

Using NewsHour Extra Feature Stories

STORY

Google Augments Reality with Futuristic Glasses

04/09/2012

http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/features/science/jan-june12/google_04-09.html

Estimated Time: One 45-minute class period with possible extension

Student Worksheet (reading comprehension and discussion questions without answers)

PROCEDURE

1. WARM UP

Use initiating questions to introduce the topic and find out how much your students know.

2. MAIN ACTIVITY

Have students read NewsHour Extra's feature story and answer the reading comprehension and discussion questions on the student handout.

3. DISCUSSION

Use discussion questions to encourage students to think about how the issues outlined in the story affect their lives and express and debate different opinions.]

INITIATING QUESTIONS

1. Name three Google products. How do you use these products?
2. What is reality? What is augmented reality?
3. What does the word 'prototype' mean? How are new gadgets developed?

READING COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. What is the formal name of Google's virtual glasses project?

Project Glass

2. Are the Google glasses currently for sale?

No

3. What are some examples of things a user could do with Google glasses?

Finds out the weather forecast, make plans to meet a friend, plot the route, remind yourself of a book title, and have a video chat

4. Why do some people say Google glasses could be an invasion of privacy?

Google could gather data on what the wearer does every day and tailor ads to fit it.

5. What is the name of the laboratory where Google glasses were developed?

Google X

6. What are some examples of things being explored in the Google laboratory?

Space elevators, personal robots and an "Internet of Things" that allows appliances to be connected to the Internet.

7. Do people know where the Google laboratories are located?

No, the locations are kept highly secret.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (more research might be needed)

- 1. What do you think about Google's futuristic glasses? Would you like to own a pair? Why or why not?**
- 2. What does the term 'invasion of privacy' mean? Do you think Google's glasses will invade privacy? Discuss.**
- 3. If you worked at Google's secret laboratory what type of project would you like to work on?**
- 4. Is Google obligated to consider issues such as privacy when developing new products? Why or why not?**

Extension Activity

Have students write a 300-500 word essay on this topic providing clear examples. Send your completed editorial to NewsHour Extra (extra@newshour.org). Exceptional essays might be published on our Web site.

STUDENT WORKSHEET

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