

A collection of objects is arranged on a light-colored surface. On the left, a portion of a chessboard with a blue and brown checkered pattern is visible, featuring several chess pieces. Below the chessboard are two ornate medals with star-shaped centers and intricate designs. A red ribbon with a circular emblem is attached to one of the medals. In the bottom left corner, there is a circular compass with a white face and black markings. A pair of gold-rimmed glasses with thin temples is positioned in the center, overlapping the compass and the medals.

Technology and Change

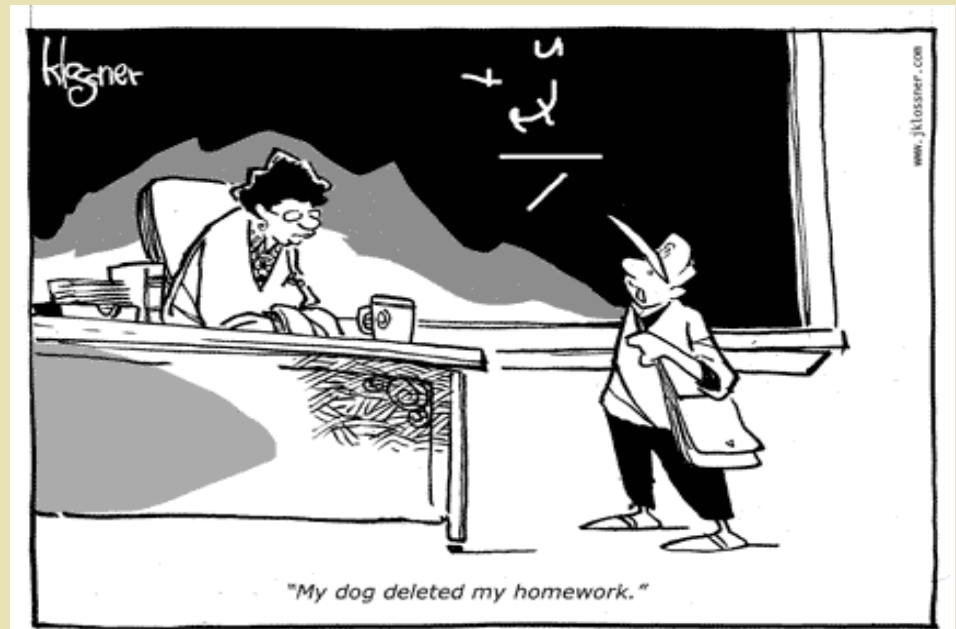
How has technology affected your relationships

Definition

Technology is the creation of tools or objects that both extend our natural abilities and alter our social environment

Examples:

- ◆ A pacemaker
- ◆ An airplane



Traditional Theory

Societal change is brought about by an individual person who shares an idea with the community

Example: the telephone



Thorstein Veblen



- ◆ Technological determinism: is when social change is initiated by technology
- ◆ Technology forms the material base of society and then determines the status of that society in comparison to other societies

Dealing with Technology

- ◆ There are negative effects (child molesters on the internet)
- ◆ Rate of change and inability to keep up
- ◆ Increasing dependence on technology





Technology Jargon

- ◆ “future shock” – the disorientation brought on by the premature arrival of the future
- ◆ “hyperculture” – is the massive rate of change in modern technological societies
- ◆ “technosis” – is the strong attachment to technology
- ◆ “cyber-disorders” – include symptoms of social isolation, depression, divorce, family problems, academic failure, financial debt and job loss



Equalizer?

- ◆ One of the supposed benefits of technology is that it gives everyone access to the same things. It should act as an equalizer in society. Does this actually happen?

