you can find in three minutes. In five minutes. In ten minutes.

substandard	empathy	access	split	predicts
cosmetic	millennium	breed	hue	reliance
W X O S V Q W W M H M C N R C P T D Q M D O I C U S O P L R B P J R S U L F I J S S K T I F J R L A E U N S X E M H D H F F W E N D N G S F C E H R U S M K I D E N Y J Q C T U E C S Y U N L I B A V T A I E D Q L M C L T G C R T W J C T N W J F I L N L Y T E S T S O A F I M R Q G Q U H S E B O B T S E M P A T H E Y T E D U I S Y E C N A I L E R O A M L S B H K T S P I L T M Y V P T U U E Y F F W F P T I U S E M I S D A V R I V M R T S O O U E R T				

2: **Target Word Pool:** Find the target words (in bold) with their exact match. Time yourself, and see how many words you can find in three minutes. In five minutes. In ten minutes.

substandard	empathy	access	split	predicts
cosmetic	millennium	breed	hue	reliance
predicament success predict misspelled relying cosmetically euthanize empathic substantial hub breeding spilled reliance access breed hewed spills minimalist substantially relative cosmetics accessing empathy bread hue predicting accesses breeds millennium splitting substandard millenniums cosmos unreliable huff predicts cosmetician standard accessed empathize millennialism bred predicate cosmetic split reliable sympathy millennial substantive hues				

The Future of the Human Race

Upper-Intermediate

pre- or post-COMPREHENSION

1: Word Association: Brainstorm words associated with today's topic for two minutes. Present to the class.

2: Brainstorm Questions: Brainstorm questions that you would like to ask about today's topic. Answer the questions without looking at the article.

3: True or False?: Guess (before the article) or answer (after the article) whether the sentence is true or false. If false, correct the sentence.

a.	Humans will become two different species in the future.	T / F
b.	Rich and poor will divide the species.	T / F
c.	Technology will greatly help us in the future, so we should rely on it.	T / F
d.	According to the article, medicine will eventually harm the human race.	T / F
e.	People in 100,000 will more or less have the same intelligence.	T / F

4: Questions: Answer the questions to check comprehension.

a.	Why does the hypothesis sound like fiction?
b.	According to the article, how will the human species be divided in the future?
c.	What will happen in the next 1000 years?
d.	What will happen in the next 10,000 years?
e.	What will happen in the next 100,000 years?

5: Vocabulary: In pairs/groups, remember how the words were used in today's article.

a.	split	c.	access	e.	hue	g.	empathy	i.	breed
b.	millennium	d.	cosmetic	f.	reliance	h.	predicts	j.	substandard

6: Fragments: Remember how the fragments were used, and complete the sentence from today's article.

a.	Evolutionary theorist Oliver Curry has...
b.	For example, humankind will grow taller, and...
c.	According to Curry, people will lose...
d.	Our immune systems won't be as strong as now, because...
e.	The genetically unhealthy will become short and ugly, and...

The Future of the Human Race

Upper-Intermediate

post-COMPREHENSION

1: Vocabulary: Circle any additional unknown words/phrases in the article. In pairs/groups, use your dictionaries to understand the meanings. Present to the class.

2: Class Questions: Read through the article once more, and write down any questions that you would like to discuss in pairs/groups or as a class. Discuss.

3: Summarize: Work with a partner to summarize the article in your own words.

4: Discuss: Talk about the following questions in pairs/groups. Remember to support your answers!

a.	Did you like this article?
b.	What was your general impression after reading this article?
c.	What do you think life will be like in the 31st century? Please explain.
d.	Do you think technology will harm us, as explained in the article? Why/not?
e.	Do you think the human race will make it to the 31st century, let alone the year 100,000? Why/not?
f.	Would you want to live in the 31st century? How about the year 100,000? Why/not?
g.	Are there any flaws with Oliver Curry's theory? Why do you think so?
h.	Does the theory sound more like science fiction or science fact? Why?
i.	What do you think the future of the human race will be? Please explain.
j.	People say that science fiction unwittingly predicts the future. What does this mean, and do you agree?

5: Discuss: What is the future of the human race? Imagine the future of our species in 1000 years. Describe the following topics in as much detail as possible. Remember to use your imaginations!

Our appearance:
Our health and longevity:
Our hobbies and interests:
Space travel (if it exists):
???

6: Google Search: Type "science fiction" into Google news and read additional articles on this topic. Discuss or write an essay about your findings.

STUDENT HANDOUT (the article)

The Future of the Human Race

Evolutionary theorist Oliver Curry has an interesting and unusual hypothesis on the future of the human race. His idea actually sounds more like science fiction instead of science fact. He suggests that in 100,000 years, humankind will have split into two species. In addition, one species will be the haves, and the other the have nots.

Over the coming millennium, we will see some small changes. For example, humankind will grow taller, and 6-7 feet (182-213 centimeters) will likely be the average height. Humans will live roughly 120 years, too. Increased access to resources, cosmetic and genetic therapies, and surgeries will even out the appearance of men and women within each sex. What's more, there won't be different races like today. The races will mix to produce people with a similar, latte-colored hue of skin.

That's the good news. However, our reliance on technology could have negative effects. According to Curry, people will lose social skills and empathy in the face of future technological advancements. Our immune systems won't be as strong as now, because medicines will fight off disease and lower mortality rates. Thus, over time, weak genes will spread and affect our whole species. Curry predicts that this will happen 10,000 years from now.

Further into this dark future, in the year 100,000, the genetically healthy will only breed with one another. This will produce a beautiful and intelligent class of people. The genetically unhealthy will become short and ugly, and will also have substandard intelligence levels. These are the have nots. In other words, humans will turn themselves into rulers and slaves.

Notes:

STUDENT HANDOUT (fill in the blank)

Fill in the blank with the correct word.

mortality	reliance	advancements	fiction	access
cosmetic	predicts	negative	split	empathy
substandard	millennium	breed	hue	further

The Future of the Human Race

Evolutionary theorist Oliver Curry has an interesting and unusual hypothesis on the future of the human race. His idea actually sounds more like science (a. _____) instead of science fact. He suggests that in 100,000 years, humankind will have (b. _____) into two species. In addition, one species will be the haves, and the other the have nots.

Over the coming (c. _____), we will see some small changes. For example, humankind will grow taller, and 6-7 feet (182-213 centimeters) will likely be the average height. Humans will live roughly 120 years, too. Increased (d. _____) to resources, (e. _____) and genetic therapies, and surgeries will even out the appearance of men and women within each sex. What's more, there won't be different races like today. The races will mix to produce people with a similar, latte-colored (f. _____) of skin.

That's the good news. However, our (g. _____) on technology could have (h. _____) effects. According to Curry, people will lose social skills and (i. _____) in the face of future technological (j. _____). Our immune systems won't be as strong as now, because medicines will fight off disease and lower (k. _____) rates. Thus, over time, weak genes will spread and affect our whole species. Curry (l. _____) that this will happen 10,000 years from now.

(m. _____) into this dark future, in the year 100,000, the genetically healthy will only (n. _____) with one another. This will produce a beautiful and intelligent class of people. The genetically unhealthy will become short and ugly, and will also have (o. _____) intelligence levels. These are the have nots. In other words, humans will turn themselves into rulers and slaves.

STUDENT HANDOUT (extended listening)

Listen and fill in the missing sentences. Compare your answers with a partner, and then listen once more.

The Future of the Human Race

Evolutionary theorist Oliver Curry has an interesting and unusual hypothesis on the future of the human race. His idea actually sounds more like science fiction instead of science fact. He suggests that in 100,000 years, a) _____. In addition, one species will be the haves, and the other the have nots.

Over the coming millennium, we will see some small changes. For example, humankind will grow taller, and 6-7 feet (182-213 centimeters) will likely be the average height. Humans will live roughly 120 years, too. Increased access to resources, cosmetic and genetic therapies, and surgeries b) _____. What's more, there won't be different races like today. The races will mix to produce people with a similar, latte-colored hue of skin.

That's the good news. However, c) _____. According to Curry, people will lose social skills and empathy in the face of future technological advancements. Our immune systems won't be as strong as now, because medicines will fight off disease and lower mortality rates. Thus, over time, weak genes will spread and affect our whole species. Curry predicts that this will happen 10,000 years from now.

Further into this dark future, in the year 100,000, the genetically healthy will only breed with one another. This will produce a beautiful and intelligent class of people. d) _____, and will also have substandard intelligence levels. These are the have nots. In other words, e) _____.

STUDENT HANDOUT (notes)

ANSWER KEY

Vocabulary

1. Vocabulary Match:

a.	u	f.	t
b.	x	g.	q
c.	v	h.	y
d.	r	i.	s
e.	z	j.	w

2. Fill in the Blanks:

a.	split	f.	reliance
b.	millennium	g.	empathy
c.	access	h.	predicts
d.	cosmetic	i.	breed
e.	hue	j.	substandard

pre- or post-Comprehension

1. True or False:

a.	T
b.	T
c.	F
d.	T
e.	F

2. Fragments:

a.	an interesting and unusual hypothesis on the future of the human race.
b.	6-7 feet (182-213 centimeters) will likely be the average height.
c.	social skills and empathy in the face of future technological advancements.
d.	medicines will fight off disease and lower mortality rates.
e.	will also have substandard intelligence levels.

Student Handout

1. Fill in the Blanks

a.	fiction	i.	empathy
b.	split	j.	advancements
c.	millennium	k.	mortality
d.	access	l.	predicts
e.	cosmetic	m.	Further
f.	hue	n.	breed
g.	reliance	o.	substandard
h.	negative		

2. Extended Listening

a.	humankind will have split into two species
b.	will even out the appearance of men and women within each sex
c.	our reliance on technology could have negative effects
d.	The genetically unhealthy will become short and ugly
e.	humans will turn themselves into rulers and slaves