

Top 10 Predictions for the Future

1. Read the texts about the top 10 predictions for the future by Danny Burke. Which predictions do you think will most likely to happen in 2025?



NUMBER 10

Whether number 10 and we're going to talk about space elevators. Some scientists think that the future of getting into space might not be by using traditional rockets and tons of fuel, but by simply taking an elevator up there. This will involve a

machine crawling up a huge and almost unimaginable strong cable, and it was no longer under the influence of us gravity. For many, its pure science fiction but for others, such as the lift port group developing the space elevator is actually their day job. They believe recent advances in materials, such as nanotubes. Mean that one day be possible to build a structure. That's strong enough, flexible enough and light enough to allow machines to crawl out beyond the atmosphere and carry everything for cheap from cargo to tourists without a single rocket in sight. Ok guys, it might sound a little bit out there, but hey they used to say that landing on the moon sounds crazy, and as my grandmother says anything is possible there.



NUMBER 9

But for now we're moving on to number 9 and let's talk about weather control. Ever since the first prey or rain dance humans have been trying to control the weather to suit our needs. California has been using techniques, such as cloud seeding to

stimulate clouds with particles to try and make it rain for more than 50 years. In 2008 the Chinese government flew 1100 rockets into the sky to release chemicals that would stop clouds from raining on the opening ceremony for the Beijing Olympics. This has led many individuals, groups, and countries around the world to conduct their own research in the belief that humans will one day be able to master the science of weather modification. The benefits of this will range from little things like stopping a rainy day from brewing, even to be able to prevent hurricanes and storms before they even start at all. Personally, I think someone's already been tinkering with the weather in England, because, come on, it can't rain that much just to stop, come on.

**NUMBER 8**

At number 8, linguists predict that by the year 2150 many languages being spoken right. This second will be completely dead. Today there are over 7,000 different languages, but 100 years from now 90% of these will be gone, as a society becomes more globalized and interconnected. Dominant languages will appear, where once there are many different tongues. These are likely to be English, Spanish and Chinese Mandarin. Other languages, such as Arabic and Hindi and even French are expected to see a surge in native speakers. Thanks to a booming population growth in a country where they are spoken well. As for the English, it won't be the number one most spoken language in the world, but it will continue to grow, as non-native speakers use it as a common tongue to communicate with each other. I pretty happy to hear that, as I don't know any Chinese, and I forgotten most of my high school French.

**NUMBER 7**

At number 7 now it's being predicted that the future will see mass extinctions of animals like nothing we've seen before. A scientific study suggested that the earth is losing 11,000 – 58,000 species to extinction every single year, and points the finger of blame a human pollution, deforestation and expanding habitats. Some even go so far as to say that we may be entering a new mass extinction rival the devastating wounds of the past. It's thought that the current trend continues. We could see extinctions at the same rate as the one that killed the dinosaurs in just 250 years from now. And that one was called by a massive asteroid. That was 300 miles across. So, yeah, humans can be pretty scary.

**NUMBER 6**

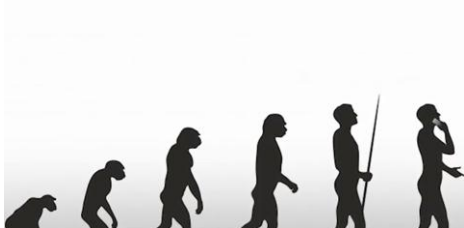
On to number 6 technology experts predict the future we'll see internet connection for every human alive. Right now, there's 7.4 billion people on the planet, but only 3.3 billion of those including you, watching this have any sort of access to the Internet. It won't stay this way forever, though. Companies such as Facebook, Google and SpaceX have been launching their own initiatives to connect everyone online for the first time in history. It has predicted by the year 2025 all eight billion people on planet earth will have access to the internet. So, if you're watching this, from the year 2025, I hope I got some of these right halfway through.

**NUMBER 5**

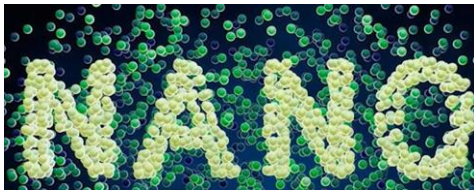
And our guys, at number 5 is predicted by some people that driverless cars will hit the market as soon as 2020 years later. In 2025, the driverless car will be commonly used around the world, and 5 years after that in 2030 the average American will spend 40% of their time in driverless cars. It stores a driver's car will become such a part of society. The government might even require it as a safety feature. If your car doesn't have an automated system, it will be seen as at best old-fashioned, and at worst a danger to you and other road users. If you guys are adults already, then you probably will be by 2030, so it could be you guys watching this right now that will be driving driverless cars or are not driving. Can you call it driving? I know when you guys get one, let me know.

**NUMBER 4**

At number 4, human life expectancy has been growing for well over a hundred years now. And it's not expected to slowdown in the future. For every year that passes from now on the average American is expected to live three months longer. By 2050, the average person will be expected to live - 88 years old. And by 2100 some people predict that might even reach 100 years old. Advancements in medicine, sanitation, diet and education are just some of the factors that lead people to foresee a future where the old just keep getting older. I know guys, I'm not sure how I feel about this. Do you think that's kind of awesome? Everyone's gonna be living for so long or there's something a little bit unnatural about it. Let me know in the comments below.

NUMBER 3

On the number 3, it's been predicted by the year 2100 humans don't be getting their energy the same way we do today. The vast majority of our energy will be obtained from renewable sources such as, wind or solar. The old fossil fuels that we burn as the power of society in modern times will be replaced with cleaner and cheaper sources. Who knew that insanely large burning ball of energy in the sky could be used to get all that energy. I did not see that one coming.

**NUMBER 2**

At number 2, nanotechnology is the future. It's the manipulation of matter on the Nano scale which is about 1 to 100nanometers. It's been the stuff of science fiction for a while now. The researchers are confident that it will be an integral part of our society in the near future. Nano robots could be injected into the bloodstream of sick people to instantly cure any diseases, and some claim that once the technology is perfected every virus or disease including cancer will be easily cured. These tiny Nano are predicted to be using every part of our lives, such as microscopic cameras for security. So, aside from all that amazing stuff that was curing cancer, nanobots can also be put into your food to literally change into whatever else you want. It sounds like a bright future fascinating.

**NUMBER 1**

All right guys, coming in out number 1. The national intelligence council is a US government agency whose job is to peer into the future and try and spot global trends before they happen. One of their biggest productions at the moment is humans entering what is being called the trans-human era. As we begin to use more prosthetics, implants and technology in our bodies. The NYC predicts that humans can and will become Bionic in a very real sense of the word. New machine limbs will perform better than the ones people are born with blurring the lines between humans and machines. Brain implants will allow the brain to perform much much faster and super-strong. Excess curtains will become commonplace and soldiers. The trans-human era will bring humans and technology together. In a way that will make down that like superheroes to worse, and it's predicted that this will start happening as early as 2030. Personally I can't lie I love the idea of the order to access any information instantly with my mind or being like super strong or super-fast. But at the same time, guys, with that I mean we're losing a part of what makes us truly human. It could be a scary future. It could be a fascinating future, and it could be anything in between. It is anybody's guess.

Retrieved from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-c173R5-hel>

2. Discuss the following questions with your classmates.

1. Do you think the future will have an absolute change?
2. How do you feel about changes?
3. What are some the things that you feel comfortable changing? And what are some of the things that you don't feel comfortable changing?
4. How do you see the future?
5. How do you face the future?

Note:

Weak Uncertainty Avoidance	Strong Uncertainty Avoidance
The uncertainty inherent in life is accepted and each day is taken as it comes	The uncertainty inherent in life is felt as a continuous threat that must be fought
Ease, lower stress, self-control, low anxiety	Higher stress, emotionality, anxiety, neuroticism
Higher scores on subjective health and well-being	Lower scores on subjective health and well-being
Tolerance of deviant persons and ideas: what is different is curious	Intolerance of deviant persons and ideas: what is different is dangerous
Comfortable with ambiguity and chaos	Need for clarity and structure
Teachers may say 'I don't know'	Teachers supposed to have all the answers
Changing jobs no problem	Staying in jobs even if disliked
Dislike of rules - written or unwritten	Emotional need for rules – even if not obeyed
In politics, citizens feel and are seen as competent towards authorities	In politics, citizens feel and are seen as incompetent towards authorities
In religion, philosophy and science: relativism and empiricism	In religion, philosophy and science: belief in ultimate truths and grand theories

 (Retrieved from http://www.wikiwand.com/en/Hofstede's_cultural_dimensions_theory)