

SUJET	BTS Comptabilité et Gestion	SESSION 2018
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Sujet n° 2

The Disadvantages of Technology in the Workplace

A quick glance around any workplace confirms that technology is essential to business. Every desk has a computer, equipped with the latest software for data management, communications, and job task completion. While using technology is critical to compete in today's marketplace, there are disadvantages to consider in choosing the type and scope
5 of use.

In the next cubicle, John is conducting a job interview via Skype. Sue is walking through the office talking on her cell phone, and Carlos is into the second hour of his interactive webinar. Add these distractions to the normal noise of ringing phones, constant emails, and it's no wonder that it's sometimes hard to get work done. Technology demands
10 attention. The time saving advantages are often outweighed¹ by the constant distractions.

Cell phones, email, texting and social media have largely replaced face-to-face communications. One short meeting or conversation can eliminate multiple text messages, phone calls or emails. Interpersonal communications, critical to building business relationships, are more complicated and require courtesies and listening skills not
15 necessary in social media. Too much reliance on electronic methods of communication not only can increase unnecessary traffic, but can decrease vital personal interaction.

Technology is constantly being improved, which requires constant and costly upgrading. Each upgrade requires employee training, taking time away from production. The loss of productivity combined with costs of software and implementation can reduce overall
20 profitability.

Despite increased security efforts, there are always hacking risks from the outside and the internal threat of information theft from employees with security clearances. Securing passwords and access to information, and screening employees prior to issuing access are necessary challenges that add to company costs and jeopardize² employee relations.

Mary Nestor-Harper, The Houston Chronicle, August 2016

(1) to be greater or more important than something else

(2) to have a harmful and negative effect on