

ENGLISH – READING COMPREHENSION TEST (GRADE 10 – GYMNASIUM BW)

Name: _____ Date: _____

Time: 45–60 minutes

Text: The Price of Digital Convenience

In today's world, digital technology has become an inseparable part of daily life. Smartphones, social media platforms, and online services promise efficiency, comfort, and constant connection. However, this convenience often comes at a hidden cost: the loss of privacy.

Every time users install an app, browse the internet, or share personal content, they leave behind a digital footprint. Companies collect vast amounts of data in order to personalize advertisements, predict consumer behavior, and improve their services. While this can lead to more tailored experiences, it also raises serious concerns about how securely personal information is stored and who ultimately has access to it.

Moreover, the constant availability of digital devices affects not only privacy but also mental health. Studies suggest that excessive screen time can reduce concentration, increase anxiety, and disrupt sleep patterns. Many teenagers report feeling pressured to maintain an online presence, fearing social exclusion if they fail to respond immediately to messages or posts. As a result, digital communication, which was originally meant to connect people, sometimes creates emotional distance instead.

Nevertheless, technology itself is not inherently harmful. When used responsibly, it can support education, creativity, and social engagement. The challenge lies in developing awareness and self-control. By setting clear boundaries, limiting screen time, and critically questioning the purpose of digital tools, individuals can regain control over their digital lives.

Ultimately, society must reflect on how technology shapes human relationships and personal identity. Only through conscious and responsible usage can the advantages of digital progress be enjoyed without sacrificing well-being and autonomy.

Tasks:

1. Multiple Choice (10 points)

Choose the correct answer.

1. What is the main topic of the text?
 - a) The history of smartphones

- b) The advantages of social media
 - c) The consequences of digital convenience
 - d) Online shopping trends
2. What does the term *digital footprint* refer to?
 - a) The physical use of devices
 - b) Data users leave behind online
 - c) Software updates
 - d) Online friendships
 3. Why do companies collect personal data?
 - a) To protect users
 - b) To entertain customers
 - c) To personalize services and advertisements
 - d) To reduce internet traffic
 4. According to the text, excessive screen time can cause:
 - a) better concentration
 - b) stronger friendships
 - c) mental health problems
 - d) better sleep
 5. What is the author's overall attitude towards technology?
 - a) Completely negative
 - b) Neutral and factual
 - c) Balanced and critical
 - d) Enthusiastic

2. True or False – Correct the False Statements (10 points)

Decide whether the statements are **true (T)** or **false (F)**.

If false, **correct them**.

1. Digital technology mainly improves mental health.
→ _____
2. Personal data is mainly collected to make services more efficient.
→ _____
3. Teenagers often feel pressure to stay constantly available online.
→ _____
4. The author suggests completely avoiding technology.
→ _____

3. Detailed Comprehension Questions (15 points)

Answer in **complete sentences**.

1. Explain two risks of digital technology mentioned in the text.
→ _____
→ _____
2. Why does digital communication sometimes create emotional distance?
→ _____
→ _____
3. What solutions does the author suggest for responsible technology use?
→ _____
→ _____

4. Vocabulary in Context (10 points)

Find words or expressions in the text that mean:

1. *inseparable* → _____
2. *concerns* → _____
3. *pressure* → _____
4. *awareness* → _____
5. *ultimately* → _____

5. Analysis & Opinion (Writing Task – 15 points)

Write 120–150 words:

**Do you agree with the author’s opinion on digital technology?
Discuss advantages and disadvantages and give your own viewpoint.**