

TechCheck: Tech & Society is a weekly briefing on the stories shaping the tech industry — AI, policy, security, the web, and the careers behind them. Each episode is 12–15 minutes, with discussion prompts and cited sources.

Easiest, safest way to watch:

techcheck.fm/grade/9-12

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Ways to watch or listen

- **techcheck.fm/grade/9-12** — no account, no ads, no algorithm. “Listen” tab for filtered networks.
- **Podcast (recommended)** — “TFE Tech Check” on Spotify or Apple Podcasts, or add the RSS feed from techcheck.fm/listen to any app. A subscription delivers the episode with no feed around it.
- **YouTube playlist** — fine on your own account; Autoplay off keeps a 12-minute episode from becoming an evening.

Smart-and-safe rules

- **Verify before you amplify.** Find the primary source — the study, the filing, the company’s own post — before you share a take on it.
- **Read the framing, not just the facts.** Who benefits if you believe this version? What is left out?
- **Own your privacy settings.** Public vs. private accounts, app permissions, ad personalization. Know what each service collects and why.
- **No look-alikes.** TechCheck never requires a login or personal data. A page that does is not ours.
- **Use it for something.** Stories map to college programs, internships and jobs. Notice the ones that pull at you.

About Pixel (the AI co-host)

Pixel is an AI co-host, stated openly. You’ll use AI throughout school and work; the skill that matters is knowing when its confidence is earned. Check claims, cite sources, and follow your school’s policy on AI use.

Bring to class or dinner

- What trade-off did a story involve, and who gets to decide?
- Which source would you trust more, and why?

My TechCheck pledge

- ☐ I find the original source before I share or argue a story.
- ☐ I know which of my accounts are public and what my apps collect.
- ☐ I keep Autoplay off and watch on purpose, not by default.
- ☐ I use AI as a research assistant, not an authority.
- ☐ I notice which stories connect to what I might do next.

Student

Family member