

26.Paradox of Our Times

1. The paradox of our times is that we have taller buildings, but shorter tempers; wider freeways, but narrower viewpoints.
2. We buy more, but enjoy it less.
3. We have bigger houses and smaller families; more conveniences, but less time; we have more advanced degrees, but less common sense; more knowledge, but less good judgment; more medicine, but less wellness.
4. We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values.
5. We have higher incomes, but lower morals.
6. We have been all the way to the moon and back, but have trouble crossing the street to meet a new neighbor.
7. We've conquered outer space, but inner space is still a mystery to too many of us.
8. We have cleaned up the air, but polluted the soul; split the atom, but not our prejudices.
9. We talk too much, love too seldom, and hate too often.
10. These are times of steep profits and shallow relationships; world peace and domestic warfare; more leisure and less fun; two incomes and more need.
11. It is a time when there is much in the show window and nothing in the stockroom; a time when technology can bring a letter to you in seconds, and you can choose either to make a difference or just hit "delete."

Comprehension

1. What is a paradox?
2. What does "short-tempered" mean?
3. What is common sense?



Your opinion

1. Why are modern people getting more short-tempered?
2. Why are the viewpoints of contemporary people getting narrower?
3. If we save so much time with gadgets like washing machines, toasters, and computers, why are we always in such a hurry?
4. In what ways do we lack common sense despite advanced degrees?
5. If knowledge isn't necessary for good judgment, then what is?
6. Is it true that as we make more money we lower our moral values?
7. Can we live in a society free from prejudice?
8. Do you think a two-income family runs a higher risk of divorce than a single income?

