

Assessnce: An AI-Powered Framework for Automated Placement Training and Interview Analysis

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Abstract: *The gap between academic learning and industry expectations demands scalable and objective placement training solutions. Assessnce is an AI-powered platform that integrates learning modules, virtual interview evaluation, and ATS-based resume analysis into a single system. Using Natural Language Processing, Computer Vision, and Speech Processing, it evaluates communication skills, confidence, and resume quality. The platform generates detailed performance reports, personalized recommendations, and a Placement Readiness Score to help students track progress and improve employability. This data-driven approach provides an automated and efficient solution for preparing learners for real-world placement challenges.*

Keywords: EdTech, Multimodal Sentiment Analysis, Automated Interview Analysis, Resume Parsing, Natural Language Processing, Placement Training

I. INTRODUCTION

Employability in the modern job market is increasingly shaped by a candidate's communication skills, technical aptitude, behavioral competencies, and ability to present a professional resume tailored to industry expectations. However, traditional placement training practices- such as classroom-based aptitude sessions, manual mock interviews, and subjective resume reviews- are fragmented and limited in scalability. These methods fail to deliver personalized feedback, real-time performance evaluation, or standardized assessment, resulting in students entering recruitment cycles underprepared. The absence of technologically integrated training solutions further widens the gap between academic learning and industry requirements, particularly in Tier-2 and Tier-3 institutions where resources and expert evaluators are limited.

The rapid digitalization of hiring processes, including AI-based shortlisting tools, virtual interviews, and Applicant Tracking Systems (ATS), demands that students develop both technical competence and digital communication readiness. This shift has motivated the exploration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) as a transformative medium for automated skill assessment, enabling objective, data-driven insights that traditional training methods cannot provide. A unified AI-driven platform can democratize access to high-quality placement preparation, offering individualized learning and assessment at scale.

Early placement training frameworks primarily relied on instructor-led sessions focused on aptitude, group discussions, and generic interview preparation. With the advent of Learning Management Systems (LMS), online courses and lecture repositories provided greater accessibility but lacked interactive evaluation. More recently, AI-enhanced tools have emerged for isolated tasks such as automated resume screening or basic mock interview simulations. However, these tools often operate independently, do not integrate multimodal AI analysis, and fail to generate comprehensive, actionable feedback. This evolution highlights a transition from content-centric training toward intelligent, analytics-driven employability ecosystems.



AI enables the extraction and interpretation of complex human attributes essential for placement readiness. Natural Language Processing (NLP) can evaluate grammatical accuracy, semantic relevance, and content quality in both interviews and resumes. Computer Vision (CV) supports facial expression, eye contact, and gesture analysis, while Speech Processing techniques assess fluency, tone, and hesitation patterns. Together, these modalities form a powerful framework for understanding candidate behavior and communication performance, reinforcing the importance of AI-driven assessment in bridging the skill gap.

This review analyzes the technological advancements, methodologies, and limitations of existing AI-driven training systems focusing on three essential placement components: learning, interview evaluation, and resume optimization. It further examines state-of-the-art multimodal AI approaches and contextualizes them within the development of Assessnce—an integrated platform addressing shortcomings of current systems.

A. Evolution of Technology in AI-Driven Placement Training Systems

The technological landscape of placement training has transformed significantly over the past two decades, shifting from traditional, instructor-led skill development toward automated, AI-powered evaluation ecosystems. This evolution can be categorized into four major phases:

(a) Traditional and Early Digital Learning Systems

Initial placement training relied on LMS-based content delivery, aptitude modules, and instructor-driven communication practice. These systems primarily functioned as content repositories without adaptive mechanisms. Feedback generation was non-automated and lacked data-driven diagnostic capability, offering no insights into learner behaviour, communication fluency, or confidence metrics. The absence of interaction analytics and performance modelling limited their ability to support personalized skill development.

(b) NLP-Based Resume Parsing and ATS Tools

The hiring ecosystem's adoption of Applicant Tracking Systems propelled the development of rule-based and machine learning-assisted resume parsers. Early systems used keyword matching, TF-IDF vectors, and handcrafted feature extraction to perform entity recognition (skills, experience, education). However, these lacked semantic understanding. The introduction of transformer-based models (BERT, Doc2Vec) improved contextual keyword alignment and ATS scoring, enabling more accurate job-fit analysis. Despite these advancements, these systems offered limited qualitative feedback and focused narrowly on content extraction rather than holistic optimization.

(c) AI-Driven Virtual Interview Systems

The next technological shift introduced automated interview evaluation through unimodal AI models. Speech-based systems used prosodic and paralinguistic features—pitch, energy, pause rate—to estimate fluency and confidence. Vision-based evaluators employed OpenCV, MediaPipe, and CNN models to track facial landmarks, gaze, and micro-expressions. NLP modules performed transcript-level grammatical analysis using early language models. However, due to their unimodal nature, these systems failed to capture cross-modal dependencies between verbal content, behavior, and vocal cues, limiting assessment robustness.

(d) Multimodal AI and Intelligent Employability Platforms

Recent advancements integrate text, audio, and visual streams using multimodal fusion strategies—early, late, or hybrid fusion—as surveyed in Baltrušaitis *et al.* Attention-based architectures and transformer models align embeddings across modalities, enabling richer behavioral analytics. Vision models capture affective states, NLP pipelines analyze semantic coherence, and speech models such as Whisper improve ASR performance across accents. Emerging frameworks provide explainability via SHAP, attention maps, and interpretable embeddings, addressing bias and transparency concerns highlighted in fairness research.

(e) Unified, Adaptive, AI-Powered Placement Readiness Ecosystems

Modern systems such as Assessnce represent the convergence of all previous technological advancements. They aim to provide an end-to-end preparation environment that includes:



- Structured learning with progress analytics
- AI-driven virtual interviews with multimodal behavioural scoring
- Transformer-based resume analysis and ATS optimization
- Personalized improvement recommendations and readiness scoring
- Scalable institutional dashboards for monitoring student performance

Such unified systems address the long-standing fragmentation across training tools and introduce automation, standardization, and adaptability into the placement preparation ecosystem.

B. Challenges in Existing Placement Training Systems

Despite major progress, based on the existing literature and industry practices, the following challenges persist:

a. Fragmented training ecosystems:

Most platforms handle aptitude, resume screening, and interview preparation separately. The absence of a unified AI-driven workflow prevents correlation between learning outcomes, behavioral performance, and resume quality.

b. Lack of personalized and data-driven feedback:

Existing systems rely on static scoring and rule-based evaluation. They fail to use NLP, CV, or prosodic modelling for personalized insights, resulting in generic feedback that does not address individual weaknesses.

c. Unimodal assessment and incomplete behavioral analysis:

Many AI interview tools analyze only text, audio, or video independently. Without multimodal fusion (NLP + CV + speech), current systems cannot accurately assess communication clarity, emotional expression, or confidence.

d. Lack of explainability and model transparency:

Black-box scoring systems provide no justification for interview or resume evaluations. The absence of explainable AI (XAI) reduces trust and raises fairness concerns, especially in facial and speech analytics.

e. No Longitudinal Tracking or Adaptive Learning:

Current platforms do not monitor performance across attempts or dynamically adjust learning content. Without temporal analytics or reinforcement-driven recommendations, sustained skill improvement is difficult.

These challenges highlight the need for a unified, scalable, and multimodally intelligent placement training framework—one that provides personalized, explainable, and data-driven evaluations while remaining computationally feasible for academic institutions. This motivates the development of integrated AI systems such as Assessnce, which leverage NLP, Computer Vision, and Speech Processing to deliver holistic and transparent employability assessment.

C. Lightweight Multimodal AI Models for Placement Training

AI-based interview evaluation requires real-time processing of verbal, visual, and speech cues. To support large-scale institutional deployment, multimodal models must remain computationally efficient without compromising representational power. Modern frameworks such as MediaPipe Face Mesh, OpenCV-based landmark detectors, and Whisper-small ASR provide lightweight alternatives to heavier deep-learning pipelines.

Core architectural efficiencies include:

- Landmark-based CV models (reduced pixel-level computation; robust under low-resolution webcams)
- Transformer-lite NLP encoders (optimized for short interview responses and resume text)
- Compact speech models using prosodic feature extraction (pitch, energy, pause rate) rather than full waveform analysis
- Early-fusion multimodal architectures minimizing parameter overhead compared to hybrid deep fusion networks

These optimized pipelines allow Assessnce to run multimodal inference on standard institutional hardware, ensuring scalability across large student populations. Their low-latency behaviour makes them ideal for real-time interview feedback, remote assessments, and browser-based deployment.



II. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This section outlines the core theoretical foundations, models, and computational principles upon which the Assessment platform is built. The framework integrates concepts from Natural Language Processing (NLP), Computer Vision (CV), Speech Processing (SP), multimodal fusion, transformer-based representation learning, and explainable AI, enabling objective and scalable placement readiness assessment.

A. Natural Language Processing (NLP) for Resume and Interview Response Analysis

NLP forms the backbone of Assessment's text-based evaluation system. Transformer architectures such as BERT, DistilBERT, and Sentence Transformers provide high-dimensional contextual embeddings that capture semantics, grammar, and coherence.

Key NLP processes include:

- Tokenization & lemmatization – breaking text into linguistic units and normalizing forms.
- Semantic embeddings – using transformer encoders to generate contextualized feature vectors.
- Cosine similarity – computing alignment between resume content and job descriptions for ATS scoring.
- Grammar & fluency checking – leveraging language models for syntactic error detection and clarity assessment.
- Keyword extraction & gap identification – identifying missing domain-specific vocabulary relevant to hiring.

These NLP components support ATS compatibility analysis, domain-specific feedback, and semantic evaluation of interview responses.

B. Computer Vision (CV) for Non-Verbal Communication Analysis

Assessing interview performance requires understanding eye contact, facial expressions, head posture, and gestural cues. Lightweight CV frameworks such as OpenCV, MediaPipe Face Mesh, and deep facial emotion classifiers provide computationally efficient non-verbal behaviour analysis.

Core CV theoretical elements include:

- Facial landmark detection – tracking 468 facial points to analyse gaze stability, expression transitions, and micro-movements.
- CNN-based emotion recognition – classifying emotional states (neutral, happy, nervous) linked to communication confidence.
- Pose & head movement estimation – evaluating engagement, attentiveness, and presentation style.

These visual cues contribute to a multimodal confidence score, complementing linguistic and vocal analysis.

C. Speech and Audio Processing for Prosodic Assessment

- Speech Processing provides critical insights into vocal fluency, confidence, and articulation. Assessment utilizes models such as Whisper ASR, MFCC feature extraction, and prosodic analysis to quantify vocal attributes.
- Key speech processing fundamentals include:
 - Speech-to-Text (ASR) – transformer-based models convert spoken responses into accurate textual transcripts.
 - Prosodic features – pitch, energy contours, pause rate, and speaking speed are extracted to detect hesitation or monotony.
 - Temporal speech modelling – analysing consistency of tone and rhythm to assess communicative competence.

These features are crucial for holistic evaluation of verbal communication.

D. Multimodal Fusion Framework for Interview Assessment

Human communication is inherently multimodal, combining speech, text, and visual expressions. Assessment employs multimodal learning strategies similar to those described in *Baltrušaitis et al.'s taxonomy*.



Fusion strategies include:

- Early fusion – concatenating raw or low-level features (pitch + facial landmarks + text embeddings).
- Late fusion – independently predicting unimodal scores and combining them via weighted averaging.
- Hybrid fusion(Attention-Based) – using cross-modal attention layers to align verbal and non-verbal cues.

Transformer-based attention mechanisms allow the system to learn correlations between linguistic clarity, emotional expression, and vocal performance, producing more interpretable and reliable assessments.

E. Explainable AI(XAI) for Transparent Scoring and Feedback

Explainability is essential for educational assessment. Assessnce integrates XAI techniques across all modalities to ensure transparency and trust.

XAI elements include:

- Attention weight visualization(NLP) – highlighting words or phrases that influenced grammar and semantic scores.
- Facial heatmaps (CV) – identifying expressions or gaze patterns affecting confidence scoring.
- Prosodic feature attribution (Speech) – indicating hesitation zones or inconsistent tone segments.
- Resume feedback explainability – highlighting missing keywords, weak verbs, or low-impact phrases.

These explainability mechanisms convert raw AI outputs into actionable guidance, enhancing the system’s pedagogical value.

F. Integrated Assessment and Readiness Scoring Model

All three modalities—text, vision, and audio—contribute to a unified scoring system that computes:

- Communication clarity
- Confidence and engagement
- Behavioural consistency
- Resume strength and job-fit
- Overall placement readiness score

This integrated assessment is supported by a central machine learning pipeline that aggregates multimodal evidence, normalizes scoring scales, and generates comprehensive performance reports.

G. Alignment with Smart Education and Employability Goals

The theoretical foundation aligns with Smart India Hackathon’s objectives by emphasizing:

- Adaptive AI-driven learning
- Data-driven evaluation
- Scalable, cloud-based assessment
- Explainable feedback for continuous improvement

Assessnce leverages modern AI technologies to transform traditional placement preparation into an intelligent, automated, and student-centric ecosystem.

III. RESEARCH GAP

Despite significant progress in ed-tech platforms for placement training, several critical limitations persist.

A. Absence of a Unified AI-Driven Placement Training Ecosystem

Existing systems separately address aptitude learning, resume evaluation, or mock interviews but lack an integrated, end-to-end framework. No current platform combines NLP-based resume intelligence, multimodal interview assessment, and adaptive learning recommendations within a single cohesive ecosystem.



B. Limited Adoption of Multimodal AI for Interview Evaluation

Most interview tools rely on a single modality—either speech, text, or facial expression analysis. There is insufficient exploration of cross-modal fusion, where verbal, vocal, and non-verbal cues are jointly analysed using transformer-based or attention-driven models, resulting in incomplete and often inaccurate assessments.

C. Lack of Personalized and Longitudinal Feedback Mechanisms

Existing training solutions offer static, one-time feedback without modelling learner progression. There is a gap in AI systems capable of performing temporal performance tracking, adaptive content recommendation, and continuous readiness scoring, which are essential for sustained employability development.

D. Insufficient Semantic Resume Evaluation and ATS Optimization

Current resume analysers depend largely on keyword matching or rule-based parsing. Limited research focuses on semantic similarity, contextual keyword analysis, phrasing optimization, or transformer-based scoring, leading to suboptimal ATS compatibility and job-fit alignment.

E. Minimal Use of Explainable AI (XAI) and Fairness Frameworks

Most automated evaluation systems function as black boxes, offering scores without justification. There is inadequate implementation of XAI techniques across NLP, CV, and speech models to highlight why a candidate scored poorly. Additionally, concerns of bias in facial analysis, speech variability, and linguistic diversity remain under-addressed.

IV. PROPOSED SYSTEM

The proposed system, Assessnce, is an integrated AI-powered placement training platform designed to unify learning, interview evaluation, and resume analysis within a single digital ecosystem. It leverages modern advancements in Natural Language Processing (NLP), Computer Vision (CV), Speech Processing (SP), and multimodal AI to deliver a comprehensive and personalized assessment of student employability. The overall architecture is modular, scalable, and optimized for real-time deployment in academic environments.

A. System Overview

Assessnce comprises four core modules operating through shared analytics pipelines:

Learning Module – Delivers technical, aptitude, and communication content with progress tracking.

AI Virtual Interview Module – Performs multimodal analysis of verbal, non-verbal, and vocal cues.

Resume Analyzer Module – Evaluates resumes using ATS-aware NLP pipelines.

Performance Dashboard – Aggregates data to compute a Placement Readiness Score.

Each module is powered by AI subcomponents that collaboratively generate holistic feedback for students and institutions.

B. Learning Module (AI-Assisted Concept Reinforcement)

The learning component includes structured video lectures, quizzes, and aptitude tests. It uses machine learning-based performance modelling to recommend topics based on weak areas.

Technologies used:

Recommendation algorithms for adaptive learning

Analytics engine for student progress trends

NLP-based question generation for practice assessments

The module ensures personalized conceptual strengthening prior to interview practice.



C. AI Virtual Interview Module (Multimodal Assessment System)

This module is the core of Assessment, simulating real interview environments using webcam and microphone input. It analyses:

(a) Linguistic Features (NLP)

Using transformer-based models (BERT, DistilBERT, GPT-based evaluators), the system evaluates:

Grammar and fluency

Semantic relevance of responses

Domain-specific keyword richness

These models provide fine-grained scoring and text-level explanations.

(b) Visual Features (Computer Vision)

Using OpenCV, MediaPipe Face Mesh, and emotion classification CNNs, the system detects:

Facial expressions

Eye-contact stability

Head posture and gestures

Confidence indicators

Lightweight CV ensures stable performance on standard webcams and moderate hardware.

(c) Vocal Features (Speech Processing)

Using Whisper ASR, MFCC extraction, and prosodic analysis, the system evaluates:

Speaking rate

Pitch variation

Pause frequency

Vocal confidence

Together, these signals form a multimodal feature **vector** used to compute interview performance.

(d) Multimodal Fusion Engine

The system employs hybrid fusion (early + attention-based fusion) to combine NLP, CV, and speech features, ensuring holistic behavioural analysis. This approach addresses limitations of unimodal systems and improves prediction robustness.

D. Resume Analyzer Module (ATS-Aware Semantic Scoring)

The resume analysis module evaluates document quality using advanced NLP pipelines:

Technologies used:

- BERT / Sentence Transformers for semantic similarity
- SpaCy for entity extraction (skills, education, experience)
- POS tagging & grammar detection models
- Keyword extraction using TF-IDF + contextual embeddings

The system evaluates:

- ATS keyword match score
- Grammar and phrasing strength
- Missing role-specific skills
- Sentence clarity and professionalism
- Formatting and structural quality

It also provides AI-generated rewrites for summary, objective, and skill phrases.

E. Performance Dashboard & Readiness Scoring

A centralized dashboard aggregates all metrics across modules:

The dashboard visualizes:

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- Interview performance scores across modalities
- Resume improvement timeline
- Learning progress analytics
- Longitudinal behavioural trends

Technologies used:

- Data visualization frameworks (Plotly, Chart.js)
- ML-based scoring models for readiness calculation
- Cloud-based database for institutional monitoring

The system computes a Placement Readiness Score (PRS) reflecting domain knowledge, communication skills, resume quality, and interview performance.

F. System Architecture and Deployment Considerations

Assessnce is designed to be lightweight and operational on academic infrastructures.

Key architectural choices:

- Microservice-based architecture for modular deployment
- Cloud-hosted inference pipelines for scalability
- GPU-optional models using MediaPipe, DistilBERT, Whisper-small
- Secure data storage with anonymized analytics

The architecture ensures low latency, cross-device compatibility, and high throughput for large student batches.

Summary of Proposed System Impact

The Assessnce platform integrates multimodal AI, transformer-based NLP, prosodic evaluation, and lightweight CV to bridge the major gaps in existing placement training solutions. It transforms skill development into a data-driven, personalized, and transparent process while remaining computationally feasible for large-scale institutional deployment.

V. EXPECTED OUTCOME

The development of Assessnce is expected to yield a comprehensive, scalable, and AI-driven placement training solution capable of transforming how students prepare for interviews and professional opportunities. The following outcomes highlight the academic, technical, and practical significance of the proposed system:

A. Holistic and Objective Interview Evaluation

The integration of NLP, Computer Vision, and Speech Processing will enable Assessnce to generate highly accurate and unbiased interview assessments.

Expected results include:

- Objective scoring of communication, confidence, and clarity
- Improved detection of non-verbal cues such as facial expressions and eye contact
- Accurate ASR-based transcription and prosodic analysis for vocal fluency
- Consistent performance across varied environments and user conditions

This multimodal analysis ensures a more reliable evaluation compared to traditional subjective mock interviews.

B. ATS-Compliant and Semantically Enhanced Resume Optimization

The resume analyser is expected to significantly improve resume quality by providing:

- ATS scores based on semantic similarity rather than keyword frequency
- Identification of missing domain-relevant skills and action verbs
- AI-generated rewrites for summary, objective, and skill statements



- Improved clarity, professionalism, and recruiter alignment

This results in resumes that outperform standard templates and keyword-based systems.

C. Personalized Learning and Skill Development Pathways

Through adaptive algorithms and performance analytics, Assessnce will offer:

- Tailored learning recommendations based on weak areas
- Dynamic question generation for aptitude and interview practice
- Longitudinal tracking of knowledge and behavioural improvement
- Enhanced learner engagement through data-driven insights

Such personalization promotes continuous improvement and efficient learning cycles.

D. Comprehensive Placement Readiness Scoring

By aggregating performance across learning, interview, and resume modules, the system will provide:

- A unified Placement Readiness Score (PRS)
- Granular visual analytics showing progress over time
- Institution-level insights for training and placement cells
- Benchmarking analytics for comparing cohorts or departments

This supports informed decision-making for both students and institutions.

E. Scalable and Deployment-Ready AI Platform

The use of lightweight CV models, optimized NLP, and cloud-based pipelines ensures:

- Low latency and real-time analysis suitable for large student volumes
- Cross-platform accessibility (web and mobile)
- Feasibility for deployment in colleges with limited computational resources
- Reduced dependency on manual evaluators and traditional mock interview processes

This positions Assessnce as a practical and scalable EdTech solution.

F. Enhanced Transparency and Trust via Explainable AI

Incorporating XAI techniques across modalities will allow:

- Clear justification for interview scores
- Highlighted resume errors and missing keywords
- Visual and linguistic cues explaining performance gaps

This improves student trust and promotes a learning-centred assessment environment.

VI. FUTURE SCOPE

Future enhancements include:

A. Multilingual and Accent-Adaptive Interview Evaluation

Future iterations can incorporate multilingual NLP and accent-robust ASR models to support candidates from diverse linguistic backgrounds. Fine-tuning transformer models on regional datasets will improve transcription accuracy, semantic evaluation, and interview fairness across varied accents and languages.

B. Adaptive Interview Agents with Reinforcement Learning

Introducing reinforcement learning-based interview agents will allow dynamic question generation based on the user's previous responses. This creates realistic interviewer behaviour, difficulty scaling, and domain-specific probing—enabling more effective communication and problem-solving skill development.



C. Enhanced Resume Intelligence with Labor-Market Integration

Resume analysis can be extended by integrating real-time job market data. Semantic scraping of job descriptions, trend analytics, and domain-specific skill-gap prediction models will improve resume tailoring and career-path recommendations for individual students.

D. Privacy-Preserving and Federated AI Models

To ensure ethical deployment at scale, the system can adopt federated learning for training models without centralizing sensitive student data. Differential privacy, encrypted feature sharing, and on-device inference for CV and ASR modules will strengthen institutional trust and compliance.

E. Institutional Integration and Edge-Based Deployment

The platform can be expanded to integrate seamlessly with university ERP, LMS, and placement management systems, enabling centralized analytics for training and placement cells. Mobile and edge-AI deployment will support low-bandwidth environments, enabling real-time multimodal assessment on resource-constrained devices.

VII. CONCLUSION

The increasing digitalization of recruitment and the growing reliance on AI-driven evaluation methods have highlighted the limitations of traditional placement training approaches. Manual mock interviews, static aptitude sessions, and subjective resume reviews are no longer sufficient to prepare students for a technologically advanced hiring landscape. This review has examined the evolution of AI applications in employability enhancement and identified critical gaps in existing systems, including the lack of multimodal assessment, insufficient personalization, limited ATS-focused resume intelligence, and the absence of transparent evaluation frameworks.

To address these shortcomings, the proposed system **Assessnce** presents a unified, scalable, and AI-powered placement training platform integrating NLP-based resume optimization, multimodal virtual interview analysis, and adaptive learning insights. By leveraging advanced technologies such as transformer-based text analysis, MediaPipe-driven facial landmarking, Whisper-based speech transcription, and explainable AI pipelines, Assessnce delivers objective, data-driven, and pedagogically meaningful assessment. Its Placement Readiness Score and longitudinal analytics further provide students and institutions with a structured approach to skill development and performance tracking.

The platform's emphasis on lightweight AI models ensures accessibility even in resource-constrained academic environments, enabling widespread deployment and inclusive employability enhancement. Moreover, the system's transparent feedback mechanisms support self-reflection, targeted improvement, and sustained learning outcomes. As highlighted in the future scope, continued advancements in multilingual support, federated learning, adaptive interview agents, and institutional integration will further expand the platform's potential.

In conclusion, Assessnce represents a significant step toward transforming placement preparation into an intelligent, automated, and holistic ecosystem. By bridging the long-standing gaps between learning, evaluation, and resume readiness, the platform positions itself as a forward-looking solution aligned with modern recruitment practices and the evolving demands of the global job market.

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