

What do you consider to be the biggest threat to humankind?

There are several things that can be considered to be a threat to humankind such as inequality, advancements in robotics, and the declining average human health. However, in my opinion, the biggest threat is climate change.

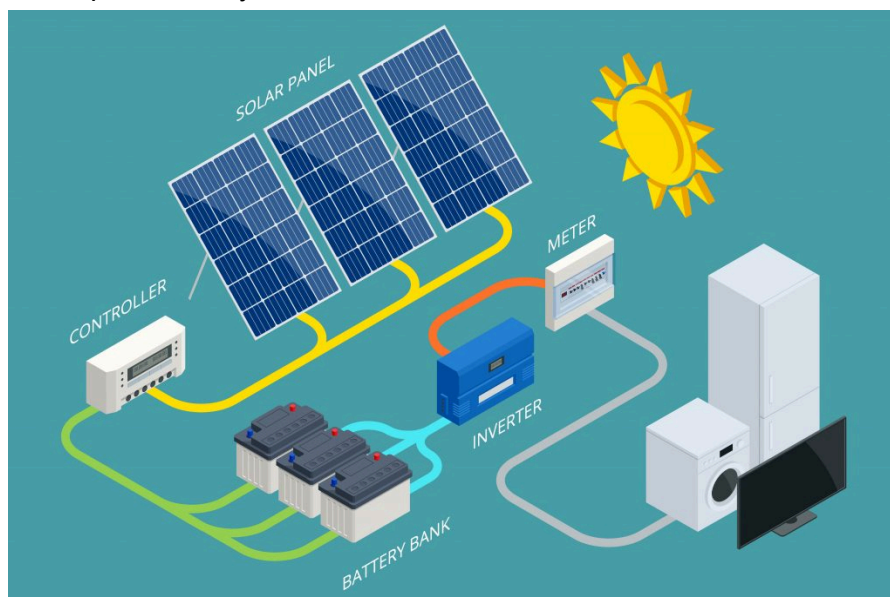
Climate change, also known as global warming, is greenhouse gases trapping in the sun's heat causing the Earth to heat up, changing weather patterns and disrupting nature. It is the long term changes in temperature and weather. These can be due to natural changes like volcanic eruptions however since the industrial revolution, humans have been the main cause of global warming.

Consequences include rising oceans. Since the ocean absorbs most of the heat from global warming, causing icebergs to melt. This makes sea levels rise, destroying coastal communities as well as natural habitats. The ocean absorbs carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas, which makes it more acidic which also destroys natural habitats.

Another consequence is more health risks. Extreme weather events cause an increase of deaths, making it so that health care systems can not keep up. Air pollution, forced displacement and a decrease in mental health all also increase health risks.

Poverty and displacement rates are also rising since climate change increases the factors that cause people to be in poverty. Increased sea levels causes more floods which then causes peoples homes and livelihoods to be destroyed. An increase in temperature makes it difficult to work outside labour jobs and droughts affect crop yields. From 2010 to 2019, it is estimated that 23.1 million people have been displaced due to weather related events.

One of the causes of climate change includes generating power. Power and electricity is commonly created by burning fossil fuels such as coal, oil, or gas. They produce carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide which are greenhouse gases. Good alternatives to this are solar, hydro power or wind which produce little to no but only a quarter of the world's electricity is developed this way.



ESD Solar (N/A) *How Does Solar Energy Work?*. Available at: <https://esdsolar.com/how-does-solar-energy-work/>. (accessed 26 April 2024)

Another cause is using transportation because most of them run on fossil fuels and produce carbon dioxide. Ways to combat this is to use public transport, walk or bike when possible, use electric vehicles, however this may be difficult as they currently cost between £22,000 and £157,000 (not including insurance), and don't use a private jet to travel.

Another cause is deforestation. Roughly 12 million hectares of forest are destroyed each year which causes carbon to be released since they have been storing it. Trees absorb carbon dioxide so cutting them down reduces natural ways of keeping emissions out of the atmosphere.

United Nations (N/A) *Causes and Effects of Climate Change*. Available at: <https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/science/causes-effects-climate-change> (accessed 26 April 2024)

Yurday, E (2023) *Average Cost of an Electric Car UK 2024*. Available at: <https://www.nimblefins.co.uk/average-cost-electric-car-uk> (accessed 26 April 2024)

Evaluate the skills you will need to be successful in your chosen field

Studying a set designer and production course has made me see that there are some skills that need to be developed.

One is learning how to drive a car. Set design and construction requires tools and PPE that will be difficult to transport so owning a car will help me to transport them. A lot of the jobs will also require me to travel to different cities. I can achieve this by taking lessons, passing the test and buying a car. It can be difficult to do this since driving lessons can cost up to £30 each, theory tests are £23 and driving tests are £62 - £75. A car will cost a fair lot more than that. A new small car costs between £19,000 - £25,000 and used cars cost between £10,000 and £20,000. I can help this by saving money but even that isn't factoring in insurance.



Admiral (2023) *L plates and P plates – everything you need to know*. Available at: <https://www.admiral.com/magazine/guides/motor/l-plates-and-p-plates-everything-you-need-to-know> (accessed 26 april 2024)

Another thing I can do is going to see performances and watching films. This will allow me to analyse the performances and films. I can then use that analysis to my advantage and try to replicate some of the same theory of why the designers made the decisions they did into my own work. I can do this throughout my career to ensure that I keep on learning and developing my ideas. Some performances can be very expensive to watch and some movies are just very mediocre that have no meaning behind the decisions that the set designer made. Most also take up a good 2 to 3 hours out of a day. I can get around these problems by saving and using discounts, reading reviews and making or blocking out time to watch them.

However, the most important skill to learn is time management. It is important for anyone to have good time management skills but especially important when in an industry where everyone relies on each other all whilst in a time crunch. I can develop these skills by being mindful of the time; learning how long it takes for me to do certain tasks and determining whether I can fit them into my schedule. It may be a bit difficult especially if im doing something new and don't already know how long that task takes. However I can combat that by embracing the fact that some tasks may take a bit longer but be polite and apologise to the person waiting on me. I can also give myself some time either side of the task for some wiggle room.

GOV.UK (N/A) *Driving test costs*. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/driving-test-cost> (accessed 26 April 2024)

Fast-track Driving School (N/A) *LEARN TO DRIVE IN CARMARTHEN*. Available at: <https://www.fast-trackdrivingschool.co.uk/learn-to-drive-in-carmarthen/#:~:text=All%20driving%20instructors%20are%20not,from%20the%20day%20they%20qualify>. (accessed 26 April 2024)

Yurday, E (2024) *Average Cost of Cars UK 2024*. Available at: <https://www.nimblefins.co.uk/cheap-car-insurance/average-cost-cars-uk> (accessed 26 April 2024)

Discuss the merits or shortcomings of design thinking to your chosen areas of study

Design thinking is made to help someone think through complex and often difficult problems to produce creative solutions.

The first step is to empathise with a problem. This can be as simple as wanting to help someone have an easier life or simply just needing to do it for an assignment.

Next is to define the problem. It is important to get down to the root issue so that the person can go onto the next step.

Ideate is where they come up with solutions to the problem. This can be a new gadget, a new medicine, a new technique for doing things or maybe just improving upon something that already exists.

It is then time to make a prototype where the person can visualise their new solution. This can also help them to pitch the idea to someone who can get it out to the world.

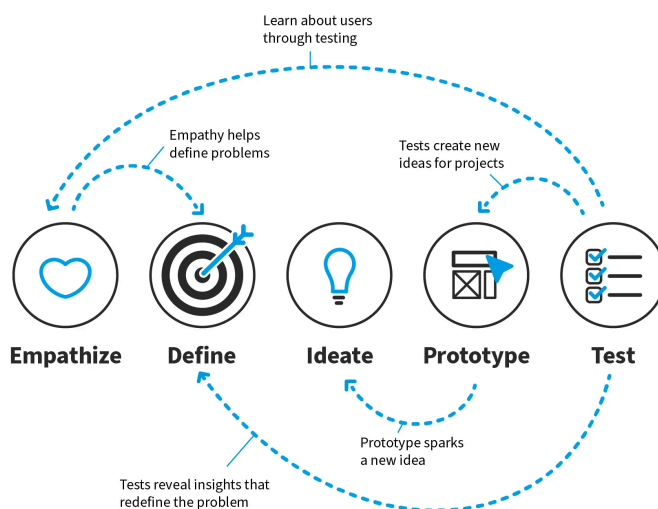
Testing is the most important and final step. It is where they will weed out any issues and identify any changes that need to be made.

After testing the product or solution the person may have to go back to the defining stage to figure out what went wrong if anything then to the ideate step to fix that problem. They would then need to make a whole new prototype and test it again. They would do these steps until they have a perfect product or solution to their problem. They can then market the product or promote the solution.

A merit of design thinking for set design and production is that it is a systematic way to identify problems. As someone who may be autistic, it is very helpful when I have clear and precise steps to follow which design thinking provides for me or anyone else who needs them.

A downfall of design thinking is that it may be a bit too restrictive for some. They may need to do some extra steps and at that point it is not design thinking, it is a whole other process entirely.

Design Thinking: a Non-Linear Process



Interaction Design Foundation
[interaction-design.org](https://www.interaction-design.org)

Interaction Design Foundation - IxDF. (N/A) *What is Design Thinking (DT)?* Available at: <https://www.interaction-design.org/literature/topics/design-thinking> (Accessed 26 April 2024)