



THE
JUBILEE CENTRE
FOR CHARACTER & VIRTUES



LESSON 20

USING TECHNOLOGY MORE WISELY

20

SESSIONS



**Relations
with
Technology**

**Improving
our
Relationship**

**Improving
our Society**

**Considering
Case
Studies**

Reflecting

20

**Courage, Justice, Honesty, Compassion,
Self-discipline, Gratitude, Humility**

HOMEWORK FOR THIS SLATE



In the final session we will be reflecting upon our use of technology. So it will be very useful for us to have thought through how we currently use it.

Over the next few weeks keep a journal, just a few brief notes, of how you use technology. You might write something twice a week. Try to include what you use, why you used it, how long you used it for, and whether you think it enhanced your life. It might be completed in a Table like the one on the next slide, an example has been included to show you the sort of thing to write.

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Self-discipline, Gratitude, Humility

HOMEWORK FOR THIS SLATE



Type of Technology	Used because...	Used for _____ minutes	It enhanced my life because...	If this technology were not available I might have...
<i>Computer</i>	<i>Had to write an essay</i>	<i>40 minutes</i>	<i>It was quick and I could look things up</i>	<i>Handwritten it in 2 hours and made more mistakes</i>



SESSION 1

WHAT IS OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE TECHNOLOGIES WE USE?

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Self-discipline, Gratitude, Humility

TECHNOLOGY IS WHAT TECHNOLOGY DOES



First let us think about the technology we use on a daily basis. In small groups, or on your own, list at least 5 things you think of as technology which you use everyday.

Now explain what they do for you. What is their role in your life? Do they perform this role well? Would there be a non-technological alternative?

Next discuss how much you feel you need them. Are they essential to your life? If they were no longer a part of your life how would it change? Could you do without them?

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DEVELOPING OUR EXAMPLES THE SMARTPHONE



In the last activity you considered five technologies. It is quite likely that one of them was a smartphone.

Many people will have said they need a smartphone based on discussions of all the things they can do for you.

There will, however, be some people who might say they are not essential.

So lets explore this a little...

THE SMARTPHONE



Using a swift hands up survey:

What is the last thing you do at night?

What is the first thing you do in the morning?

What is the one thing you would miss most if you went out for the day?

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PHONE ADDICTION



If the survey we have just done worked as expected we probably said 'mobile phone' a lot. If we had conducted this survey with a room full of smokers or alcoholics they might have said something different.

Is it a fair analogy to compare mobile phones to drugs – are they addictive?

How are they similar or different?

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DEVELOPING OUR EXAMPLES – OUR OTHER IDEAS



Using the big sheets of paper, colour pens, and in silence, discuss:

How is the technology normally used?

Is there any type of this technology which is better than another?

Can anyone benefit from this technology?

Does anyone suffer because of this technology?

Is it worth the money?

Do people earn a living from offering this technology?

Final thoughts?

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SESSION 2

**● HOW CAN WE IMPROVE OUR
RELATIONSHIP WITH THE
TECHNOLOGIES WE USE?**

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CONDUCTING AN AUDIT



When I use this technology I'm in control	When I use this technology it is in control

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FILLING IN THE TABLE



When you are filling in your two columns you might think about a range of technologies. Some of the types you might consider are shown on the right. Fill the Table in for you as you are today.

Extra Challenge Task:

Try to think about specific times when you may be in control or out of control.

Extra Challenge Task:

As you fill the Table in think about how someone different from you [perhaps older?] might come up with different answers.

Technology which helps us eat well

Technology which helps us communicate

Technology which helps keep us well

Technology which entertains us

Technology which defines who we are

Technology which helps us shop

POSTER TIME – YOU WILL BE GIVEN A TITLE AND A TIME LIMIT – THEN ADD ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:



Neat title	A sentence explaining your title	Something good about your type of technology	Something bad about your type of technology	Neat presentation including at least one picture
[3 marks]	[5 marks]	[3 marks x 4]	[3 marks x 4]	[5 marks]
Good spelling	A clear example of the type of technology, well described	A quality which would help you use the technology well	A description of the sort of people who might find it hard to be in control of this technology	Advice for someone who does not feel in control of this technology
[5 marks]	[4 marks x 4]	[5 x 5 marks]	[5 x 5 marks]	[6 x 3 marks]

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Self-discipline, Gratitude, Humility**



SESSION 3

IS TECHNOLOGY IMPROVING OUR SOCIETIES?

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TECHNOLOGY AND GOOD SPEECH



Think of all the ways in which technology can enhance or impoverish communication between people.

Think of as many examples as possible, including social media, etc.

Identify the virtues and vices at work in the communication, e.g. truthfulness, friendliness, humour and good temperedness

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WHY ARE THEY 'GOOD', WHY ARE THEY 'BAD'?



Mobile Phones	Atomic Bombs	Vaccines	3D Televisions
The Internet	Electric Refrigeration	Electric Trains	Contact Lens
Hair Straighteners	Home Games Consoles	Pet Microchips	X-Ray Machine
Bicycle	Bread Maker / Machine	Satellite Navigation Systems	CCTV

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SHOULD THE DEVELOPER CARE?



Technology advances because people want it to. If one person does not invent something someone else will, or at least that is what people say.

Looking back at the previous slide you now need to imagine you created each of those things. Which would you be most proud to have developed and why?

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A SLIDING SCALE



Again thinking about all of those technologies from the beginning of this session can you now plot them on a single line showing the ones which most help our society, to the ones which are the least useful.



Extra Challenge Task:

As each is placed on the line try to offer a reason why it should be moved either left or right.

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SESSION 4

CONSIDERING SOME CASE STUDIES

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THE ATOMIC BOMB



In the 1930s 3 German scientists Otto Hahn, Lise Meitner, and Fritz Strassmann discovered nuclear fission. In the 1930s there was a strong possibility that the Germans with their vast industrial base, chemical engineering facilities, heavy-water plant and high grade uranium compound might be the first to develop the nuclear bomb.

Should the three scientists have thought about how nuclear fission might be used?

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THE ATOMIC BOMB



Lise Meitner fled to Sweden and continued her work with Otto Frisch.

By now Lise would have known her research might be used to create weapons, should she have continued?

Is there an ethical duty to care how your research is used?

Is there an argument to say that if Lise had not continued someone else would have?

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THE ATOMIC BOMB



In 1939 Albert Einstein warned President Roosevelt that the Germans were purifying uranium-235 and were near to making an atomic weapon.

Then in 1941 the British opened up their atomic research facilities to the Americans who set up the Manhattan Project to create their own bomb.

Did Albert Einstein and the British do the right thing? What makes something the right or wrong thing to do in this situation?

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THE ATOMIC BOMB



\$2 billion later Dr J Robert Oppenheimer succeeded in creating a viable bomb, and following a test in New Mexico said “now we are all sons of bitches”

President Truman ordered the dropping of the first atomic bomb on the city and military centre of Hiroshima killing between 66,000 and 130,000 immediately. He ordered another to be dropped on Nagasaki three days later following a warning to the Japanese Emperor.

Were Dr. Oppenheimer and President Truman ‘good’ men at this time? How might we make the decision?

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THE SOCIAL ENTREPRENEUR – CHANNEL 4 AND SMOKESCREEN



<http://www.sixtostart.com/smokescreen/> is a program designed to help young people navigate the internet safely. If you watch the trailer you will have an idea of what it is about.

Now think about all the work your school already does to help you understand about being safe online. Why does it do this?

Does your school get it right?

If you were going to write your school's eSafety program what would you change, if anything, and why?

ADA LOVELACE DAY



Every October there is a world-wide celebration of women working in STEM. It is named after a lady who lived in the 19th century and who was responsible for some of the early advances in computing such as writing early computer programs and developing the idea that computers might one day go beyond simple number crunching.

Now people remember her pioneering work by writing blogs, giving talks, and publishing articles on a special day every year.

Why is such a day seen as important in communities around the world? Such a day encourages friendship but perhaps there is more to it than people working together?

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SESSION 5

REFLECTIONS ON HOW WE MIGHT USE TECHNOLOGIES MORE WISELY

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Self-discipline, Gratitude, Humility

TECHNOLOGY AS AN AMPLIFIER



Example 1 is...	Example 2 is...	Example 3 is...	Example 4 is...
When I use this type of technology I might be seen to be...	When I use this type of technology I might be seen to be...	When I use this type of technology I might be seen to be...	When I use this type of technology I might be seen to be...
This is because...	This is because...	This is because...	This is because...

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LOOKING BACK TO LOOK FORWARD



In our previous sessions we mentioned a lot of qualities. If you were to suggest the top three you feel you might need to use technology skillfully, or wisely, what would they be, and why?

Can you explain why others in the room might come up with different answers from yours?

Does it make you wrong to have chosen the ones you did?

LOOKING BACK TO LOOK FORWARD



Now lets think about the future. It really is a changing world. The first home computers were only introduced around 40 years ago, and those responsible for the first computers could only see a market for maybe five in the whole world.

The qualities you highlighted on the previous slide may be needed to help us navigate a brave new world in the next 40 years. How can we set about making sure we have enough of these qualities to create a skillful and wise future?

FINALLY TO THE HOMEWORK



Right at the beginning you were set a homework. Here are some questions to start you thinking for the future.

If you look at your results from your journal what three things seem to be the key findings?

Do you ever use technology to escape from the real world?

Are there any times when you might cut back on technology?

Are there any times when you might use technology more wisely?

What one piece of advice might you pass on to others about using technology more wisely?

Does technology bring true happiness?

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