

Name _____

The Driver Dilemma: How Will Autonomous Vehicles Impact Jobs?

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Answer: Answers may vary, but a possible response could be: The introduction of autonomous vehicles may initially result in a loss of jobs in some driving-related sectors, but it could also create new job opportunities in areas like engineering, software development, and vehicle maintenance. The overall impact on the job market in the transportation industry will depend on how quickly and extensively autonomous vehicles are adopted and how well workers can transition to new roles.
2. Answer: Answers may vary, but a possible response could be: If autonomous taxis become the norm, my job as a taxi driver may change significantly. I might need to learn how to operate and maintain autonomous vehicles or transition to roles related to their maintenance and oversight. Developing technical skills and knowledge about autonomous technology could be crucial to remaining employed in the industry.
3. Answer: Ethical considerations may include decisions made by autonomous vehicles in emergency situations and how they prioritize the safety of occupants versus others on the road. Safety concerns relate to the reliability and readiness of autonomous technology to handle all driving situations, especially unpredictable scenarios. Ensuring the safe integration of autonomous vehicles while considering ethical dilemmas is a complex challenge.
4. Answer: Governments and businesses can support affected workers by offering retraining and reskilling programs to help them transition to new roles or industries. Financial assistance, such as unemployment benefits or job placement services, can provide a safety net during transitions. Additionally, creating policies and initiatives that encourage the development of new industries and job opportunities related to autonomous technology can help mitigate job displacement.

