

Navigating our global future

[listening comprehension questions]

Author: Ian Goldin

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Level: **** [C1/C2]

Link: http://www.ted.com/talks/ian_goldin_navigating_our_global_future?language=en

Check these words before listening:

Key vocabulary

1. CIA / MI6
2. IMF International Monetary Fund / BIS Bank for International Settlements
3. Urbanisation
4. Renaissance
5. The Stone Age
6. Illiteracy
7. Achilles' heel
8. Fragility
9. A systematic shock
10. Virulent
11. Apollo Space Mission
12. Nano-replica / a dust mite
13. Regenerative medicine
14. Eugenics
15. Population pyramids / population coffins
16. A redundant concept
17. A wheelchair
18. Xenophobic
19. Biodiversity
20. pandemics
21. bio-pathogen
22. Fossilized
23. Collective wisdom
24. Eco-disaster / eco-collapse
25. Nelson Mandela

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Explain what you understand

1. What is the future?
2. The best minds and the best institutions ...
3. IMF, BIS, The financial stability Forum, 30,000 economists
4. Life expectancy:
5. World population:
6. Illiteracy:
7. The two Achilles' heels
i) _____ ii) _____
8. Examples of fragility
9. Medicine + reference to Olympics
10. Genetics + reference to mouse + negatives

11. Population pyramids to populations coffins / population skyscrapers
12. Migration
13. New awareness
14. Speaker's reference to 'the glory of globalization / best century ever'
15. Individual power in 2030
16. Governance fossilized
17. Nelson Mandela
18. Computing 2030
19. Mobile phones in 2030

Critical thinking – *Do you agree with the lecture? Which parts do you disagree with and why? Is the world as fragile as stated? What do you think about the point on future medicine and who will benefit from it? Is it possible to develop a greater awareness of the future problems now and innovate? Will collective wisdom be the solution? Anything else?*

Navigating our global future **ANSWERS**

1. What is the future? Very unpredictable.
2. The best minds and the best institutions...
Get it wrong.
3. IMF, BIS, The financial stability Forum, 30,000 economists
Failed to predict the financial crisis
4. Life expectancy: up by 25 years
5. World population: up by 2 million
6. Illiteracy: down from ½ to ¼
7. The two Achilles' heels i) inequality ii) complexity
8. Examples of fragility
Financial crisis / pandemic flu
9. Computing 2030
A million-fold improvement – if compared to the last 20 years
10. Mobile phones in 2030
Huge opportunities / miniaturization / invisible capacity / dust mite
11. Medicine + reference to Olympics
Embryonic Stem Cell research / Oxford / replicate parts of the body /
regenerative medicine / no special Olympics / who will have it?
12. Genetics + reference to mouse + negatives
Genetically modified mouse – 3xfaster, 3xlive longer,
same amount of food / only available for super rich?
13. Population pyramids to populations coffins / population skyscrapers
A different structure to society with older generations being as
equally important as younger generations.
14. Migration
War for talent / need to attract all skill ranges /
drop in unemployment 700m>600m
15. New awareness
How to arise to problems: biodiversity, climate change,
pandemics/ mobilize ourselves / manage systemic risk / innovation
16. Speaker's reference to 'the glory of globalization / best century ever'
Or downfall / could be the worst
17. Individual power in 2030
Bio pathogen- destroy a civilisation
18. Governance fossilized
Cannot cope with the challenges of 2030 / collective management /
collective wisdom
19. Nelson Mandela
Miracle / apartheid