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A Perspective on Technology

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Abstract: It is a part of engineering training that one approaches any problem by first defining it properly, and by ensuring that there is no ambiguity in the units or terms to be used. It is unsatisfactory to find that the term 'technology' is used to take almost any meaning that the user wishes to convey. The term has acquired wide currency and is accorded considerable importance by commentators of every persuasion. The disagreement and controversy over the use and abuse of technology owes much to mutual misunderstanding of the concept of technology. This paper discusses some aspects of the definition of technology, the relationship between science and technology, the approach of economists to technology, and the international (and hence inter-cultural) transfer of technology.

Keywords: Engineering training, science and technology, technology transfer