

A.III.25

Business communication: writing

Technological future trends – Evaluating fictive developments in the series *Black Mirror*

Nach einer Idee von Manuela Olde Daalhuis, Düsseldorf



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Intelligente Roboter? Unendlicher Zugriff auf Informationen? Ein digitales Bewertungssystem im Job? Die Lernenden tauchen in alternative Realitäten der Science-Fiction-Serie „Black Mirror“ ein, die auf Basis aktueller technologischer Entwicklungen faszinierende und gleichzeitig beunruhigende Zukunftsszenarien zeichnet. Sie extrahieren die gezeigten Zukunftstrends, beziehen sie auf die Arbeitswelt und bewerten und diskutieren die möglichen Chancen und Risiken.

KOMPETENZPROFIL

Niveau:	A2/B1
Dauer:	10 Unterrichtsstunden (inkl. LEK)
Kompetenzen:	1. Hör-Seh-Verstehen: Äußerungen in authentischen Serienaus- schnitten verstehen und technologische Zukunftstrends identifizieren, 2. Leseverstehen: Texte verstehen und relevante Informationen entnehmen, 3. Sprech- und Schreibkompetenz: technologische Zu- kunftstrends mündlich und schriftlich bewerten und diskutieren, 4. Medienkompetenz: den Kanal „Video“ als Informationsquelle nutzen, digitale Tools verwenden
Thematische Bereiche:	<i>technological developments in the working world, visions of the future: technological progress</i>
Medien:	Ausschnitte aus „Black Mirror“, Zeitungsartikel, Interview
Zusatzmaterialien:	LEK, Vokabelliste, ausführlicher Erwartungshorizont

Auf einen Blick

1. Stunde

- Thema:** Expectations for *Black Mirror* – activating previous knowledge
- M 1** **Trends of the future – reflecting on the worlds on display in the series *Black Mirror*** / Vorwissen zu technologischen Entwicklungen aktivieren
- Benötigt:** M 1 als Folie, Worddokument oder Ausdruck
 OH-Projektor, Smartboard oder Dokumentenkamera

2./3. Stunde

- Thema:** New technological developments – an opinion
- M 2** **Charlie Brooker on his series *Black Mirror* – commenting on new technology** / zentrale Themen der Serie „*Black Mirror*“ erarbeiten und bewerten
- M 3** **‘The more horrible an idea, the funnier I find it’** / Leitungsartikel zum Erarbeiten der Themen der Serie „*Black Mirror*“ / Partnerarbeit
- Benötigt:** M 3 als Folie, Worddokument oder Ausdruck
 OH-Projektor bzw. Beamer/Whiteboard
 ggf. Smartphones, Laptops oder Tablets für den digitalen Austausch in M 2



4. Stunde

- Thema:** Futuristic technological devices – implications for the working world
- M 4** **Assessing work performance – alternative approaches in *Black Mirror*** / mögliche technologische Entwicklungen erschließen und bewerten
- Benötigt:** Smartphones, Laptops oder Tablets oder Smartboard/Beamer als Abspielmöglichkeit des Videos
 Vorbereitete (ggf. heruntergeladene) Episoden von „*Black Mirror*“:
 „The Entire History of You“: Staffel 1, Folge 1 (00:00–03:30 min)
 „Nosedive“: Staffel 3, Folge 1 (03:05–08:23 min)
 Smartboard oder Dokumentenkamera zur Ergebnissicherung



5.–7. Stunde

- Thema:** Intelligent robots – an everyday companion?
- M 5** ***Rachel, Jack and Ashley Too – living with a robot*** / die Möglichkeit von intelligenten Robotern erarbeiten und bewerten
- Benötigt:** Smartphones, Laptops oder Tablets oder Smartboard/Beamer als Abspielmöglichkeit des Videos
 Vorbereitete (ggf. heruntergeladene) Episode von „*Black Mirror*“:
 „*Rachel, Jack and Ashley Too*“: Staffel 5, Folge 3 (05:10–05:33 min / 09:55–14:55 min / 37:22–43:25 min)



- M 5 als Folie, Worddokument oder Ausdruck
- OH-Projektor bzw. Beamer/Whiteboard
- ggf. Laptops/Tablets für die digitale Alternativen in M 5

8./9. Stunde

- Thema:** Artificial Intelligence – human job quotas
- M 6** **Artificial Intelligence and Robots – competitors on the job market?** / schrittweise einen Zeitungsartikel erarbeiten und den Inhalt bewerten
- M 7** **Rise of robotics will [...] lead to human job quotas** / mithilfe des Arbeitsblatts einen Zeitungsartikel erschließen
- Benötigt:**
- M 6 und M 7 als Folie, Worddokument oder Ausdruck
 - OH-Projektor bzw. Beamer/Whiteboard
 - ggf. Laptops oder Tablets für die digitale Alternativen der Schreibkonferenz

10. Stunde

- ZM 3** **LEK** / zu finden auf der CD 38 bzw. in der ZIP-Datei





Minimalplan

- Sie haben nur zwei bis drei Stunden zur Verfügung. Erarbeiten Sie die wichtigsten Inhalte:
- 5.–7. Stunde: Intelligent robots – an everyday companion? M 5
- oder
- 8./9. Stunde: Artificial Intelligence – human job quotas M 6/M 7

Zusatzmaterialien auf der CD 38 bzw. in der ZIP-Datei

- ZM1_useful_phrases_technology *useful phrases* für leistungsschwächere Lernende
- ZM2_example_mindmap *example mindmap* Lösung zu der Mindmap in M 5
- ZM3_LEK *LEK* Thematisch anschließende Lernerfolgskontrolle

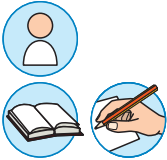
Hinweise zu den Differenzierungssymbolen

	Finden Sie dieses Symbol in den Lehrerhinweisen, so findet eine Differenzierung statt. Es gibt drei Niveaustufen, wobei nicht jede Niveaustufe immer extra ausgewiesen wird.	
		
einfaches Niveau	mittleres Niveau	schwieriges Niveau

M 2

Charlie Brooker on his series *Black Mirror* – comments on new technology

Read Charlie Brooker’s comments on new technologies in his interview with *The Guardian*. As the interview is quite long, you are going to share the reading task with a partner.

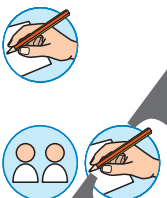


Partner Puzzle I

1. Read your part of the text, then take notes for each topic. Reduce its content to three keywords for every tech issue¹.



2. Talk to your partner. Inform him/her about your findings.
3. Now listen to your partner and inform you about other tech issues that were discussed in her/his part of the text.



4. In his interview, Charlie Brooker is criticising and warning of effects some technological developments can have on people and society. Choose 3 topics and evaluate and comment on Brooker’s statements.
5. With your partner, imagine an exciting plot² of the series *Black Mirror* exploring ideas about future of transportation (e.g. drones, self-driving cars). Make sure you consider the advantages³ of these new technological devices and also their possible disadvantages⁴. Sum up your idea in 4–5 sentences.

vocabulary

1 **tech issue**: das technologische Thema – 2 **plot**: die Handlung – 3 **advantage**: der Vorteil – 4 **disadvantage**: der Nachteil

Assessing work performance – alternative approaches in *Black Mirror*

M 4

The episodes *The Entire History of You* and *Nosedive* deal with technological devices that could revolutionise the job market and how we are seen and assessed by our employer.

Partner Puzzle II – Partner A

- Pre-watching:** The title of the episode is "*Nosedive*". Collect ideas on the topics/themes of the episode.
- While-watching:** Watch minutes 03:05–08:23 from *Black Mirror's* episode *Nosedive* (season 3, episode 1) at least twice. Answer the following questions.



© ddp images/Capital Pictures

a) Lacie lives in a world in which ...
<input type="checkbox"/> ... everyone posts on social media and likes posts of others (1).
<input type="checkbox"/> ... everyone is rated for their social media activity and real-life actions (2).
<input type="checkbox"/> ... people are collecting stars and use it as payment method (3).
b) Talking to her acquaintance², Bethany, in the elevator ...
<input type="checkbox"/> ... Lacie makes use of an in-eye projector gathering information about her (1).
<input type="checkbox"/> ... they are making honest and respectful conversation (2).
<input type="checkbox"/> ... Lacie is asking her about her dog (3).
c) Your score is important ...
<input type="checkbox"/> ... for your health since dropping ⁴ below 2.5 means that you have to go to a doctor (1).
<input type="checkbox"/> ... for your public perception ⁵ and your employment since dropping below 2.5 means that your job is terminated ⁶ (2).
<input type="checkbox"/> ... since it determines ⁷ which people you can meet with and which restaurants you can go to (3).
d) Getting one or two stars ...
<input type="checkbox"/> ... does not bother Lacie (1).
<input type="checkbox"/> ... is a good sign for Lacie (2).
<input type="checkbox"/> ... shocks Lacie and makes her panicked (3).

- Post-watching:** In the episode the relationships seem superficial. People are only talking to each other to get a good score. Compare this to today's situation with social media.
- Post-watching:** In the episode your score influences your employment.
 - Reflect what this would mean for the job market and the assessment of performance.
 - Give your opinion on such a development.

Get together with partner B. Summarise the content of your video for him/her. Explain the implications for the job market and give your opinion. Shortly discuss the matter.

1 **Nosedive:** Titel auf Deutsch: Abgestürzt – 2 **acquaintance:** die/der Bekannte – 3 **to gather:** sammeln – 4 **to drop:** fallen/sinken – 5 **public perception:** die öffentliche Wahrnehmung – 6 **to terminate:** beenden/kündigen – 7 **to determine:** bestimmen – 8 **to bother sb.:** jmd. stören – 9 **implication:** die Auswirkung/Folge

M 5

Rachel, Jack and Ashley too – living with a robot

The episode *Rachel, Jack and Ashley Too* deals with the possibility of robots in everyday life.



© ddp/Everett Collection

Pre-viewing

1. Look at the picture above.
 - a) Describe it.
 - b) What could the episode be about.

Viewing: Part I

2. Watch minutes 05:10–05:33 of the episode *Rachel, Jack and Ashley Too* twice.
 - a) State whether the sentences are true or false. Correct false statements.

Statement	true	false
A video clip by famous popstar Ashley O is shown.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The robot-doll makes it possible to have your favourite star as a friend.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The robot-doll is based on the star's personality.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The robot can only play the music of the star.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The blonde girl, Ashley, does not care about the robot.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

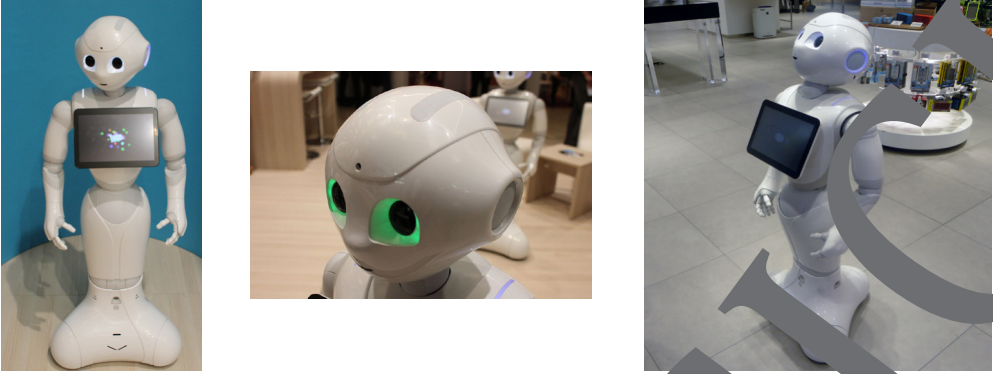
- b) Make assumptions on what is going to happen in the episode.



Artificial Intelligence and robots – competitors on the job market?

M 6

It is not far-fetched to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) and robots in the working sphere to make processes faster and easier. What could be the consequences?



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This is Pepper, a robot able to read human emotions and designed as a companion and personal robot in the future. It is currently being tested as a receptionist at different offices in the UK. Pepper can identify visitors using facial recognition, arranges for drinks and chats with clients.

Tasks

1. **Pre-reading:** Read the information on the robot Pepper.
 - a) Name further sectors in which Pepper could possibly be established.
 - b) Think about possible consequences for the working world.
2. **While-reading:** Read the article.
 - a) Divide the article up into different, thematically connected paragraphs. Write down the key statement of that paragraph next to the text. Exchange your statements with your partner and, if necessary, correct them.
 - b) State whether the following statements are true or false. Correct false statements.

statement	true	false
A. New advances in robotics will change working place routines to a great degree.		
B. Countries like China will continue to profit from the advantage that they can offer services with cheap labour costs. Only the industrialised countries will suffer from the replacement of workers by robots.		
C. The report describes the development of the working world in terms of industrialisation, electrification, digitalisation and industrial revolution 4.0. Industrial revolution 4.0 means the arrival of software and machines in the production and service sector.		
D. There needs to be a job quota ensuring that certain jobs will be performed by human beings instead of robots.		

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