BUSINESS NEWS LESSONS

Artificial or human intelligence: Which will drive future innovation?

Procedure

1. Warmer

Give students time to think about the different technological developments and how soon they will happen, if at all. There is no single best answer and it is a matter of personal opinion. In the context of the lesson, however, you could point out that some of these technologies are already happening to some extent – e.g. some economies are already moving to a cashless mode while 3-D printing and drone deliveries are developing quickly.

2. Key words and expressions

Students search for words and expressions in the text and write them next to the definitions while noticing how the words are used in context. In the case of the word *poised* (#4), point out that the word also occurs in paragraph 6. You can be *poised for something* (e.g. Economies are poised for a downturn) or *poised to do something* (e.g. The government is poised to introduce tax increases).

Key:

1. veer
2. game plan
3. off-the-shelf
4. unicorn
5. poised
6. accelerate
7. hunch
8. deploy
9. balance sheet
10. augment
11. barrier
12. potential

3. Understanding the article

Students work individually to read the article again and write them next to the definitions while noticing how the words are used in context. In the case of the word *poised* (#4), point out that the word also occurs in paragraph 6. You can be *poised for something* (e.g. Economies are poised for a downturn) or *poised to do something* (e.g. The government is poised to introduce tax increases).

Key:

1. b
2. c
3. a
4. a
5. b
6. b
4. Business language – idioms

Students work individually to match the expressions from the text with their meanings. They then check their answers by looking in the text. Seeing the expressions in context will help them to see how each phrase is used. You could point out that *vanilla* is used before a noun to mean *basic*. The term originates in the ice-cream flavour which is regarded as the most basic flavour.

**Key:**
1. f
2. d
3. a
4. e
5. c
6. b

5. Business language – word building

Encourage students to complete the exercise without looking in the text. Highlight the fact that the prefix in the adjective *unequal* changes to *in-* in the noun.

**Key:**
1. innovation
2. recognition
3. development
4. option
5. inequality
6. boldness
7. drought
8. stability

6. Business language – expressions with prepositions

Before students start this exercise, point out that eight different prepositions are used in these phrases. Encourage them to complete the exercise without looking in the text. After they have attempted to answer, they should check the text.

**Key:**
1. of
2. on
3. at
4. to
5. for
6. over
7. into
8. in

7. Discussion

In small groups, students discuss the questions which expand on topics and quotes from the article. Hold a short whole-class feedback session and compare and contrast each group’s answers and input. If you are teaching an online class or a one-to-one lesson, give the learner(s) plenty of time to consider their responses to each of the discussion questions.

8. Wider business theme – start-up: developing a product

Ask students to look at paragraphs 4 and 12 of the article again. The author mentions ten different technological developments that we are already seeing or will probably see in the not-too-distant future. Ask each student to select one of these developments and find out more about it following the five steps on the worksheet. For small group work, you may wish to assign different technological developments to different groups and ask for group presentations.

When students present their ideas to the group, it is useful to make a note of any significant errors in their use of language and then to ask them to correct these after they have finished their presentation.

One-to-one teaching or online teaching

This task can be adapted so that students do the research and then report back to you or the online class in the next lesson.