

Almost all the seven billion people in this green and blue orb we call home, view and communicate with the world through the digital world of technology. Technology has not only changed the way we communicate, but also who we are; in both good and bad ways.

Technology has disintegrated the bond between families. In a visit to the Qatar airport, this author had hauntingly recorded seeing a family of four sitting around a table at the food court with all their heads pointed down, including a small boy who seemed to be thoroughly enjoying the digital device he was holding on to. This is the effect that technology has wrought on families. Long ago, when interconnection wasn't such a hype, families would sit together and discuss various social issues, share a funny anecdote from work or just enjoy the company of their blood relatives. But now that has reduced to nothing but short words and long silences in which fingers are furiously typing away and Instagram accounts are being updated on what 'mom cooked today'.

Technology has reduced our linguistic skills to short forms and emoji's. When the world was young and people weren't so antisocial, words were an art. Love letters, poems and stories would be spoken or written with sophisticated language skills. But now, hearts are sent to the people they love, a boyfriend sends a short 'ILY' to his girlfriend and explanations are dumbed down to sentences fit for a ten-year-old. Where has our love for language gone? Why do people prefer short words and small sentences?

But although technology has had its ill effects on us, even this author must admit that it has made life easier. It has brought the world to our fingertips. At the click of a button or a tap of a finger, anything and everything can be discovered. Today a person doesn't have to toil away in the library for their research projects; they can just 'Google it'. At the fast pace life is driving us at, technology has very much improved our way of life.

Technology has had a varied effect on our lives. It is breaking the family bond and trashing our vocabulary, but it has made life much easier than it used to be. In conclusion, although technology has made life easier in more ways than one, if people continue exploiting this resource the way they are doing so now, they are dancing on the path of destruction.