

Connect to the Literature

1. What Do You Think?

Did you find Asimov's examples convincing? Explain your response.

Comprehension Check


- What is the technological change that worries the author?
- How might this change affect the way we give directions?
- How could it affect the way children learn to tell time?

Think Critically

2. Do you agree that "there are no good substitutes" for the words *clockwise* and *counterclockwise*? Why or why not?
3. Do you think the author is arguing against the use of digital clocks? Explain your judgment.



- his opinion of digital clocks
- the **tone** he uses in his conclusion

4. **ACTIVE READING** **ANALYZING TEXT STRUCTURE** Study the **cause-effect** chart that you created in your  **READER'S NOTEBOOK**. Notice how Asimov organizes information about the effects, beginning with the most immediate and obvious ones. How does this structure affect your understanding or interest?
5. What do you think is the **theme**, or most important message, of the essay?

Extend Interpretations

6. **Critic's Corner** One critic has said that Asimov is "thankfully, a teacher first and a scientist second." How would you explain this quotation? Find details from the essay that support this statement.
7. **Connect to Life** What do you think is gained or lost when progress in modern technology changes the way we live? List examples of recent changes and their effects to support your opinion.