

- Read the article below and summarize it in your own words as far as possible in English.
- Summarize it between 90 and 110 words.
- Write your summary in the space provided on your answer sheet. Any writing outside the space will not be graded.

In the digital age, enormous volumes of personal data are collected and processed every day through social media platforms, online retailers, and mobile applications. Companies such as Google, Meta, Apple, and Amazon routinely gather information including users' locations, search histories, and purchasing behavior to personalize services and improve targeted advertising. This data-driven approach has become a key driver of innovation and economic growth. Governments also increasingly rely on digital data to improve public administration, manage healthcare systems, and enhance national security. For example, agencies such as the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the United Kingdom's National Health Service use large-scale data analysis to allocate resources more efficiently.

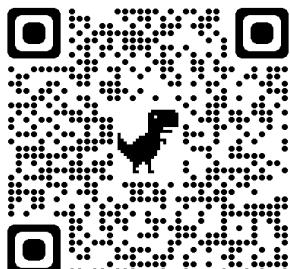
However, the rapid expansion of data collection has raised serious concerns about privacy and individual rights. High-profile data breaches involving corporations like Equifax and Yahoo have exposed the sensitive personal information of millions of users, including financial records and identification numbers. In addition, many technology companies share user data with third-party advertisers or data brokers, often without clear or informed consent. Government surveillance programs, including those revealed by former intelligence contractors, have further intensified fears that constant monitoring is becoming normalized. As a result, public trust in digital institutions has weakened, and debates over data ownership and consent have grown increasingly urgent.

In response, governments worldwide have introduced stricter regulations to protect personal data. The European Union's General Data Protection Regulation and Japan's Act on the Protection of Personal Information require organizations to be transparent about data usage and give individuals greater control over their information. Technology firms have also invested heavily in cybersecurity, encryption, and data-minimization practices. Nevertheless, enforcing these measures remains difficult because digital services operate across national borders and technological change is rapid. As societies become more dependent on digital systems, balancing innovation, security, and personal privacy remains a critical global challenge.

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絵で憶える英単語



English Summary
Write your English Summary, between 90 and 110 words, in the space below.

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