Contents

List of Maps vi
List of Figures vii
List of Tables ix
Preface xi

1 Introduction: Thinking about Technology 1
2 Technology and Our Ancient Ancestors 26
3 Origins of Civilizations 41
4 The Eastern Age 62
5 The Mediterranean World to the Islamic Renaissance 83
6 The European Agrarian Revolution and the Proto-Industrial Revolutions 107
7 The Industrial Revolution and the Rise of European Power 128
8 The Atlantic Era 165
9 Domestic Technology: Bringing New Technology to the People 204
10 The Second Industrial Revolution and Globalization 230
11 The Digital Age 252
12 Conclusion: Technological Challenges 291

Bibliography 308
Index 313