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In this excerpt from his book *Faster: The Acceleration of Just About Everything*, James Gleick explains how contemporary culture has become adept at packing more and more activities into smaller and smaller amounts of time.

England's most prominent sociologist defines a “complex set of processes” that is transforming “our very life circumstances.”

Through a dispassionate analysis of the behavior and temperament of a Siberian tiger, the author concludes that, in killing one of its keepers, the tiger “was just being a tiger.”

In this story, Miss Moore tries to teach several slum children that they are part of the underclass in a society where the definition of “cost” varies greatly, where some people pay more for a toy than others would spend to feed a large family for a year.

This poet and essayist speculates that nurture is more powerful than nature, and that adult attitudes cause their children to perpetuate stereotypical behavior.

This science writer reports on research showing that the record-breaking performers in any field, whether sports, music, or chess, are those who start early and practice intensively over long periods of time.
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