Technology Profile

What is the technology? How is it used?

1. Provide the basics on the technology: its name and any basic information you have about it.

2. How is the technology used? Give the basic details necessary to explain what it is to someone else.

3. What are the limitations of the technology? Are there things that it cannot do or cannot do well?

4. What restrictions are there on the technology? Are there ways that it is illegal or unethical to use it?

5. Use a metaphor or simile to explain what the technology is, and explain why the phrase you choose is appropriate.

Who interacts with the technology?

1. Who uses the technology? Describe the people who interact with it directly.

2. Now think about the people who are indirectly involved with the technology. Describe the people who are affected by it even though they do not directly interact with it.

3. Who decides how to use the technology? How are the "right" and "wrong" ways decided?

4. Who does NOT use the technology? What difference does not using the technology make to them and others?

5. Use a metaphor or simile to describe the people who use the technology, and explain why the phrase you choose is appropriate.

Where is the technology used? When is it used?

1. Generally, what is the setting where the technology is used?

2. Name some specific places and times when the technology is used.

3. In what times and places would you never use the technology? Why not?

4. How does the technology compare to the other technologies used in the same setting(s)?

5. How does the technology "fit" the time and place? How can you tell?

6. What makes the technology a good fit, a bad fit, or somewhere in between?

Why is the technology used?

1. What does the technology do that could not be done or could not be done as easily and/or efficiently without it?

2. What are the negative effects of the technology, and why do people use it regardless of those effects?

3. How has the technology changed the way people live and work? Is the change positive or negative?

4. Does human use of the technology have positive or negative results? How do the results influence the reasons that the technology is used?

5. Taking into account all the positives and negatives, why would you say that people use the technology? Do you agree or disagree with their decision to use it, and why?