



### 139. Working in the High-Tech age

W: Today I'd like to talk about the fact that we work in the high-tech age, and see how it can whether affect or help our work capacity. Sarah, what could you say about that?

Sarah: Well for me, modern technology has revolutionized the way many people work. How amazed our ancestors would be if they saw the state-of-the-art technology we have at our disposal to work! Some people are reluctant to use new technologies but they will have to get used to them, like it or not.

W: Are you sure? To my mind the paperless office is not a dream, it's a nightmare. People use more paper than ever before.

Sarah: Maybe, but what about the fact that more and more people are beginning to adopt teleworking? It saves them the bother of commuting to their office.

W: Well we can wonder if the virtual office is synonymous with freedom or isolation.

Sarah: Take the case of frequent travellers who think video conferencing is a godsend. They don't have to hop on a plane every day.

W: I agree on the fact that video conferencing may cut the travel expenses of a company but to me, it will never replace the need for face-to-face communication.

Sarah: All your arguments are right Wentworth, but look at the waste of time we had with the traditional office around the corner! Email enables people to communicate with each other much faster than snail mail!

W: I also agree with you, but you won't prevent me from thinking that these new ways of working may be extremely convenient, but they could well be the death of genuine human relationships.



GLOSSARY:

Working in the High-Tech age: travailler à l'heure de la haute technologie	A nightmare: un cauchemar
To affect: affecter	Teleworking: le télétravail
To help: aider	The bother: le tracas
To revolutionize: révolutionner	The virtual office: le bureau virtuel
To see/saw/seen: voir	Freedom: la liberté
To have at one's disposal: disposer	Isolation: l'isolement
To be reluctant: rechigner	Frequent travellers: ceux qui voyagent souvent
To get used: s'habituer	video conferencing: la visioconférence
Like it or not: que cela plaise ou non	A godsend : une manne, un don du ciel
To adopt : adopter	A plane : un avion
To save : sauver, ici éviter	The travel expenses : les frais de déplacement
To commute : faire la navette	A company : une entreprise
To wonder : se demander	The need : le besoin
To hop on : sauter	face-to-face communication: la communication face à face
To agree : s'accorder	Your arguments : tes arguments
To cut expenses : réduire les dépenses	The waste of time : la perte de temps
To replace : remplacer	Snail mail : le courrier traditionnel
To enable : permettre	The death : la mort
To communicate : communiquer	Genuine human relationships : des relations humaines authentiques
To prevent : empêcher	Whether : soit
Work capacity : capacité de travail	Around the corner : juste à côté
Modern technology : la technologie moderne	Extremely convenient : extrêmement pratique
Our ancestors : nos ancêtres	
the state-of-the-art technology: la technologie de pointe	
The paperless office: le bureau sans papier	
A dream : un rêve	