

Artifact 1:

The cover story of the December 9, 2024, issue of *Time Magazine*, titled "Citizen Musk," explores Elon Musk's evolving role in politics and his influence on the U.S. President-elect. It delves into Musk's significant ventures, including his Mars ambitions, neural interface projects, and his strategic moves in the tech and business world. Musk's relationship with President-elect Donald Trump and its implications for policy and power dynamics also feature prominently in the discussion

1. How might Musk's technological ambitions reshape the global landscape of innovation and policy-making in the next decade?
2. In what ways does a figure like Musk challenge traditional notions of political influence and authority?
3. How can society balance the benefits of visionary leadership with the potential risks of concentrated power in individuals like Musk?
4. How might Musk's close alignment with political leaders influence the ethical boundaries of technological advancements?
5. To what extent could Musk's influence on policy-making affect global perspectives on private enterprise's role in governance?

Artifact 2:

The December 9, 2024, *Time* article "*The Power of the Peer*" explores how peer support is being reimaged to fill the gaps in traditional mental health care. With platforms like Fello, individuals can earn money by sharing their life experiences to help others facing similar challenges. This innovative model highlights the rising need for affordable and accessible mental health solutions amid shortages of professional care. The article examines the implications of monetizing empathy and the longstanding human practice of peer support in a modern, tech-driven context.

1. How might monetizing peer support influence the authenticity and trustworthiness of the help provided?
2. In what ways could technology platforms reshape traditional notions of community and mutual aid?
3. How can society ensure ethical boundaries while commercializing human experiences for mental health support?
4. How might these platforms impact the stigma associated with seeking help for mental health challenges?
5. To what extent could reliance on peer-driven platforms complement or compete with professional mental health services?

Artifact 3:

Devastating rainfall hits Spain in yet another flood-related disaster

1. How does the increasing frequency of extreme weather events, such as those observed in Spain, impact long-term community resilience and urban planning?
2. In which ways can international collaborations enhance early warning systems to mitigate flood-related disasters effectively?
3. Why might land use and population density in flood-prone areas exacerbate the impacts of flooding events?
4. How could advancements in technology and data collection shape future flood forecasting and disaster management strategies?
5. In exploring sustainable solutions, which strategies should governments prioritize to address both immediate disaster response and climate change adaptation?

Artifact 4:

“Increasingly, our leaders must deal with dangers that threaten the entire world, where an understanding of those dangers and the possible solutions depends on a good grasp of science. The ozone layer, the greenhouse effect, acid rain, questions of diet and heredity. All require scientific literacy.” Isaac Asimov

1. Can Americans choose the proper leaders and support the proper programs if they themselves are *scientifically illiterate*?
2. The whole premise of democracy is that it is safe to leave important questions to the court of public opinion - but is it safe to leave them to the court of public ignorance?
3. In what ways does scientific literacy empower individuals and societies to engage with complex global issues like climate change and public health?
4. Why is fostering scientific education crucial for the next generation of leaders facing global environmental and technological challenges?
5. In addressing interconnected global dangers, which methods could be employed to bridge the gap between scientific experts and policymakers?