



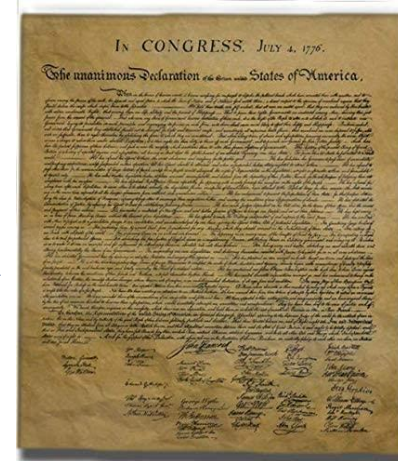
“We hold these truth to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”



"We hold these truth to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

Thomas Jefferson

American Declaration of Independence,
July 4th, 1776





"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and **the pursuit of happiness.**"

What is happiness for YOU?
Type your answer with key words here



<https://answergarden.ch/1843574>



"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and **the pursuit of happiness.**"

Discuss the answers with your group:

- 1) What key words did you choose and **why**? Do you **agree** with your classmates? What are the **differences/common** points?
- 2) Could you identify different categories for the words?

- I agree / disagree with
- I don't understand why **+ S**
- We could divide the words **into** X categories
- I share X's point of view...



What do you remember about your **philosophy class**?

With your team, write everything you remember about the **philosophical definitions** of the terms '**techne**', '**technology**' & '**happiness**'

SCAN THE QR CODE AND
COMPLETE THE APPS.

Tips: Memorize the philosophical
definition for our next activity!



<https://learningapps.org/display?v=pffx0wy2j21>



HAPPINESS AND TECHNICAL PROGRESS IN THE US

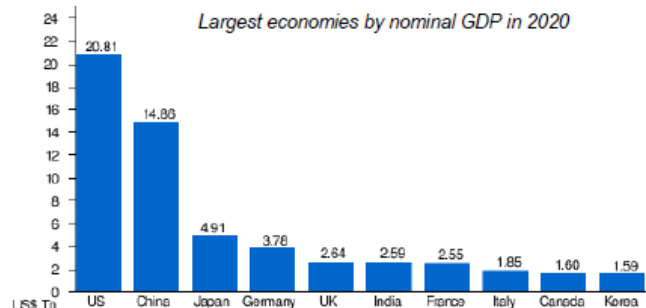


1) American Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, --That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness."

2) American GDP

"Gross domestic product (GDP) is the market value of all final goods and services from a nation in a given year."



Source: "World Economic Outlook Database, October 2020". IMF.org. International Monetary Fund.

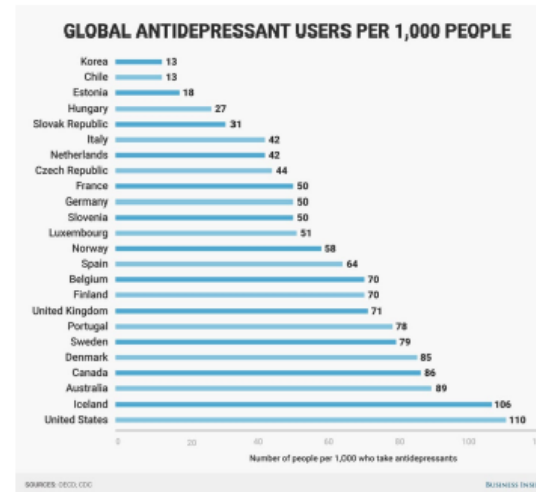
3) International Innovation Index

The International Innovation Index is a global index measuring the level of innovation of a country. [...] The International Innovation Index is part of a large research study that looked at both the business outcomes* of innovation and government's ability to encourage and support innovation through public policy*.

Rank	Country	Overall	Innovation inputs	Innovation performance
1	South Korea	2.28	1.75	2.65
2	United States	1.80	1.28	2.16
3	Japan	1.79	1.16	2.25
4	Sweden	1.64	1.25	1.88
5	Netherlands	1.55	1.40	1.65
6	Canada	1.42	1.39	1.32
7	United Kingdom	1.42	1.33	1.37
8	Germany	1.12	1.05	1.00
9	France	1.12	1.17	0.95
10	Australia	1.02	0.89	1.05
11	Spain	0.93	0.83	0.95
12	Belgium	0.86	0.86	0.79
13	India	0.79	0.07	1.32
14	Italy	0.21	0.16	0.24
15	China	0.06	0.14	-0.02
16	Russia	-0.09	-0.02	-0.18
17	Mexico	-0.16	0.11	-0.42
18	Turkey	-0.21	0.15	-0.55
19	Indonesia	-0.57	-0.43	-0.46

Source: Wikipedia

4) American use of antidepressant





Source: <https://www.businessinsider.com/countries-largest-antidepressant-drug-users-2016-11?IR=T>

→ In pairs, observe and compare the data in the documents. What can you say about the correlation between technical progress and happiness in the US? What paradox / opposition do you notice? Define the underlying* philosophical paradox.

VOCABULARY BOX

- unalienable rights = rights that you can never remove or take away
- principles (= *des principes*)
- consent (= *le consentement, l'accord*)
- GDP : Gross Domestic Product (= *PIB*)
- antidepressant
- III : International Innovation Index (= *Indice mondial de l'innovation*)
- outcome = the result (= *résultat, aboutissement*)
- policy = a course of action adopted by a government (= *une politique*)
- underlying = implicit

- 1) What notion could be linked to this unit and why?
- 2) What could be the problematic of the unit?

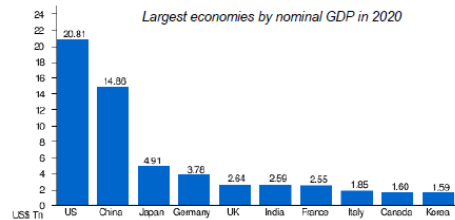
HAPPINESS AND TECHNICAL PROGRESS IN THE US

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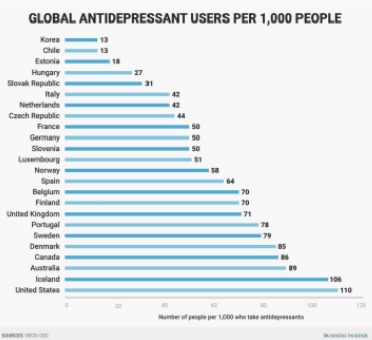
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7	United Kingdom	1.42	1.33	1.37
8	Germany	1.12	1.06	1.00
9	France	1.12	1.17	0.90
10	Australia	1.02	0.89	1.05
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12	Belgium	0.96	0.86	0.79
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14	Italy	0.21	0.18	0.24
15	China	0.05	0.14	-0.32
16	Russia	-0.09	-0.62	-0.18
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THE (TECHNICAL) PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS

**THE
PHILOSOPHICAL
DEBATE**



UNIT'S COVER PAGE



<https://teacherlopez.padlet.org/englishclass/thepursuitofhappiness>



The (technical) pursuit of happiness

Main axis: private space, public space

Secondary axis: Identities and exchanges

Problematic: To what extent is the American way of life guaranteeing American individuals to pursue happiness?

Final Task: You will take part in a philosophical debate → **Oral interaction** – in groups

VOCABULARY

Nouns (N)	Verbs (V)	Adjectives (Adj)	Others (X)



GROUP'S LOG SHEET

YOUR NAMES

GREEN POINTS
RED POINTS

LYCEE ELIE CARTAN

THE (TECHNICAL) PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS

Aspiring philosophers

Wisdom barometer

THE
PHILOSOPHICAL
DEBATE



April 2021

THE WISER PHILOSOPHER



*In philosophy, **happiness** is a of long-lasting It is a rather than* a Happiness is equivalent to-.....: the ability to be, to be fully accomplished in one's life, to be or become who one truly is.*

“Happiness is equivalent to self-accomplishment: the ability to be fulfilled, to be fully accomplished in **one**’s life, to be or become who **one** truly is.”

“Philosophically speaking, techne differs from natural processes because **one** needs a human intelligence to develop it.”

1) Who is ‘one’ referring to?

2) How would you translate it in the 2 sentences?

3) Do you know other ways to translate ‘on’ / ‘nous’ into English?

SHORT FILM ANALYSIS

STEP 1: ANTICIPATION

Title: HAPPINESS by Steve Cutts

Source: Youtube.com

- In your opinion, what could be the short film about?
- What could be the link between the screenshot and the title?



SHORT FILM ANALYSIS

STEP 2: ANALYSIS

Title: HAPPINESS by Steve Cutts
Source: Youtube.com



Scan the QR code. Ask questions 1) & 2).

If you finish early, do question 3)

HAPPINESS by Steve Cutts – ANALYSIS



<http://www.viewpure.com/e9dZQelULDk?start=0&end=0>

1) THE CHARACTER'S ENVIRONMENT

a. Observe the character's environment. Briefly describe what you see and describe the general atmosphere in the video.

b. When/where do you read 'happiness'? Deduce: what is happiness associated with in this environment?

→ Conclude: What type of society is the rat living in? To what extent does it correspond to the American society?

2) THE CHARACTER(S)

Observe the rat's reactions and feelings and fill in the grid. When does it look happy?
When does it look unhappy?

The rat looks happy when...	The rat looks unhappy when...



SHORT FILM ANALYSIS

STEP 3: SYNTHESIS / TRACE ECRITE

Title: HAPPINESS by Steve Cutts

Source: Youtube.com



- What is Steve Cutts showing about happiness and the modern way of life?
- How do happiness and technical/technological progress intertwine in the short film?



FROM COMPREHENSION TO INTERACTION

TECHNICAL PROGRESS, HAPPINESS & AMERICAN TV

GROUP A

GROUP B

GROUP A: TECHNICAL PROGRESS, HAPPINESS & AMERICAN ADS

GROUP B: TECHNICAL PROGRESS, HAPPINESS & AMERICAN TV

STEP 1: INDIVIDUAL WORK: Follow the instructions on your worksheet.

STEP 2: EXPERT GROUP WORK: Put your answers in common with your group.

STEP 3: INDIVIDUAL WORK: Scan the QR code and do the apps to work on pronunciation.



STEP 4: PAIR + PAIR WORK: Share your analysis with pupils who worked on the other theme. Mind your pronunciation !



REFRESH YOUR MEMORY !

You are going to debate with your group. Do you remember how to express your opinion?

Choose 1 or 2 apps and do them again.



<https://learningapps.org/watch?v=pe3a4jtpt20>

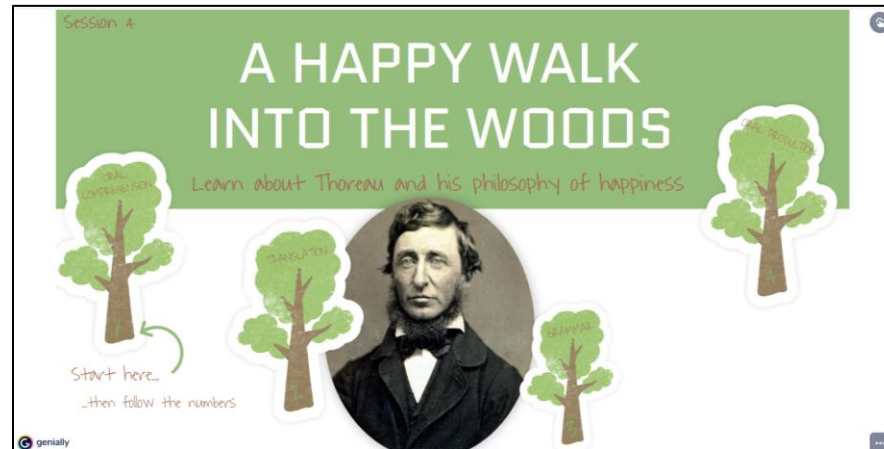
DEBATE!

Do you believe, like Penny and her friends, that having a house, a nice car and a high salary can make you happy?

- Use different equivalent forms of the French word 'On'
- Discuss the vision of happiness given in ads and TV series
- Reuse vocabulary from the Learning Apps to express your opinion



SESSION 4 ON GENIALLY





RECAP

- Transcendentalism is...
- To think about life and experience a new lifestyle, Thoreau...
- According to Thoreau, self-reliance is...
- For him, technology is...

WRITTEN COMPREHENSION

Understanding a philosophical text

You know this man! Do you remember who lent the **cabin** to **Thoreau** and developed the notion of **transcendentalism**?



RALPH WALDO
EMERSON
(1803-1882)

Let's study an essay written by Emerson

STEP 1: ANTICIPATION



Read the beginning of the text below.

What word is **repeated** in 2 different forms? Simply **define** this word.

Essays, First Series 2. Self-Reliance

4. As our Religion, our Education, our Art look abroad, so does our spirit of society. All men plume themselves on the improvement of society, and no man improves.

STEP 1: ANTICIPATION



Read the beginning of the text below.

What word is **repeated** in 2 different forms? Simply **define** this word.

→ 'improvement', 'improves'. Improvement = a positive evolution.

Essays, First Series 2. Self-Reliance

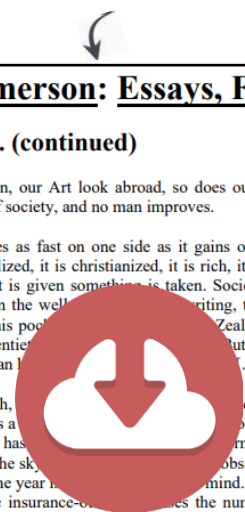
4. As our Religion, our Education, our Art look abroad, so does our spirit of society. All men plume themselves on the improvement of society, and no man improves.

STEP 2: GENERAL COMPREHENSION



Read the text. Underline the **ideas you understand**.

Click on the icon to download your text



Ralph Waldo Emerson: Essays, First Series

2. SELF-RELIANCE. (continued)

4. As our Religion, our Education, our Art look abroad, so does our spirit of society. All men plume themselves on the improvement of society, and no man improves.

5 Society never advances. It recedes as fast on one side as it gains on the other. It undergoes continual changes; it is barbarous, it is civilized, it is christianized, it is rich, it is scientific; but this change is not amelioration. For every thing that is given something is taken. Society acquires new arts and loses old instincts. What a contrast between the well-dressed, well-educated, well-written, thinking American, with a watch, a pencil and a bill of exchange in his pocket, and the naked New Zealander*, whose property is a club, a spear, a mat and an undivided twentieth part of his neighbor's land, but compare the health of the two men and you shall see that the white man is the stronger.

The civilized man has built a coach, the naked man is supported on crutches, but lacks so much support of muscle. He has a pocket watch, the naked man has the skill to tell the hour by the sun. A Greenwich nautical almanac he has, the naked man has the information when he wants it, the man in the street does not know a star in the sky, the naked man can observe; the equinox he knows as little; and the whole bright calendar of the year is in his mind. His note-books impair his memory; his libraries overload his wit; the insurance-office increases the number of accidents; and it may be a question whether* machinery does not encumber.

Source: <http://www.literaturepage.com/read/emersonessays1-43.html>

*the naked New Zealander: Emerson is referring to the Native people of New Zealand

*well-clad = well-dressed

*whether = if





STEP 3: DETAILED COMPREHENSION

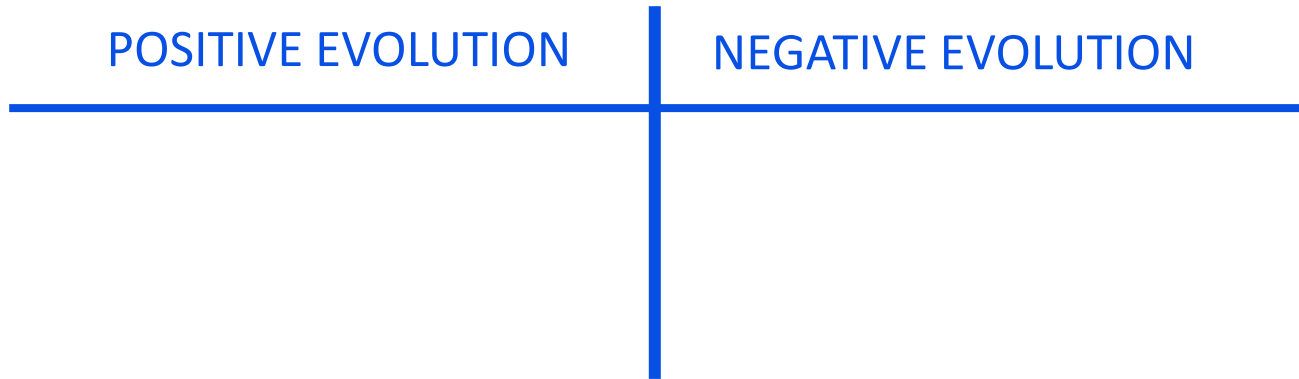
a. Read the text again. Pick out elements that Emerson opposes and classify them in 2 categories (positive evolution / negative evolution).

Choose what corresponds to your level

A1/A2 → Find linking words expressing opposition to help you

A2+/B1 → Focus on positively or negatively connoted verbs to help you

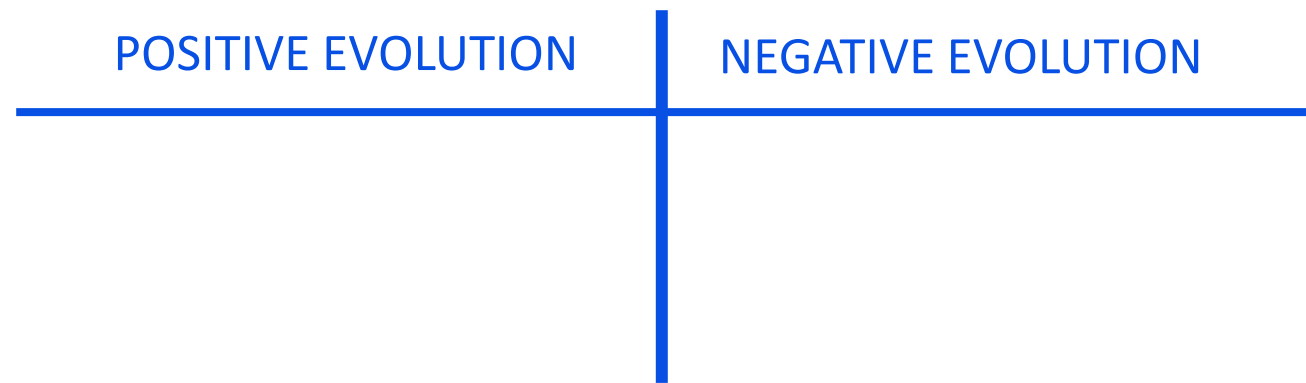
B1+/B2 → Read the implicit: find metaphors and explain the underlying opposition





STEP 3: DETAILED COMPREHENSION

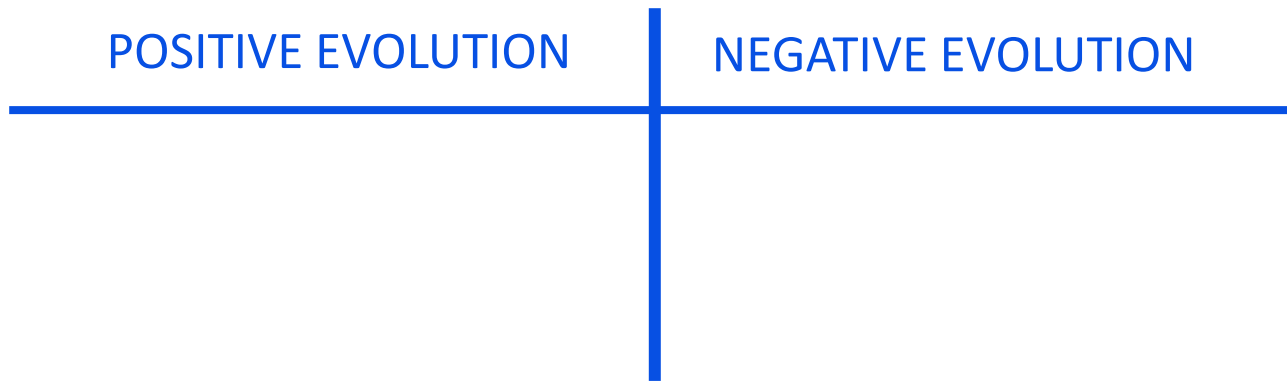
[IN CLASS] b. Put your answers in common with your group and complete your grid.





STEP 3: DETAILED COMPREHENSION

c. Observe the common points in each column.
Imagine a more **specific title** for each column of the grid.



STEP 3: DETAILED COMPREHENSION

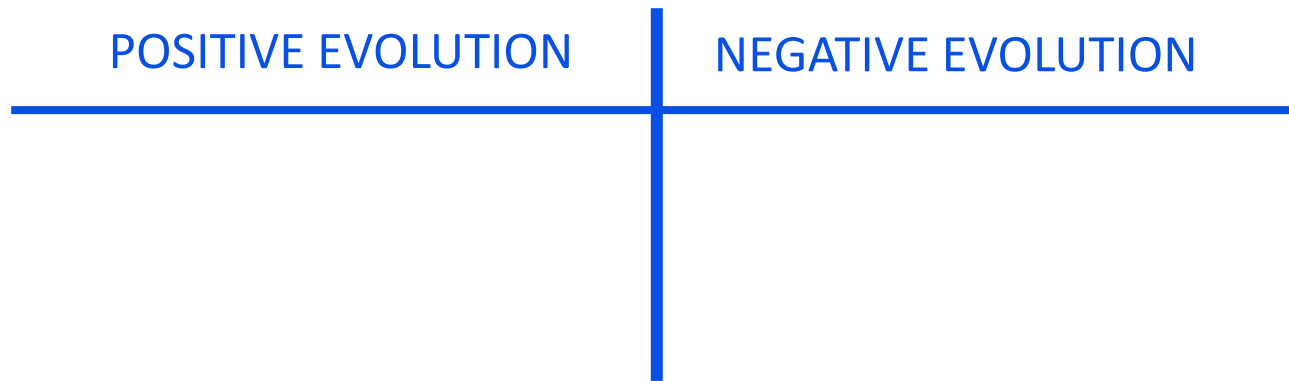


c. Observe the common points in each column.
Imagine a more **specific title** for each column of the grid.

→ New technology / lost skill

Or

→ Technological improvement / human regression



STEP 3: DETAILED COMPREHENSION



*'The civilized man has built a coach, but has lost the use of his feet'.
'He has a fine Geneva watch, but he fails of the skill to tell the hour
by the sun.'*

- 1) Repère les verbes principaux dans chaque proposition
- 2) A quel temps les verbes sont-ils conjugués?
- 3) Pourquoi ces deux temps sont-ils utilisés? Quel sens en est donné au texte?

STEP 3: DETAILED COMPREHENSION



*'The civilized man has built a coach, but has lost the use of his feet'.
'He has a fine Geneva watch, but he fails of the skill to tell the hour
by the sun.'*

CORRECTION

- 1) Repère les verbes principaux dans chaque proposition
- 2) A quel temps les verbes sont-ils conjugués?
- 3) Pourquoi ces deux temps sont-ils utilisés? Quel sens en est donné au texte?

- 'has built', 'has lost' → present perfect simple: ici utilisé pour faire le **bilan** des actions de l'homme, pour parler des **conséquences présentes** de ses **actions passées**. Emerson exprime les conséquences des progrès techniques sur les capacités physiques et naturelles de l'homme.
- 'has', 'fails' → présent simple: ici utilisé sous forme de **vérité générale**, pour parler d'une vérité **universelle**: cette valeur du présent simple est **souvent utilisée en philosophie**, puisque la philosophie vise à penser l'homme dans son universalité ! Ici, le message d'Emerson se veut donc universel, il vise à définir l'Homme dans sa nature.

STEP 4: SYNTHESIS



With all the information you have collected, answer the following question:

- What is Emerson's opinion on technical progress and technology?
- How can you link this idea with the title of the text: 'self-reliance*'

STEP 4: SYNTHESIS



With all the information you have collected, answer the following question:

- What is Emerson's opinion on technical progress and technology?
- How can you link this idea with the title of the text: 'self-reliance*'

Ralph Waldo Emerson, born in the XIXth century, believes that technical progress isn't real progress for humanity. **In his opinion**, every advance we make with **technology** makes us lose our natural skills. It brings us away from Nature, from our human nature and it makes us **weaker** and **less happy**.

With this thought, he encourages people to be able to **rely on themselves**: to be **self-sufficient**, to be **autonomous** in order to be fully **accomplished** and therefore to be **truly happy**.

MEMORISING

What are the common points of the verbs in each box?



+

Improve
Advance
Gain
Give
Acquire
increase

-

recede
Undergo change
Lose
Take
Lack *sth*
Fail *to +V*
Impair *sth*
overload

What are the common points of the verbs in each box?



2 MINUTES TO MEMORIZE

- +
- Improve
- Advance
- Gain
- Give
- Acquire
- increase

-
- recede
- Undergo change
- Lose
- Take
- Lack *sth*
- Fail *to +V*
- Impair *sth*
- overload



Become a modern Emerson!

[In pairs], reinvent paragraph 3 using modern examples.

- Use the **present perfect** to assess man's actions and the simple present to talk about man in a universal way
- Imagine modern arguments of technology replacing our skills
- Reuse the verbs below.



Improve
Advance
Gain
Give
Acquire
increase



recede
Undergo change
Lose
Take
Lack *sth*
Fail *to +V*
Impair *sth*
overload



Do you remember Emerson's opinion on technology?



Do you remember Emerson's opinion on technology?

Emerson believes that technical progress and technology are making us **lose our natural skills**, that technology brings us away from Nature and from Human Nature.

Do you agree with him?

I agree with...
I disagree with...
I believe that...
To me, ...
It is true that... but...



"POINT TAKEN debates a topic Americans care about."

STEP 1: ANTICIPATION

You are going to watch a video called '**POINT TAKEN | The Technology Debate in 58 Seconds**'.

It is a summary of the full debate that took place on the American PBS channel.

Imagine the question that was asked about technology.



TO ASK A YES/NO QUESTION

BE + S + noun/adjective?

DO + S + Verb infinitive + complement?



STEP 1: ANTICIPATION

Listen to the introduction by Carlos Watson and pick out the debating question.

"POINT TAKEN debates a topic Americans care about."





"POINT TAKEN debates a topic Americans care about."

STEP 1: ANTICIPATION

The debating question is:

Is technology making us smarter or dumber?

In pairs, imagine 2 opposite arguments to answer the debating question.

'POINT TAKEN | The Technology Debate in 58 Seconds'

Is technology making us smarter or dumber?

STEP 2: GENERAL COMPREHENSION



"POINT TAKEN debates a topic Americans care about."

Watch the debate.

Focus on what you understand and identify which team is on which side (smarter vs. dumber). Give a title to each column of the grid.

TEAM n°1 (on the right, Jeff & Daniel):

TEAM n°2 (on the left, Emily and Kathryn):

--	--

'POINT TAKEN | The Technology Debate in 58 Seconds'

Is technology making us smarter or dumber?

STEP 3: DETAILED COMPREHENSION



"POINT TAKEN debates a topic Americans care about."

Watch again.

Pick out key word for each participant and fill in the grid.

Then, explain the arguments with your own words.

TEAM n°1 (on the right, Jeff & Daniel):
technology makes us dumber

TEAM n°2 (on the left, Emily and Kathryn):
technology makes us smarter

'POINT TAKEN | The Technology Debate in 58 Seconds'

Is technology making us smarter or dumber?

STEP 3: DETAILED COMPREHENSION



"POINT TAKEN debates a topic Americans care about."

Watch again.

Pick out key word for each participant and fill in the grid.

Then, explain the arguments with your own words.

TEAM n°1 (on the right, Jeff & Daniel):

technology makes us dumber

TEAM n°2 (on the left, Emily and Kathryn):

technology makes us smarter

Technology **doesn't engage critical thinking**: it doesn't encourage people to take distance from what they read.

Technology 'protects' you from things that might challenge you: you stay surrounded with people and posts sharing the same opinion.

Technology is **what we make of it**.

Technology helps to **connect people** and gives everyone **access to information**.

'POINT TAKEN | The Technology Debate in 58 Seconds'

Is technology making us smarter or dumber?

STEP 3: DETAILED COMPREHENSION

POINT

TAKEN

"POINT TAKEN debates a topic Americans care about."

Watch again.

Pay attention to the way each participant introduce their arguments: what **debating strategies** do they use? How do they try to convince their opponents?

Then, identify other strategies you could use.

'POINT TAKEN | The Technology Debate in 58 Seconds'

Is technology making us smarter or dumber?

POINT

TAKEN

"POINT TAKEN debates a topic
Americans care about."

Download the script for correction.

Then, **listen to the video** and underline the **stressed words** and **mark the pauses**.

Finally, read the script expressively. You have to be **CONVINCING** !

TIPS ! To be convincing, remember to stress important words and to mark pauses !



Download the SCRIPT with correction

'POINT TAKEN | The Technology Debate in 58 Seconds'

Is technology making us smarter or dumber?

STEP 4: SYNTHESIS

POINT

TAKEN

*"POINT TAKEN debates a topic
Americans care about."*

Who do you find most convincing? Why?

'POINT TAKEN | The Technology Debate in 58 Seconds'

Is technology making us smarter or dumber?

POINT

TAKEN

"POINT TAKEN debates a topic Americans care about."

ROLE n°1: You are on the 'DUMBER' team. You have studied Emerson. Answer the debating question quoting Emerson.

OR

ROLE n°2: You are Carlos Watson, the anchor of the show. Prepare ideas and follow-up questions to ask your participants.

OR

ROLE n°3: You are on the 'SMARTER' team. Prepare counter-arguments to Emerson's point of view.

YOU MUST INCLUDE QUESTIONS IN YOUR SPEECH



TO ASK A YES/NO QUESTION

BE + S + noun/adjective?

DO + S + Verb infinitive + complement?

FINAL TASK

ORAL INTERACTION

**You are an American citizen. You take part in a debate in the Point Taken show.
Question of the day: Is technology making us Americans happier or more unhappy?**

ROLE A: you belong to team 'HAPPIER'.

ROLE B: you belong to team 'MORE UNHAPPY'.

ROLE C: you are the **anchor**, you feed the debate with new ideas and follow-up questions.



POINT

TAKEN

**Is technology making us Americans
happier or more unhappy?**



HAPPIER

**MORE
UNHAPPY**