

**UOW College Hong Kong / Community College of City University**  
**Student English Enhancement Unit (SEE U)**  
**Daily English Practice**

Week 6

**#76 Homo Deus**

**Skills/ Objectives: To train students' reading, writing, speaking and listening skills**

**PART 1: Before you read...**

**Preparatory questions**

1. What is homo deus?
2. Do you know any words that begin with the prefix "homo"?
3. What does "deus ex machina" mean?
4. How many Latin expressions still in use today are you aware of?

**Vocabulary**

1. Natural selection (adjective + noun): survival of the fittest
2. Intelligent design (adjective + noun): purposeful, planned work
3. Evolution (noun): the way living things change over time, adapting to their surroundings
4. Destiny (noun): the force that controls what happens in the future
5. Destructive (adjective): causing damage

**PART 2: Article for Reading**

This article introduces you to a recent bestseller published in 2016:

*Homo Deus: A Brief History of Tomorrow* (Click the link to read the article)

<https://www.ynharari.com/book/homo-deus/>

**PART 3: Speaking Skills**

The word "design" (highlighted above in the expression "intelligent design") has a voiced /z/ sound in it. Is this how you say it?

**"Design":** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fNhyHCgx\\_I0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fNhyHCgx_I0)

Make sure you say it differently enough from "decide."

**PART 4: Listening Skills**

**1. Homo Deus: Life in 2116**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fv5ZEYlvwVg> (0:56 minutes)

In this short clip, the author of the book *Homo Deus: A Brief History of Tomorrow* talks to you about human beings' ambition to engineer themselves in the twenty-second century, the outcome of which, admittedly, is hard to imagine.

**2. *Homo Deus* by Yuval Noah Harari: Animated Book Summary**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sP\\_FaROqBKY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sP_FaROqBKY) (9:39 minutes)

This video summarizes a 500-page book within 10 minutes, and does a pretty good job at that.

**Further Discussion**

**Write a short response to the following topic:**

*How do you feel about scientists' ambition to "upgrade" humans to god-like beings? Or super-men who never die?*

**Send your writing to: [see.u@cccu.edu.hk](mailto:see.u@cccu.edu.hk).**

**Our SEE U teachers are always ready to give feedback.**