How ICT / Technology helps at employment

Introduction
In this investigation I will research and write about how ICT and technology helps in employment and how it affects work styles. The working styles and patterns have changed while technology has ev olved.

At Home
An employee working at home is becoming very popular and is just as efficient as working in the workplace. I f employees work from home they need the following things:

1. A computer. This is needed to carry out work and the main component for working at home.
2. The ability to connect to the Internet. This needs to be used to communicate
3. Programs. The reverent software and programs would be needed to work at home.

An example of a job that would work from home would be a web -design company. The person would go to work and work at home when not needed at the workplace. The advantages of working at home, which I have heard, would be:

- They are able to concentrate more as they have no distractions.
- They can relax, as they feel more comfortable at home.
- They can work when they want as long as they get the work done.
- They don't have to rush to work so they have less travelling time .

The last point of the bullet points is good and more efficient because if someone travels Dunstable to London to get to work and it takes an hour travelling time. Then they have to go home at the end of the day, that's two hours of travelling time when they could have been working. That's two hours saved a day; ten hours saved every five -day working week. So working at home saves money on travelling and money can be made for working in those travelling hours.

The disadvantages that occur from working at home are:

1. Communication is easy if worked at the workplace.
2. Work has to be sent to the workplace.
3. Some times people don't always want to stay at home they want to get out of the house and meet people, so its more sociable to go to work.

Despite the drawbacks working from home is more effective some peoples opinions, but people like to get out of the house. So often people work at the workplace a few days then stay at home to work at the hot desk, so they have a variety.

<u>Working at the work-place</u>

Working at the workplace has many advantages and disadvantages. Here I will list the advantages:

1. One of the advantages is that the equipment is installed and the equipment is there ready to use.
2. Communication is easier at the workplace as you ca n actually talk to person face to face.
3. The equipment does not have to be purchased by the employer so it costs less for equipment.

The disadvantages of working at the workplace is:

1. Transport costs have to be paid and maybe wasting time by travelling.
2. The workplace is not there comfortable environment.
3. People may not be able to concentrate at the workplace.

<u>Working around the world</u>

Some employees work around the world. For example I will give examples of my Dads friend who travels the world making surveys of building. Under this title I will write what the advantages and disadvantages of travelling and what equipment is used to carry out the task and communicating back at the workplace. Firstly the advantages of work ing in all different places are:

1. That you get to see all different places.
2. You are able to work in your own time.
3. Have your own time to improve your work and make it better.
4. All your costs are paid for such as transport, equipment, expenditures, and a bed for the night.

The disadvantages of working around the world is that:

1. It may be hard getting around.
2. It may get lonely, as you don't know anyone.

<u>The technology used when travelling the world</u>

Laptops, these are used a lot when tr avelling as they are so useful and easy to transport. These are handy as they are just like normal computers but more compact and so easier to transport and in my example easier to make documents and surveys. Recently internet card is available to insert i nto the laptop so its capable to communicate through e -mail via the internet. So using the internet the reports, surveys, letters etc is able to be sent. Laptops have evolved over the past few years making work easier and the internet card is an example of this.

PDA's, these are very compact computers many of the new improvements and ideas are put into new technology such as PDA's. PDA's and IPAQ Technology is now featuring a new innovation in small and easy to use 'Mobile internet'. used a lot nowadays in business. They are also known as handheld computers as they fit in the palm of your hand. This is really n example of how technology has evolved as a PDA today would take a whole room and this is so compact. They are used if a business man or woman goes to a meeting and takes notes then they are able to transfer the information to there computer. The PDA's are small computers and have Microsoft Word, excel and other programs. They have a colour screen as well and this is surprising as the PDA's are so small and compact and shows how much they have changed and improved.

Mobile Phones,

Mobile phones are being used more and more in the daily routine of millions of employee's around the world, The phones are getting smaller and smaller and more user friendly. many new features are on the newest mobile technology

such as; Video Conferencing, text Messages, Cameras and Clear MMS messaging along with the usual Voice chat.

There are also some downfalls to mobile phones because sometimes if you are doing a long dist ance call it can cost more than 60p/min.

Video conferencing

This is where two people communicate but this is where you can speak and see the person you are talking to. This is used a lot in business and when the videoconference is between more people it is called teleconferencing. This is done via the Internet.

Evaluation

All in all ICT is used a lot in employment in all scenarios. Although computers are extremely good and efficient they may be becoming to good as they are putting people out of work.

Despite the drawbacks ICT is used a lot in employment and is becoming more and more efficient and soon alot of people will be out of jobs as IT will be doing most of the work.