



Living in the 21st Century World: Perspective on Climate Change, Pandemic, and Digital Transformation

Chapter 3 - The Growth of Technology in the 20th Century - Priscilla Okunji

Defined as the application of scientific knowledge to the practical aims of human life, technology is sometimes phrased, as the change and manipulation of the human [environment](#). It would be extremely difficult to write current technology history due to massive information and the difficulty posed in distinguishing the great technologies that virtually propelled the power of the contemporary innovative experiences. In respect to the recent history of technology, however, one fact stands out clearly: despite the immense achievements of technology by 1900, the 20th century witnessed more advance over a wide range of activities than the whole of previously recorded history. A massive number of new technologies were developed in the last century. Technologies such as electricity, the [incandescent light bulb](#), the [automobile](#) and the [phonograph](#), first developed at the end of the 19th century, were perfected and universally deployed. The first [airplane](#) flight was invented in 1903, and by the end of the century large airplanes such as the [Boeing 777](#) and [Airbus A330](#) flew thousands of miles in a matter of hours. The development of the television and computers caused immense changes in information sharing. Looking at all the greatest and most practical innovations that came into existence throughout in the past century. In the United States, four-in-ten technological advances are cited as greatest American achievement. Overall, the single most-mentioned success is the space program. Almost, one-in-five participants cited the exploration of space as the America's greatest feat. Hence, this chapter will reveal many technologies that were invented prior to the present 21st century. The technologies significance would be discussed based on their overall impact on commerce and the public. Page 32-43