

# Emerging Technology

Ted Talks – <http://www.ted.com>

Name

Hour

- ✓ You will watch the following Ted Talk and respond to the following focus questions.
- ✓ You can access the Talk at the URL address below.
- ✓ You may answer the questions on your own or with a partner.

[Sherry Turkle: Connected, but alone?](#) 19:48

As we expect more from technology, do we expect less from each other? Sherry Turkle studies how our devices and online personas are redefining human connection and communication -- and asks us to think deeply about the new kinds of connection we want to have. TED2012, Filmed Feb 2012, Posted Apr 2012 [http://www.ted.com/talks/sherry\\_turkle\\_alone\\_together.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/sherry_turkle_alone_together.html)

1. According to the Talk, what are the places that technology is taking us to, that we don't want to go?  
we don't talk to each other anymore only text, we don't speak face to face
2. What are some examples of inappropriate use of technology that were mentioned in the Talk?  
funerals, meetings, dinner table, classes
3. What does Ms. Turkle mean by being "Alone Together"?  
no matter if we are with people we still think we all alone because we are connected to our technology
4. What does she mean by "Hiding From Each Other"?  
we are hiding behind our electronics and not being around anyone anymore unless we have our phones
5. How does "conversation → connection" happen according to the Talk?  
we don't have real conversations in person anymore we only talk over the phone
6. What concern is raised with kids who would rather "Text than Talk"?  
that they won't know how to communicate with anyone in person and not know how to live
7. What impact does the feeling that "No one is listening" have on people?  
makes us want to go to technology because we believe it will listen to us
8. Why are people tempted by machines that offer companionship?  
because people think that electronics will help us better than other people can and we depend on technology to help us
9. Why are people expecting more from Technology and less from each other?  
we rely on technology and think it will help us more than other people actually will.
10. What is the illusion of companionship without the demands of friendship?
11. What are the 3 things mentioned in the Talk, that we all want, in order to be comfortable and in control?  
the feeling of being wanted  
  
to feeling of being comfortable  
  
to feel we are being intimate

12. Being alone feels like a problem that needs to be solved, the Talk mentions the concept of “I share therefore I am”. Explain what the following perceptions mean:

- I have a feeling → I want to make a call (*past*)  
people to use to talk on the phone all the time for hours
- I want to have a feeling → I need to send a text (*current*)  
people now don't like to talk on the phone we like to text people.

13. How does “connection → isolation” happen according to the Talk?

we are so connected to our phones that we are being isolated to it, we don't do anything else

14. According to the Talk, “solitude is where you find yourself before you reach out to know someone else”. What do they/you see as the power of this statement?

i think it means that we don't reach out to anyone because we don't even know who we are ourselves, so no one else knows us

15. How would you explain the following statement from the Talk, “If we don't teach our children to be alone, they will only know how to be lonely”.

if we don't teach our kids that you don't have to have technology to love life they will feel lonely because they will always depend on their electronics and not be with anyone

16. How do we make our actual/real life, the life we love?

we think that we live the life we want/love because we have our phones and don't need to communicate with people in person

17. Write three additional thoughts/reactions that you had to the Talk.

i think it was interesting how parents are on their phones when being with their kids and don't talk to them as much anymore.

how we feel so lonely but we are surrounded by so many people, because we are all on our phones

a woman talk to a robot baby seal cause she lost her baby and she felt comfortable talking to it even tho it has no idea what a human life really is