

**Future Trends Report**  
**Based on Analysis of the Future Scene in Mid-Term and Final Evaluation**

**STEP 1. Identify Challenges**

Read the Future Scene carefully and generate ideas for challenges, concerns, and possible related problems. Choose the 5 most important challenges and write them in the space provided. Include applicable research with appropriate in-text citations.

**Challenge #1:**

From the futuristic scenario, the elderly feel useless as the robots are replacing human jobs since they are more efficient. This might lead to illnesses such as depression followed by heart disease and physical problems, even stroke. A problem that may rise is that the government need to give more subsidies to the elderly for healthcare.

Research: Base on a research done by Sarah Stevenson, Loneliness in seniors is a major risk factor for depression. Numerous studies over the past decade have shown that feeling loneliness is associated with more depressive symptoms in both middle-aged and older adults.

**Challenge #2:**

From the futuristic scenario, the robots has taken over simple jobs such as cleaners and tray return workers. If this trend continues, many jobs will be replaced by robots which will result in people being jobless. A problem that may rise is that the healthy elderly will be sacked or not hired as they are replaced by robots which will cause them to be bored and lonely at home that might cause depression.

Research: According to Matt Farland, close to 5 million driving jobs will be lost in the early 2020s and people's jobs are at risk.

**Challenge #3:**

From the futuristic scenario, there are not enough subsidies for family members as the government is not matching with the rapid increase of elderly in Singapore. A problem that may rise is that as the number of elderly increases, there will be less adults, on average, working to support one elderly.

Research: According to Siau Ming En, by 2050, there will be 1.8 million people who are aged 65 years or older - making up about 28 per cent of the total population. This means that in about three decades, almost half (47 per cent) of Singapore's total population will be at least 65 years old.

**Challenge #4:**

From the futuristic scenario, the elderly will lose the opportunity to interact physically with others as technology advances. A problem may rise is that the elderly may be isolated from the society and thus lead to depression.



**STEP 2. Select a Fundamental Problem**

Using the challenges listed in Step 1, identify a problem of major importance to the Future Scene situation. Write your Underlying Problem making sure your question clearly explains the action that will be taken and the desired results/goal of that action.

Incorporating Challenge(s) # 1, 2, 3

**Underlying Problem:**

The lack of support:

Given that the elderly are not getting enough support from their children, friends, employers and the government, in what ways could we provide more subsidies for the elderly in Ssingapore 2025 and beyond as the number of elderly increases rapidly.

**STEP 3. Produce Solution Ideas**

Generate solution ideas to the Underlying Problem in Step 2. Choose the 5 most effective solutions and write the elaborated ideas in the space provided. . Include applicable research with appropriate in-text citations.

**Solution #1:**

We, the ministry of elderly proSKills (WHO), will conduct classes that could help the elderly learn new future skills to interact more with others and socialise. (WHAT) Therefore, the elderly will not have to stay at home and do nothing which may lead to depression. These classes will be conducted in community clubs island-wide (WHERE) by 2025 (WHEN).

**Solution #2:**

We, the Organisation of Elderly care, will start a petition, asking the government to fund new subsidies or employers to not replace their workers with machines, as shown in the future scenario. We will carry this out in SIngapore before 2020.

**Solution #3:**

We, the Ministry of Pioneer Generation, will as the government to increase the amount of schemes or increase the amount of money put into these schemes such as the CPF special accounts as well as encouraging children to visit the elderly. This can be done through advertising and posters.



**STEP 4a. Select Criteria**

Generate criteria to determine which solution idea does the best job of solving your Underlying Problem and/or addressing the Future Scene situation. Select the 3 most important criteria for measuring solution ideas and write them in the spaces provided.

**Criterion #1:**

How effective is the solution going to be for the government of Singapore to solve the problem of elderly not having enough support.

**Criterion #2:**

Which solution is the fastest to implement so that the government of Singapore could carry out that solution and solve the problem of elderly not having enough support as soon as possible.

**Criterion #3:**

Which solution is the most cost-efficient so that the government could invest less money onto it and solve the problem of elderly having not enough support.

**STEP 4b. Apply Criteria**

List the solution ideas from Step 3 on the grid. Use each criterion to rank the solutions on a scale from 1 (poorest) to 5 (best). The weighting for one important criterion may be doubled if necessary.

Step 3 Sol'n #	Solution Idea	Criteria			Total
		1	2	3	
#1	<b>Conduct classes for the elderly to interact with others</b>	8	7	7	22
#2	<b>Ask the government for more subsidies</b>	5	6	10	21
#3	<b>Increase the amount of money put into each scheme</b>	2	7	5	14



### STEP 5. Develop an Action Plan and Evaluate its Feasibility

Develop your top-scoring solution idea into an Action Plan. Thoroughly explain how the Underlying Problem is solved, how the plan will be implemented, and how the Future Scene will be affected. Explain how this Action Plan is feasible with research consulted.

Writing on the reverse side or in margins will not be scored.

#### Action Plan derived from Solution #1:

We will be start by collaborating with the government HDB apartment and conduct a survey among the elderly in HDB flat on how familiar they are with electronic devices, and if they are willing to sign up for the course. We will then ask if the town councils are willing to organise such a course in order for the elderly to know how to surf the internet and use applications on their electronic devices such as Facebook or Instagram to make friends online and improve their social lives which can also prevent them from getting illnesses such as depression from cooping in their houses all day.

According to Lorena Nessi, elderly are very often in need of devices that can ease their lives and empower them in their range of abilities . The devices can be used to called the ambulance in case of emergency and be used to communicate with their family members. They can also interact with people online and make friends.

## Bibliography

Cite the resources you consulted using the APA format.

### List of References:

<https://www.aplaceformom.com/blog/10-17-14-facts-about-senior-isolation/>

<https://money.cnn.com/2017/09/15/technology/jobs-robots/index.html>

<https://psychcentral.com/blog/how-technology-can-empower-the-elderly/>