Living in an 'intelligent' world

The world around us is becoming increasingly automated and controlled by artificial intelligence. Some of the earliest adapters of this technology have been car-sharing services, like Uber and Lyft. Over the long-term, using A.I. systems to control the flow of cars and traffic has the potential to save thousands of lives every year by reducing fatal accidents. But what happens when the system makes a mistake or malfunctions? Who is responsible for deaths or injuries caused by artificial intelligence or robots?

The following editorial from *The Seattle Times* was written shortly after an Uber-involved accident in March 2018, in which – for the first time ever – a pedestrian was killed by a self-driving car. Read the article and consider the arguments both for and against regulating robots and artificial intelligence.

Check out the editorial here.
WEBSITE: *bit.ly/3ggDMq3*

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Consider the following questions to facilitate a debate or discussion.

- What are some arguments in favor of increased regulation? What would be some reasons for opposing?
- **What's your opinion?** Should robotics and artificial intelligence be highly regulated and accountable to human control or simply left to evolve and develop on its own?
- What experiences have you had with artificial intelligence and automation? Give at least **one example** of A.I. or automation that you observed or learned about on your travel program.
- Ask your classmates an open-ended question about anything related to this topic. *Remember, an open-ended question allows your classmates to share their opinions beyond a yes/no answer.*

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