

# AI Ethics: Balancing Innovation with Responsibility

COMPREHENSION • VOCABULARY • DISCUSSION

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## Reading Passage

Read the passage carefully. Each paragraph is labelled with a letter for easy reference.

**A** Artificial Intelligence (AI) is transforming our world at an incredible speed. From smart assistants in our homes to complex algorithms in healthcare and finance, AI is becoming an essential part of everyday life. However, as this technology grows, so do the ethical concerns surrounding its use. One major issue is bias in AI systems. Since AI learns from data provided by humans, it can sometimes reflect existing prejudices. For example, facial recognition software has shown lower accuracy when identifying people from minority groups. This raises serious questions about fairness and equality in AI applications. Another concern is privacy. Many AI systems collect large amounts of personal data to function properly. Without strong regulations, there is a risk of this information being misused or shared without consent. People may not even realize how much data they are giving away through apps and devices. In addition, some experts warn about job displacement. As AI becomes more advanced, it may replace human workers in various industries, especially in manufacturing and services. This could lead to unemployment and economic inequality unless governments and companies invest in retraining programs. Despite these challenges, AI also offers great opportunities. It can help doctors diagnose diseases faster, assist in disaster response, and make transportation safer. The key is to ensure that innovation is guided by responsibility. Many organizations now include ethical guidelines in their AI development processes to avoid harm and promote transparency. Balancing innovation with responsibility means creating rules, educating the public, and ensuring that all voices are heard—especially those who may be most affected by new technologies. By doing this, society can enjoy the benefits of AI while minimizing its risks.

## Vocabulary Glossary

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Key words and phrases from the passage. Study them before attempting the exercise below.

WORD / PHRASE	DEFINITION	EXAMPLE SENTENCE
<b>transforming</b>	when something changes completely in a very important way	<i>The city is transforming with all the new buildings.</i>
<b>algorithms</b>	a set of rules or steps that a computer follows to solve a problem	<i>The app uses algorithms to suggest new music to its users.</i>
<b>prejudices</b>	unfair ideas that people have about others because of their race, gender, etc.	<i>It is important to fight against prejudices in society.</i>
<b>regulations</b>	official rules made by governments to control how things are done	<i>There are new regulations for food safety in restaurants.</i>
<b>displacement</b>	when people or things are moved from their usual place	<i>The storm caused the displacement of many families.</i>
<b>transparency</b>	when actions and decisions are clear and people can understand them	<i>The company promised more transparency in its spending.</i>
<b>guidelines</b>	advice or instructions on how to do something correctly	<i>The teacher gave us guidelines for writing the essay.</i>
<b>ethical</b>	related to what is right and wrong	<i>Doctors must follow ethical rules when treating patients.</i>

### Vocabulary Exercise — Fill in the Blank

Use one word or phrase from the glossary above to complete each sentence. Each item is used only once. Answers are on the final page.

1. The scientist is working on new \_\_\_\_\_ to improve the robot's performance.
2. The government introduced stricter \_\_\_\_\_ to protect the environment.
3. The manager emphasized the importance of \_\_\_\_\_ in all business dealings.
4. The hurricane led to the \_\_\_\_\_ of thousands of people from their homes.
5. Following ethical \_\_\_\_\_ helps companies avoid harming the environment.
6. The teacher asked us to discuss common \_\_\_\_\_ in our society.

## Comprehension Questions

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*These questions are different from the online practice test. Choose the best answer (A, B, C, or D). Answers and explanations are on the final page.*

### Question 1

**What is one potential negative impact of AI on employment?**

- A. It can help doctors diagnose diseases.
- B. It may replace human workers in various industries.
- C. It collects large amounts of personal data.
- D. It can make transportation safer.

### Question 2

**Why might facial recognition software be considered unfair?**

- A. It is not used in healthcare.
- B. It requires a lot of data to function.
- C. It shows lower accuracy for some minority groups.
- D. It can replace human jobs.

### Question 3

**What does the passage suggest about the future of AI and responsibility?**

- A. AI should be stopped to prevent risks.
- B. Innovation should continue without any rules.
- C. Rules and education are needed to balance risks.
- D. AI does not need any ethical guidelines.

### Question 4

**What is the main purpose of the passage?**

- A. To explain how AI is used in healthcare.
- B. To discuss both the benefits and challenges of AI.
- C. To argue against the use of AI in everyday life.
- D. To describe the technical workings of AI systems.

### Question 5

#### Why is privacy a major concern with AI systems?

- A. AI systems do not use any personal data.
- B. AI systems can misuse or share data without consent.
- C. AI systems are only used in finance.
- D. AI systems have no impact on everyday life.

### Discussion & Writing Prompts

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*Each prompt references a specific detail from the passage above. Use for classroom discussion or a short written response (150–200 words).*

1. Paragraph A mentions AI is transforming our world. How do you see AI changing daily life in your community?

2. According to Paragraph B, bias in AI can cause unfairness. Can you think of other technologies that might have similar issues?

3. Paragraph D discusses job displacement due to AI. What strategies could your country implement to address potential job losses?

# Answer Key

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

Q1 B

Q2 C

Q3 C

Q4 B

Q5 B

## VOCABULARY EXERCISE

FIB1 algorithms

FIB2 regulations

FIB3 transparency

FIB4 displacement

FIB5 guidelines

FIB6 prejudices

## Comprehension Question Explanations

Why the correct answer is right — and why each wrong option is incorrect.

### 1. What is one potential negative impact of AI on employment?

✓ B — It may replace human workers in various industries.

B is correct because the passage mentions AI replacing human workers in industries.

✗ A — It can help doctors diagnose diseases.

A is incorrect because it describes a positive use of AI in healthcare.

✗ C — It collects large amounts of personal data.

C is incorrect because it relates to privacy concerns, not employment.

✗ D — It can make transportation safer.

D is incorrect because it describes a positive use of AI in transportation.

### 2. Why might facial recognition software be considered unfair?

✓ C — It shows lower accuracy for some minority groups.

C is correct because the passage states facial recognition has lower accuracy with minority groups.

✗ A — It is not used in healthcare.

A is incorrect because the issue is not about its use in healthcare.

✗ B — It requires a lot of data to function.

B is incorrect because the concern is not about data requirement.

✗ D — It can replace human jobs.

D is incorrect because it does not relate to job replacement.

### 3. What does the passage suggest about the future of AI and responsibility?

✓ C — Rules and education are needed to balance risks.

C is correct because the passage emphasizes creating rules and educating the public.

✗ A — AI should be stopped to prevent risks.

A is incorrect because the passage does not suggest stopping AI.

✗ B — Innovation should continue without any rules.

B is incorrect because it stresses the need for rules.

✗ D — AI does not need any ethical guidelines.

D is incorrect because it mentions ethical guidelines are included in AI development.

#### 4. What is the main purpose of the passage?

✓ B — To discuss both the benefits and challenges of AI.

B is correct because the passage discusses both opportunities and ethical concerns of AI.

✗ A — To explain how AI is used in healthcare.

A is incorrect because healthcare is only one part of the discussion.

✗ C — To argue against the use of AI in everyday life.

C is incorrect because the passage does not argue against AI.

✗ D — To describe the technical workings of AI systems.

D is incorrect because the passage does not focus on technical details.

#### 5. Why is privacy a major concern with AI systems?

✓ B — AI systems can misuse or share data without consent.

B is correct because the passage mentions data misuse and lack of consent as privacy issues.

✗ A — AI systems do not use any personal data.

A is incorrect because AI systems do use personal data.

✗ C — AI systems are only used in finance.

C is incorrect because AI is not limited to finance.

✗ D — AI systems have no impact on everyday life.

D is incorrect because AI impacts many areas of life.

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