



Task Title: AI and Human Cognition

OALCF Cover Sheet – Learner Copy

Learner Name: _____

Date Started: _____

Date Completed: _____

Successful Completion: Yes ☐ No ☐

Goal Path: Employment ☐ Apprenticeship ☐

Secondary School ☐ Post Secondary ☐ Independence ☐

Task Description: The learner will read two articles about the impacts of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on human thinking, and write opinion paragraphs.

Main Competency/Task Group/Level Indicator:

- Find and Use Information/Read continuous text/A1.3
- Communicate Ideas and Information/Write continuous text/B2.3

Materials Required:

- Pen/pencil and paper and/or digital device
- Computer

Learner Information

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a rapidly growing tool for learning and working. Many people are interested in how AI can help them with school, work, or other pursuits. In addition to its benefits, studies are beginning to show that overreliance on AI may have harmful effects.

Read “The Dark Side of AI Tracking the Decline of Human Cognitive Skills”:

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/chriswestfall/2024/12/18/the-dark-side-of-ai-tracking-the-decline-of-human-cognitive-skills/>

and

“ChatGPT May Be Eroding Critical Thinking Skills According to a New MIT Study”:

<https://time.com/7295195/ai-chatgpt-google-learning-school/>

Work Sheet

Task 1: List five (5) concerns about AI that are addressed in one or both of the articles.

Answer:

Task 2: The Forbes article distinguishes between tools like Excel spreadsheets and the use of AI. In your own words, explain why the authors believe AI tools have a different effect on human thinking.

Answer:

Task 3: The conclusion of the Forbes article is: “By maintaining a careful balance between technological advancement and cognitive skills, we can ensure that AI enhances, rather than diminishes, our human potential”. Write an opinion paragraph of at least 10 sentences explaining why you believe it is possible, or not possible, to maintain this “careful balance”.

Answer: