

The Modern Dilemma: Working from Home vs. Working in an Office

The rapid rise of internet technology has transformed the way people work around the world. In the past, employees had to travel to a physical office every morning to perform their daily duties. Today, however, remote working has become a common practice in many global companies. While some professionals argue that working from home offers greater flexibility and productivity, others believe that a traditional office environment is still essential for professional success.

Working from home provides several practical advantages for modern workers. First, it eliminates the daily commute, which saves valuable time and reduces transportation expenses. Instead of sitting in heavy morning traffic or waiting for crowded public transport, employees can begin their work feeling refreshed and relaxed. Furthermore, remote work allows individuals to design a comfortable personal workspace and manage their daily schedule with greater autonomy. For instance, workers can take short, productive breaks and balance their domestic tasks alongside their professional responsibilities.

On the other hand, the traditional office setting offers critical benefits that are difficult to replicate at home. In an office, team members can communicate instantly, exchange creative ideas, and solve unexpected problems through spontaneous face-to-face discussions. Moreover, working in a shared corporate environment helps maintain clear boundaries between professional life and private life. Many remote employees struggle to disconnect from work in the evening, which can lead to stress and mental exhaustion over time.

In conclusion, both remote work and office work have distinct merits. While working from home enhances personal comfort and flexibility, office environments foster effective collaboration and structured routines. For many modern organizations, adopting a hybrid model that combines both approaches represents the most balanced solution.

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

Part A: Match the words with their definitions.

Word	Definition
1. Commute (n)	a) Independence, freedom, or the right to control one's own actions
2. Autonomy (n)	b) The regular journey to and from your place of work
3. Replicate (v)	c) The limits or dividing lines between different areas or situations
4. Boundaries (n)	d) Combining two or more different things or systems
5. Hybrid (adj)	e) To repeat, copy, or reproduce something exactly

Part B: Complete the sentences with words from the box.

commute | autonomy | replicate | boundaries | hybrid

- Long daily _____ times can cause severe stress and fatigue for office workers.
- It is difficult to _____ the energetic atmosphere of a live conference in a virtual meeting.

3. Establishing healthy _____ between study hours and leisure time is vital for university students.
4. Many international software companies offer a _____ work schedule.
5. Giving young engineers more _____ in their projects encourages innovation.

The Future of Urban Mobility: Are Electric Cars the Real Solution?

Air pollution and climate change are among the most urgent challenges facing modern industrial societies. In response, governments and automobile manufacturers are investing heavily in electric vehicles (EVs) to replace traditional petrol and diesel cars. Proponents argue that electric vehicles are the ultimate answer to urban air pollution. However, critics point out that the transition to electric mobility also presents notable environmental and technical challenges.

The primary benefit of electric vehicles is that they produce zero direct exhaust emissions during driving. Traditional cars burn fossil fuels, releasing harmful carbon dioxide and dangerous gases that damage air quality in crowded cities. By switching to electric motors, urban centers can significantly reduce smog and improve public health. Furthermore, electric vehicles are much quieter than conventional automobiles, which helps reduce traffic-related noise pollution in residential areas.

Nevertheless, electric cars are not completely free from environmental drawbacks. The batteries used in these vehicles require large quantities of rare minerals, such as lithium and cobalt. Mining these materials often leads to deforestation, soil destruction, and heavy water pollution in developing regions. In addition, if the electricity used to charge these vehicles comes from coal or natural gas power stations, the overall carbon footprint remains high. Therefore, electric cars are truly green only when charged with renewable energy sources like wind or solar power.

To sum up, while electric cars play an essential role in reducing local urban emissions, their total environmental impact depends on how batteries are produced and how electricity is generated. Only by adopting clean energy grids and responsible recycling policies can society maximize the true benefits of electric transportation.

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

Part A: Match the words with their definitions.

Word	Definition
1. Proponent (n)	a) Connected with places where people live rather than commercial zones
2. Exhaust (n)	b) The waste gas produced by an engine during operation
3. Residential (adj)	c) A disadvantage, problem, or negative feature
4. Drawback (n)	d) A person who supports an idea, plan, or proposal
5. Grid (n)	e) A network of cables or systems for distributing electrical power

Part B: Complete the sentences with words from the box.

proponents | exhaust | residential | drawback | grid

- Heavy vehicle _____ emissions are a primary cause of respiratory illnesses in major cities.
- Modern cities are creating dedicated speed limits in _____ neighborhoods to protect pedestrians.

3. One major _____ of older battery models is their long charging time.
4. _____ of renewable energy believe that solar panels will soon power most public buildings.
5. The national electricity _____ must be upgraded to support thousands of charging stations.

Practical Skills vs. University Degrees: What Matters More Today?

For generations, obtaining a four-year university diploma was considered the only reliable pathway to career success and social status. However, rapid technological progress and changing market demands have altered the expectations of global employers. Today, many industries prioritize candidates with specific technical abilities and practical experience over those who only possess theoretical academic degrees. This shift has sparked a lively debate regarding the true value of formal higher education.

Practical skills offer direct and immediate advantages in the contemporary labor market. In fields such as software engineering, graphic design, and digital marketing, employers seek professionals who can execute complex tasks without needing extensive training. Candidates who demonstrate their competence through practical portfolios, coding projects, or professional certifications often secure well-paying jobs quickly. Furthermore, technical skills can be acquired through short, focused training bootcamps, which saves students substantial money compared to expensive university tuition fees.

On the other hand, university education provides broader intellectual and social benefits that go beyond basic technical training. Academic programs cultivate essential soft skills, including critical thinking, complex problem-solving, and advanced communication abilities. Moreover, universities provide invaluable networking opportunities, enabling students to connect with academic scholars, industry leaders, and diverse peers. For specialized professions such as international diplomacy, law, and medicine, formal university degrees remain an absolute legal requirement.

In conclusion, while practical work skills are increasingly vital for immediate employment, a university degree offers broad intellectual growth and long-term professional foundations. In the modern economy, individuals who combine strong academic knowledge with up-to-date practical skills will enjoy the greatest career success.

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

Part A: Match the words with their definitions.

Word	Definition
1. Alter (v)	a) Large in amount, size, value, or importance
2. Contemporary (adj)	b) To carry out, perform, or complete a plan or task
3. Execute (v)	c) To change, modify, or make different
4. Substantial (adj)	d) Belonging to the present time; modern
5. Cultivate (v)	e) To develop, encourage, or nurture a skill or quality

Part B: Complete the sentences with words from the box.

altered | contemporary | execute | substantial | cultivate

1. The sudden rise of artificial intelligence has _____ the daily workflow of modern engineers.
2. University professors encourage students to _____ strong analytical thinking habits.

3. Software developers must be able to _____ complex programming tasks accurately under tight deadlines.
4. Graduating from university requires a _____ investment of both time and financial resources.
5. In _____ society, digital communication tools play a crucial role in international relations.

The Impact of Brain Drain on Developing Nations

Brain drain, which refers to the emigration of highly qualified scientists, doctors, and engineers from developing nations to wealthier countries, is a pressing global issue. Every year, thousands of talented graduates leave their home countries in pursuit of superior financial compensation and advanced research facilities. While this international mobility benefits individual professionals, it imposes profound economic and social consequences on their countries of origin.

Several powerful factors cause skilled individuals to migrate abroad. The primary driver is the significant economic disparity between developing and developed nations. In many poorer countries, academic salaries and entry-level wages are relatively low, making it difficult for young professionals to achieve financial security. Additionally, the lack of modern laboratory equipment, limited research funding, and unstable political conditions discourage talented researchers from remaining at home. Seeking better career development and social stability, they move to international innovation hubs.

Consequently, this ongoing loss of human capital produces damaging effects on the developing nation's infrastructure. When top medical specialists and industrial engineers depart, vital public sectors suffer from severe staffing shortages. Hospitals lose experienced practitioners, and local industries struggle to innovate without skilled technical leaders. Furthermore, the home government loses the substantial public funds it invested in educating these professionals, while the destination countries benefit from their productive labor without paying for their basic schooling.

All in all, brain drain stems from economic inequalities and limited professional resources, resulting in critical shortages of talent and slower economic progress in developing regions. To mitigate this problem, governments must improve working conditions, offer competitive salaries, and invest in modern domestic research centers to retain their brightest minds.

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

Part A: Match the words with their definitions.

Word	Definition
1. Emigration (n)	a) Deep, extreme, or having a very great effect
2. Profound (adj)	b) The act of leaving one's own country to settle permanently in another
3. Disparity (n)	c) A noticeable and often unfair difference between two or more things
4. Human capital (n)	d) To make something less harmful, severe, or painful
5. Mitigate (v)	e) The skills, knowledge, and experience possessed by individuals

Part B: Complete the sentences with words from the box.

emigration | *profound* | *disparity* | *human capital* | *mitigate*

- The large wage _____ between international corporations and local firms motivates many graduates to move abroad.
- The loss of educated youth has a _____ negative effect on the country's future industrial growth.

3. Increasing public investment in local technology centers can help _____ the destructive effects of brain drain.
4. A nation's greatest asset is its _____, which includes educated scientists and engineers.
5. Rising rates of skilled _____ leave domestic hospitals with a critical shortage of qualified doctors.

The Hidden Costs of Fast Fashion

In recent decades, the global clothing industry has undergone a radical transformation known as the fast fashion phenomenon. Brands now design, manufacture, and distribute trendy garments at extraordinarily low prices and high speeds. While consumers enjoy access to affordable, seasonal wardrobes, the relentless cycle of fast fashion generates severe environmental damage and raises serious ethical questions regarding international labor.

One major environmental effect of fast fashion is the massive generation of non-biodegradable textile waste. Because these inexpensive clothes are made from low-quality synthetic materials such as polyester, they wear out quickly and are frequently discarded after only a few uses. Millions of tons of old clothing end up in overflowing landfills each year, where they take hundreds of years to decompose. Furthermore, washing synthetic garments releases microscopic plastic fibers into domestic wastewater, ultimately contaminating oceans and harming marine life.

Another critical consequence of this industry is the extreme consumption and contamination of freshwater resources. The production of cheap fabrics requires vast amounts of water and toxic chemical dyes. In many developing nations where these factories operate, untreated industrial wastewater is directly discharged into local rivers and lakes. This chemical pollution destroys aquatic ecosystems and poisons the drinking water used by nearby agricultural communities.

In conclusion, the fast fashion business model produces vast amounts of textile garbage and causes catastrophic water pollution around the world. To curb this environmental damage, consumers must embrace sustainable shopping habits by purchasing durable clothes, and governments should enforce stricter environmental regulations on international textile manufacturers.

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

Part A: Match the words with their definitions.

Word	Definition
1. Relentless (adj)	a) To throw something away because it is no longer needed
2. Discard (v)	b) Continuing without becoming weaker or stopping
3. Decompose (v)	c) To release liquid, gas, or waste into the environment
4. Discharge (v)	d) To decay or break down naturally into smaller basic parts
5. Curb (v)	e) To control, limit, or restrain something harmful

Part B: Complete the sentences with words from the box.

relentless | discard | decompose | discharged | curb

- Synthetic fabrics like polyester can take centuries to _____ completely in nature.
- Governments are introducing strict industrial penalties to _____ toxic chemical emissions.
- Untreated industrial dye was _____ directly into the river, turning the water dark and hazardous.
- Consumers should donate or mend old garments rather than _____ them after a single season.

5. The _____ production of cheap consumer goods places tremendous pressure on natural resources.

Cyberattacks: A Growing Threat to Global Security

As modern society becomes increasingly dependent on digital networks, cybersecurity has emerged as a paramount global priority. Critical infrastructure, including banking networks, hospital databases, power grids, and government communication channels, now operates entirely on interconnected software systems. However, this complete digital integration has made organizations vulnerable to sophisticated cyberattacks that can paralyze entire cities and cause massive financial losses.

The increasing frequency of cyberattacks stems from several interconnected factors. First, the rapid transition to cloud computing and remote work has created numerous vulnerabilities in corporate firewalls. Employees who use personal devices or unverified home Wi-Fi networks often expose internal databases to malicious software. Second, cybercrime has evolved into a lucrative underground business. Criminal syndicates and state-sponsored hackers employ sophisticated ransomware to lock critical data, demanding multi-million-dollar ransoms from vulnerable institutions.

The consequences of successful cyberattacks are devastating for both private companies and individual citizens. For businesses, a security breach results in severe financial damage, including lost revenue, legal penalties, and the catastrophic theft of proprietary technology. For individuals, stolen personal data—such as national ID numbers, banking passwords, and health records—leads to widespread identity theft and digital fraud. In extreme cases, cyberattacks on hospital networks or electrical grids can disrupt vital emergency services, placing human lives in immediate danger.

To sum up, the vulnerabilities of interconnected networks and the high financial rewards of cybercrime have made digital attacks a major global menace. Safeguarding our modern digital infrastructure requires robust security protocols, continuous system updates, and comprehensive cybersecurity training for all employees.

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

Part A: Match the words with their definitions.

Word	Definition
1. Paramount (adj)	a) More important than anything else; supreme
2. Vulnerability (n)	b) A weakness or flaw that makes a system open to attack
3. Lucrative (adj)	c) Producing a great deal of profit or wealth
4. Proprietary (adj)	d) Relating to an owner or ownership; legally protected
5. Menace (n)	e) A dangerous person, thing, or likely threat

Part B: Complete the sentences with words from the box.

paramount | vulnerabilities | lucrative | proprietary | menace

- Protecting sensitive citizen data is of _____ importance for government agencies.
- Software engineers work continuously to fix security _____ before hackers can exploit them.
- Illegal cyber extortion has turned into a highly _____ criminal enterprise worldwide.

4. International cybercrime represents an unpredictable _____ to modern financial stability.
5. Tech companies use strict non-disclosure agreements to protect their _____ software code.

The Four-Day Workweek: A Realistic Revolution?

The standard five-day workweek, established nearly a century ago during the industrial era, is increasingly being questioned by modern economists and organizational psychologists. In recent years, numerous forward-thinking companies and governments have conducted pilot trials of a four-day workweek without reducing employee salaries. Supporters argue that this model boosts workplace productivity and enhances mental well-being, while skeptics worry about operational difficulties and customer service delays.

Advocates of the four-day workweek assert that working fewer hours actually improves overall job performance. When employees are well-rested, they display higher levels of focus, creativity, and motivation during their working hours. Shorter workweeks force teams to eliminate unnecessary meetings and streamline their daily workflows, allowing them to complete the same amount of work in less time. Furthermore, an extra day off each week significantly reduces occupational stress and workplace burnout, resulting in lower employee turnover and fewer sick leaves.

Conversely, implementing a four-day model presents serious practical challenges for certain essential sectors. Industries such as healthcare, public transportation, emergency services, and manufacturing operate on continuous 24/7 schedules. Reducing regular working hours in these fields would require organizations to hire extra staff to maintain full operational coverage, which would substantially increase labor costs. Additionally, compressed schedules could force workers to perform ten-hour shifts per day, potentially leading to physical exhaustion on active working days.

In conclusion, the four-day workweek offers substantial benefits for employee happiness and mental health, provided that daily tasks are managed efficiently. While this innovative structure may not suit every industrial sector, it represents a promising step toward a healthier and more sustainable modern work culture.

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

Part A: Match the words with their definitions.

Word	Definition
1. Pilot (adj)	a) Done as an experiment or test before introducing something widely
2. Streamline (v)	b) To improve the efficiency of a process by removing unnecessary steps
3. Occupational (adj)	c) Connected with or caused by a person's job or profession
4. Turnover (n)	d) The rate at which employees leave a company and are replaced
5. Compressed (adj)	e) Flattened, shortened, or squeezed into a smaller space or time

Part B: Complete the sentences with words from the box.

pilot | turnover | streamline | occupational | compressed

- The company launched a six-month _____ project to test the efficiency of flexible working hours.
- High employee _____ is costly for firms because hiring and training new staff takes time.
- Good managers look for innovative software tools to _____ routine administrative tasks.
- Chronic back pain is a common _____ hazard for engineers who sit at desks all day.

5. Working a _____ four-day schedule means spending longer hours at the office each working day.

Tackling Urban Traffic: Causes and Solutions

Traffic congestion is an aggravating daily reality for millions of commuters in expanding metropolitan areas worldwide. City residents waste countless hours trapped in slow-moving traffic jams, leading to lost economic productivity, increased fuel consumption, and severe air pollution. Urban planners and engineers point out that metropolitan traffic problems stem from a combination of poor infrastructure planning, population growth, and an overreliance on private vehicles.

A fundamental cause of urban gridlock is the rapid and unmanaged growth of city populations. As more people relocate to major economic centers in search of employment and education, the number of vehicles on the streets increases drastically. In many developing cities, the construction and maintenance of road networks fail to keep pace with this explosive population growth. Narrow roads, poorly timed traffic signals, and insufficient parking facilities create chronic bottlenecks that slow down entire transit systems.

Another significant contributor is the lack of reliable, accessible, and high-quality public transportation. When municipal buses, trams, and metro lines are overcrowded, delayed, or poorly connected, citizens naturally choose to travel in private automobiles. This widespread preference for individual cars results in single-occupant vehicles occupying valuable road space. Furthermore, the rise of commercial delivery vans and ride-sharing services has added thousands of extra vehicles to urban roads throughout the day.

To sum up, urban traffic congestion is primarily caused by rapid population growth, inadequate infrastructure, and the widespread use of personal cars due to weak public transit networks. Alleviating this crisis requires municipalities to invest heavily in integrated subway systems, create dedicated bus lanes, and promote eco-friendly urban cycling routes.

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

Part A: Match the words with their definitions.

Word	Definition
1. Aggravating (adj)	a) Making a problem worse or causing annoyance and frustration
2. Gridlock (n)	b) A situation of severe traffic congestion where movement is impossible
3. Bottleneck (n)	c) A narrow place where road traffic slows down or stops completely
4. Municipal (adj)	d) Belonging to or relating to the government of a city or town
5. Alleviate (v)	e) To make pain, difficulty, or a serious problem less severe

Part B: Complete the sentences with words from the box.

aggravating | gridlock | bottleneck | municipal | alleviate

- Expanding the city subway network will help _____ peak-hour traffic pressure on main highways.
- Heavy morning rain caused widespread traffic _____ across the entire city center.
- Road maintenance work created a major _____ near the university bridge this morning.
- Sitting in traffic jams every evening is an _____ experience for busy workers.

5. The _____government announced new investments in electric buses and dedicated bicycle paths.

Artificial Intelligence and the Job Market: Creator or Destroyer?

The rapid evolution of artificial intelligence (AI) and automated systems has ignited a major global debate regarding the future of human labor. From customer service chatbots and autonomous driving software to advanced algorithms capable of analyzing legal contracts, AI technologies are demonstrating extraordinary capabilities. While some economic analysts warn that automation will lead to mass unemployment, others contend that AI will generate new, highly specialized job sectors and boost global wealth.

Pessimists argue that the widespread adoption of AI will make millions of administrative and blue-collar workers obsolete. Routine, repetitive tasks—such as data entry, factory assembly, and basic financial accounting—can now be performed faster and with fewer errors by intelligent algorithms. Unlike human workers, automated systems do not require rest, health insurance, or vacations, which makes them economically attractive to profit-driven corporations. As a result, low-skilled workers face a serious risk of job displacement and long-term unemployment.

Conversely, optimists emphasize that technological revolutions historically create more career paths than they eliminate. The development, testing, and maintenance of artificial intelligence systems require thousands of skilled engineers, data scientists, and cybersecurity analysts. Furthermore, by delegating mundane administrative duties to smart software, human professionals can concentrate on high-value creative tasks, ethical decision-making, and strategic leadership. For example, AI tools can analyze medical scans in seconds, allowing human doctors to spend more time offering personalized care to their patients.

In conclusion, while artificial intelligence will inevitably disrupt routine jobs and displace certain workers, it also possesses immense potential to generate novel industries and elevate human productivity. To navigate this transformation smoothly, educational institutions and governments must invest heavily in retraining programs to equip the workforce with advanced digital skills.

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

Part A: Match the words with their definitions.

Word	Definition
1. Obsolete (adj)	a) No longer produced or used; completely out of date
2. Displacement (n)	b) The forced removal of people from their regular jobs or roles
3. Mundane (adj)	c) Dull, ordinary, and lacking interest or excitement
4. Inevitably (adv)	d) Certain to happen and impossible to prevent
5. Equip (v)	e) To supply or provide someone with the necessary tools or skills

Part B: Complete the sentences with words from the box.

obsolete | mundane | inevitably | equip | displacement

- Manual calculation methods became _____ after the invention of modern digital computers.
- Automating routine paperwork frees up employees from performing boring and _____ tasks.
- Rapid automation will _____ lead to significant changes in engineering education curricula.

4. Universities must update their courses to _____students with practical coding and analytical skills.
5. Job _____caused by technology requires urgent state-funded retraining programs.

The Menace of E-Waste: Causes and Environmental Hazards

In our hyper-connected consumer society, the turnover of consumer electronics is faster than ever before. Every year, consumers upgrade to newer smartphone models, thinner laptops, and smarter appliances, throwing away millions of functioning devices. This throwaway culture has created a colossal environmental crisis known as electronic waste, or e-waste. Understanding the sources of this rapid accumulation and recognizing its dangerous ecological consequences is essential for global environmental safety.

The primary cause of the e-waste boom is the consumer strategy known as planned obsolescence, combined with intense commercial advertising. Many tech manufacturers intentionally design devices with limited lifespans or unchangeable batteries, making repairs expensive and impractical. Furthermore, frequent software updates often slow down older devices, effectively forcing consumers to purchase the latest models. At the same time, aggressive marketing campaigns convince people that possessing the newest device is a necessary status symbol.

The environmental and human health effects of improper e-waste disposal are alarming. Electronic gadgets contain hazardous heavy metals, including lead, mercury, and cadmium. When old devices are dumped into open landfills or burned in informal recycling yards in developing nations, these toxic chemicals leach into the soil and contaminate underground water tables. Agricultural crops absorb these poisons, introducing dangerous toxins into the food chain. Moreover, workers who dismantle electronic scrap without protective gear suffer from severe respiratory illnesses and neurological damage.

To sum up, planned obsolescence and consumerism are driving a dangerous surge in e-waste, which threatens global ecosystems and public health through toxic chemical contamination. Addressing this crisis requires strict "right-to-repair" legislation, mandatory take-back policies for tech manufacturers, and greater consumer awareness regarding sustainable device usage.

VOCABULARY PRACTICE

Part A: Match the words with their definitions.

Word	Definition
1. Colossal (adj)	a) Extremely large, huge, or massive
2. Planned obsolescence (n)	b) Designing a product to break or become useless quickly
3. Hazardous (adj)	c) Dangerous, toxic, and involving great risk to health or safety
4. Leach (v)	d) To drain or seep away from soil or waste into water systems
5. Dismantle (v)	e) To take a machine or structure apart into separate pieces

Part B: Complete the sentences with words from the box.

colossal | planned obsolescence | hazardous | leach | dismantle

- Electronic waste contains _____ substances like lead and mercury that require special disposal.
- Toxic chemical waste can _____ through the earth and poison surrounding groundwater reserves.
- Critics accuse electronic companies of using _____ to force customers to buy new phones.

4. Informal workers in scrap yards often _____ old computers with bare hands to collect precious copper.
5. The rapid accumulation of plastic and e-waste represents a _____ challenge for modern cities.

Answer Key

Reading 1: Remote vs. Office

Part A: 1-b, 2-a, 3-e, 4-c, 5-d

Part B: 1. commute, 2. replicate, 3. boundaries, 4. hybrid, 5. autonomy

Reading 2: Electric Cars

Part A: 1-d, 2-b, 3-a, 4-c, 5-e

Part B: 1. exhaust, 2. residential, 3. drawback, 4. proponents, 5. grid

Reading 3: Practical Skills

Part A: 1-c, 2-d, 3-b, 4-a, 5-e

Part B: 1. altered, 2. cultivate, 3. execute, 4. substantial, 5. contemporary

Reading 4: Brain Drain

Part A: 1-b, 2-a, 3-c, 4-e, 5-d

Part B: 1. disparity, 2. profound, 3. mitigate, 4. human capital, 5. emigration

Reading 5: Fast Fashion

Part A: 1-b, 2-a, 3-d, 4-c, 5-e

Part B: 1. decompose, 2. curb, 3. discharged, 4. discard, 5. relentless

Reading 6: Cyberattacks

Part A: 1-a, 2-b, 3-c, 4-d, 5-e

Part B: 1. paramount, 2. vulnerabilities, 3. lucrative, 4. menace, 5. proprietary

Reading 7: 4-Day Workweek

Part A: 1-a, 2-b, 3-c, 4-d, 5-e

Part B: 1. pilot, 2. turnover, 3. streamline, 4. occupational, 5. compressed

Reading 8: Urban Traffic

Part A: 1-a, 2-b, 3-c, 4-d, 5-e

Part B: 1. alleviate, 2. gridlock, 3. bottleneck, 4. aggravating, 5. municipal

Reading 9: AI & Jobs

Part A: 1-a, 2-b, 3-c, 4-d, 5-e

Part B: 1. obsolete, 2. mundane, 3. inevitably, 4. equip, 5. displacement

Reading 10: E-Waste

Part A: 1-a, 2-b, 3-c, 4-d, 5-e

Part B: 1. hazardous, 2. leach, 3. planned obsolescence, 4. dismantle, 5. colossal