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Essay Topic: Artificial Intelligence: Its promises and perils

Outline

1- Introduction

Artificial intelligence, or AI, is every where right now. It has the potential to revolutionize many aspects of life, but it also poses significant risks. However, a number of preventive measures can be taken to minimize its unintended consequences and maximize its benefits.

2- Promises and perils of Artificial intelligence

3- Artificial intelligence promises

a. To work as a personal assistant
b. To be available 24 hours a day
c. To commit fewer errors than humans
d. To increase economic growth and productivity
e. To create new avenues for jobs
f. To assist doctors in detection of diseases
g. To help in advertising and marketing campaign

4- Artificial intelligence imperils

a. To lead to the loss of certain jobs
b. To lead to the cuts in wages
c. To threaten global peace
d. To be used for propaganda and disinformation
e. To lead to human extinction

f. To pose a threat to original writers and artists works

g. Loss of time and energy

5- What can be done about all these risks?

   a. Educating people regarding its positive and safe use

   b. Regulating it through new and bold governance strategies

   c. Setting ethical standards for it

   d. Legislation should be passed against harmful AI tools

6- Conclusion

   "Artificial intelligence is the new electricity." It is a famous statement by Andrew Ng, a British-American computer Scientist. This quote highlights the potential of AI to transform the society in a similar way to how electricity did in the past. AI is already being used in a wide range of applications from healthcare to transportation to manufacturing. As AI continues to develop, it is likely to have an even greater impact on life. However, it is important to be aware of both promises and perils of AI. Its promises include

Phrase it properly

to work as a personal assistant like Siri and Alexa applications. Its twenty four hours availability with fewer errors increases productivity and efficiency. It also ensures economic growth and productivity along with creation of new avenues for jobs. Moreover, it is used to assist doctors in detection of diseases. It helps its users in advertising and marketing campaigns to attract costumers. On the other hand, AI leads to the loss of jobs and cuts in wages. It also threatens global peace and can be used as a tool to spread disinformation and propaganda. Moreover, it poses a threat to the existence of original writers and artists' works. It sometimes leads to the loss of time and energy. Also, it is said that it might replace humans in all spheres of life which may lead to human extinction. However, all these risks can be minimized by educating people, setting ethical standards and bold governance strategies. Thus, AI has the potential to revolutionize life, but also poses significant risks which can be minimized by taking preventive measures.

AI has become a new reality of life with its various personal use applications which can be used as personal assistants. Its applications have become the part of mobile phones, which demonstrates that ~~like mobiles~~, it holds a significant share in individuals' lives. In this regard, the 2018 report of Mckinsey Global Institute, "The promise and Global Challenge of the Age of Artificial Intelligence," says that AI powers so many real world applications ranging from face recognition to language translators and assistants like Siri and Alexa. Thus, AI as a reality is undeniable.

Very immature argument

Along with this use, AI ~~offers its~~ availability 24 hours a day and 7 days a week. Interestingly, it does not get tired nor does it suffer from sugar crashes. It neither asks for tea nor gets angry over its users. It does the ~~same tasks~~ consistently with the same results to the same standard. According to the Forbe's article on the pros and cons of Artificial intelligence published in May 2023, when the

Power is on, algorithms can run 24 hours a day, 7 days a week without needing a break. Hence, AI serves its adopters without a break.

Not only does it offer 24 hours availability, but it also works flawlessly to a great extent because it commits fewer errors than humans. Though humans are great, but they are not perfect. It is famously said that "to err is human", but it does not apply to the AI in the same sense. Humans get tired after a few hours work and they are easily distracted too. However, when it comes to AI, its errors are negligible and its superb efficiency is praiseworthy. In the article of Forbes on the topic, 'the pros. and cons of Artificial Intelligence' published in May 2023, the writer says that algorithms commit fewer errors because they are not influenced by external forces and they do what they are told to do. Hence, AI guarantees accuracy.

Along with its accuracy, it also helps to increase economic growth and productivity because of its super efficiency. It works better and faster than humans. Unlike humans,

it does not say 'no' to the commands given to it. It works according to the instructions given to it. Moreover, it can boost productivity in manufacturing by automating specialized operations like data processing and decision-making, and creating more avenues for investment, imports, and exports. For instance, in 2022, it boosted export revenue of Pakistan to 3 billion dollars with 17,000 software companies providing services to over 120 countries. Thus, it increases economic growth and productivity.

Coupled with increasing economic growth and productivity, AI also creates more avenues for jobs. Online platforms such as Amazon, Fiverr, LinkedIn, Facebook and WhatsApp marketing are a few names among many that have created jobs for many people. People across the world are using these platforms to either provide services and products or get the services fostered by these platforms. For instance, AI has accommodated over 600,000 IT professionals with over 25,000 fresh graduates as service providers on all these platforms. This highlights that AI

is a blessing for the young generations when it comes to job opportunities for them by AI.

Combined with providing opportunities for more jobs, AI has the potential to assist doctors in diagnosing diseases because of its wonderful algorithms. It provides opportunities to reduce human errors, assist medical staff and professionals and provide patient services 24 hours a day. According to the Article titled "The Future of AI in Pakistan" published in Medium by Sara Ahmad in 2023, AI assists doctors in diagnosing, interpreting medical images, and anticipating patient outputs. This technology results in faster and more precise diagnoses leading to a better patient care. Thus, AI can also be assistant to doctors in diagnosing diseases.

AI helps in advertising and marketing campaign in conjunction with creating more opportunities for jobs. It helps the business to reach as many customers as possible. Its algorithms help to get the relevant customers by advertising and marketing the

the products to specific and relevant customers. Jonathan Kaufman, Senior vice president, and Chief marketing officer at Sage Dental, writes in his article titled, "The Promise of AI and Its Perils" published in Forbes in May 2023 that AI is creative and if one has seen an ad, he or she has seen them all. Tools like ChatGPT, WriSonic, and Lex can help the marketers develop campaign that have originality and creativity, visuals, and content and better targeting to specific audience. This highlights that AI assists the marketers in better marketing campaigns.

The promises of AI come with Risks and challenges. AI can be a threat to a job loss in future because the threat that AI will replace countless jobs in the near future has become a hot-button global issue recently. The Study by Mckinsey Global Institute titled 'Generative AI and the Future of Work in America' Said that AI has the potential to greatly accelerate economic automation. The report also added that automation's biggest effects are

likely to hit specific job categories such as office support, customer service, and food service employment. Thus, AI has the potential to risk job loss in future.

Not only does AI threaten job loss in future, but it also risks wage cuts because its owners rely on the efficiency and work of AI than workers. While workers are eager to use generative AI like ChatGPT to their advantage, they also fear that this technology could one day reach a level of sophistication that would pose a genuine threat to their own jobs and their pay. According to the article published in Guardian titled, "AI holds promises and perils', AI has already led to the wage cuts of Taxi drivers in London by the Introduction of Uber. It has led to the cuts of about 10 percent in their wages. This highlights that AI is perilous for wage cuts.

Coupled with threatening global peace, AI offers new tools for disinformation and Propaganda. AI is being used to spread disinformation through deep-fakes for political reasons. It is being used by governments

and political actors around the world to generate texts, videos, and images to manipulate public opinion in their favour. According to the report of Amnesty International published in the article of Guardian titled, "AI hold promises and perils." Meta's algorithms, by promoting hate speech substantially contributed to the atrocities perpetrated by the Mayanmar military against the Rohingya people in 2017. This indicates that AI can be used as destructive tool when it comes to propaganda and disinformation.

Not only can it be used as a tool of propaganda and disinformation, but it can also threaten the existence of original writers and artists as advanced algorithms have attained the skill of creative writing and making images. Moreover, algorithms of AI are constantly learning from their users. Some of popular AI programs can be used to create AI art and they include Stable Diffusion, Dalle, and Midjourney. Also, ChatGPT and Google Bard can be

used to write stories, films, essays and research papers, etc. Thus, AI is considered a threat to original writers and artists.

In conjunction with threatening the existence of writers and artists, AI can also pose a threat to human existence because AI is replacing humans in almost every aspect of life. Professor Yaval Noah Harrari, the author of Sapiens and 21 lessons of 21st Century, says that AI has the potential to replace humans particularly in third world countries. Also, Michael Osborne, writes in his article titled, "AI huge promise and perils' published in Guardian" May 2023, that 48 percent of AI researchers have thought that AI has significant chance of making humans extinct. Hence, AI poses a threat to human extinction.

Not only does it threaten human existence, but it also leads to a loss of time and energy because of its addictiveness. Artificial intelligence is still in initial stages which is why AI tools such as ChatGPT and Google Bard require more time and energy of its users to write something.

It needs proper instructions which means that first one has to guide it properly, then its application will be able to produce something relevant. Its users often complain that they need to instruct AI applications in a number of ways to get the required results. This highlights that AI can lead to loss of time and energy of its users.

Although AI can be perilous in many ways, there are some preventive measures which can be used to minimize its risks and maximize its benefits. One of them is educating people regarding its positive and safe use. Teaching students about AI is not only essential for developing digital literary and preparing students for future academic and career success, but it will also enable students to use AI technologies safely, responsibly and ethically. According to language Magazine's article titled, "The Importance of AI in Education for all Students", learning about AI encourages students consider the ethical implications of AI technology usage. Thus, educating

students regarding its positive use can minimize its risks.

Along with educating people regarding its positive use, it is necessary that AI must be regulated through new, bold, governance strategies to both address its risks and maximize its potential. According to article of Michael Osborne titled 'AI holds huge promise and perils' published in Guardian in May 2023, currently UK's regulatory approach is too light-weighted because of ambiguities in AI and AI's system definitions. Also, 'EU's AI Act' is too slow because it may come into force until 2026. Hence, there is dire need of regulating it with bold and timely measures.

AI must have ethical standards coupled with bold governance strategies. It is sometimes biased rather than neutral. It does not produce results based on its neutrality but will show the people the most clicked or used items. For instance, as per the report of UNESCO titled, "Artificial Intelligence:

Examples of ethical dilemmas' published in April 2023, AI delivers biased results because its search engine processes big data and prioritizes results with most clicks relying both on user preferences and location. Thus, AI is biased and needs ethical standards.

Along with bold governance strategies, legislation should passed to prevent certain AI tools to pass into everyone's hands. because certain AI tools can be used in criminal activities such as deep-fakes. According to the article titled, '12 Risks and Dangers of Artificial Intelligence' written by Mike thomas and published in Builtin in 2023, certain AI tools lack data privacy. For instance, AI face filter online collects data but where this data goes and how it is used, nobody knows about it. Moreover, one big incident of ChatGPT in 2023 exposed the vulnerabilities of AI tools where ChatGPT allowed its users to see titles from another user's chat history. This highlights that AI is not safe completely and must be harnessed with proper legislation.

In conclusion, it can be said that Artificial Intelligence has both promises and perils. It works as a personal assistant with twenty four hours availability. Its uninterrupted availability increase productivity and economic growth

along with creating new opportunities for jobs. Its help in diagnosing various diseases makes the work easy for doctors. However, it is also perilous. It leads to the loss of jobs with wage cuts. It has the potential to threaten global peace if it is left unbridled. It is also a threat to the spread of disinformation and propaganda. Moreover, it is considered a threat to human existence. Therefore, it is necessary that it must be harnessed with bold legislation and governance strategies along with educating people regarding its safe and proper use. Thus, by taking preventive measures, its perils can be abated and its promises can be maximized.