**Structure of EOA**

Introduction

observation - provide understanding of the subject

Proposition - the proposed statement of discussion

method of answering - how you examine this question to assess the extent of agreement

Main Body

1.1 Proposition 1 - why you agree to this proposition

1.2 EOA - which area do you disagree to reflect the extent of agreement

2.1 Proposition 2 - why you agree to this proposition from another category

2.2 EOA - which area do you disagree to the reflect the extent of agreement

3. can either continue with the last point as the 1st and 2nd

4. can also set a paragraph of analysis to show the extent of agreement by identifying the key determinants to decide the extent of agreement

Conclusion

summary of your stand based on the extent of agreement

suggestion

**Essay Question 1**

**To what extent does science and technology make us less human?**

**proposition – science and technology will make us less human**

* **advancement in science and technology will change our features being human – emotional capacity, aspiration, social being, moral judgement**
* **extent of agreement**
* **must explain how the features of science and technology will reduce the features of human beings (digitalization, process of work, efficiency, and effectiveness, simplification, less contact and more transmission inninformation)**
* **question type – to what extent**
* **develop the proposition and show extent of agreement to proposition (using 2 paragraphs )**

Introduction

* Explain the significance of science and technology in this modern world
* State how it has changed our society and it will affect our lives
* One such impact will be how our human lives will change – implying how the various features of human beings have been modified
* Must show an approach on how you answer the question – how to examine the issue – (based on the areas that define the features of being human)

Main Body

Point 1: Agree with the proposition that science and technology make us less human – Psychology – undermine our capacity to be emotional – why this is a human feature and how it is undermined by science and technology

* Explain the feature of emotional capacity as a human being
* How it is eroded by the advancement of science and technology
* Example
* Concluding sentence

Extent of Agreement (EOA) 1: We still have the capacity to empathize and feel.

Point 2: Less moral and ethical in judgement

EOA 2: We still have the capacity to make judgement (ethical)

Point 3: Less sociable as our communication and interaction skills are undermined

EOA 3: We are still social beings

Conclusion

We can see that science and technology has influenced the human characteristics and this is part of human evolution. The extent of impact on how science and technology changes human features will depend on pace of technological advancement and how human beings adapt to these changes. In the process of integration, it is inevitable that science and technology will be part of the human civilization.

**Structure of DYA**

Introduction

Observation of the Subjects

Set perspectives – Thesis and anti-thesis

Set your stand – either thesis or anti-thesis

Main body

1. Opposing view

2. Rebuttal - prove why opposing view is wrong

3. Supporting view

3.1 - category 1

3.2 - category 2

3.3 - category 3

Conclusion

Retort your stand  
Provide opinion and suggestion

**As science advances, man regresses. Do you agree?**

**Introduction**

**a) Overview – understanding of the subjects and the link between them.**

**b) Perspectives – the two views about the discussion**

**c) Stand – disagrees that scientific advancement has led to man’s regression**

Science and technology has always played an intricate role in the development of human civilization, affecting the way we live, think and behave. From the era of primitive civilization where we were able to create tools to raise food production till our present era where modern technological advancement has affected the diverse aspects of our modern society, scientific advancement has created extensive impact on our civilization. To the modernists, they recognize the contribution of science and technology in helping man to live a more convenient and comfortable way of life in our natural perilous environment, however, the traditionalists would feel that science and technology has led man to his regression when we observe that detrimental impact of our society beyond its tangible benefits. As for me, scientific advancement does not lead to men’s regression as we have made tremendous progress with the advent of sciences and if we do regress, science cannot be made the scapegoat of our regression as it is only a means for our action.

**Main body**

**1) Opposing view**

**a) Provides reasons on why scientific advancement has led to man’s regression**

The traditionalists and technologically-adverse group’s concern seems rational when we see how sciences and technology has undermined our civilization, even threatening its survival. From Alfred Nobel’s invention of dynamite and the development of nuclear arsenal, we have seen how man creates a wide range of powerful weapons to destroy his fellow beings for his conquest. **Our barbaric behavior is made possible by sciences and this regression will be finally ceased when our proliferation of nuclear arsenal actualized into a full scale destruction of mankind in a nuclear war**. At a more subtle level, we can also observe **the destructive damage on mankind when we examine the extent of environment degradation as a result of technological advancement that bring about more production of by-products that lead to problem of pollution, global warming and drastic climatic changes**. In recent years, we have observed ten warmest years since 1999, evidently supports the occurrence of global warming while overproduction has led to the rise of carbon monoxide to such alarming level that IPPC (Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change) has consistently call for reduction in carbon emission, which is the result of excessive production brought about by technological development demanding greater use of fossil fuels.

Besides the physical threat, **cultural erosion and moral degradation also occur as we develop medical application to conduct abortion, killing of our own off-springs** which most animals would not do despite the presence of natural law for survival while **technological applications eliminate the traditional norms** which define the cultural identity in the name of efficiency brought about by technology.

**2) Rebuttal – Prove why the opposing view is wrong**

**But such observation is one sided and subjective** as it ignores the intent of application of technology and focuses excessively on the negative aspects of the application. We cannot ignore how the use of nuclear technology will bring about clean fuel energy which will enable the world economy to sustain production capacity without compromising our environment. **With a proper plan to prevent the misuse of this technology, we can prevent the destructive impact** that will cease the civilization of mankind as seen from the warning of the Doomsday Clock by the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists from the University of Chicago.

The pro-life group cannot ignore the benefit of technology on abortion when they understand the need of this technology as **birth of babies with down-syndrome and heredity diseases can be avoided to prevent difficulties to the family and suffering of the child**. Technological advancement has not led to the extinction of traditional cultures as the use of internet technology has enabled traditional cultural activities to be shared and made known to those who are interested, ensuring the inheritance of cultural heritage. In Singapore, some of local enthusiasts of local cultural activities have uploaded local street shows, ‘Ge Tai’, to help to preserve and proliferate the interests of these activities. Hence, such closer and dimensional observation will prove that the regression of mankind does not occur as science advances.

**3) Supporting View**

**Provides reasons why scientific adancement has not led to man’s regression.**

**a) Scientific advancement has allowed man to progress.**

In contrary to the proposition, scientific advancement has contributed to the progression of our civilization.

i) A sense of human determinism and assertiveness is nurtured as technological and scientific advancement has imbued us with the desire to pursue for excellence, evidently seen from the proliferation of education.

ii) Proliferation of information with modern media technology has led to democratization of nations, empowering individuals to free them from authoritarian rule – women are given the power to uphold their rights, preventing gender discrimination – racial discrimination is also minimized

ii) Technological proliferation made possible through foreign investment which provide employment and thus, higher standard of living is made possible as more countries are able to raise their people out of poverty

iii) New medical treatment are discovered to alleviate the suffering of the people, promoting longevity as we gain greater control of epidemic of diseases like small pox and tuberculosis.

**b) Man’s regression is not due to scientific discovery.**

**Of course, we cannot deny that man’s development under technological influence is ambiguous and controversial as its path is not without criticism**. However, scientific advancement is conveniently **identified as a scapegoat for the fallacy of our human nature and this is unjust**. Science is merely a means to an end and the power of the usage of the tool lies in our hand. **If man’s regression is to be accounted, the fault lies not in the advancement of science but the failures of man in putting the use of scientific advancement in the right perspective.**

(You may want to explain how our fallacy leads to the degradation of mankind).

**Conclusion**

In sum, it is definitely not agreeable to accuse scientific advancement as the cause of our regression as we can never deny how the knowledge has led to the betterment of mankind. We have progressed with our search for the answer to understand of our natural world and apply them for the development of civilization. Of course, there are moments of fallacy that the knowledge we have gained becomes the sources of threat or the causes that leads to our regression but it is not right for us to use it as the scapegoat for our misdeeds. Our regression is seen from our lack of the intellectual and sensibility to apply the knowledge in the right way.