

Robots

Quotations “The human condition is not perfect. We are not perfect specimens, any of us. We're not robots”.

- Michael Ovitiz

“In the future, I'm sure there will be a lot more robots in every aspect of life. If you told people in 1985 that in 25 years they would have computers in their kitchen, it would have made no sense to them”.

- Rodney Brooks

Questions

- Robots are already an integral part of manufacturing in factories. Do you believe one day that there will be little need for humans in manufacturing? How are robots better than the human work force?
- If you could have a robot, what tasks would you use it for?
- Police and the military use robots to sweep for land mines and bombs. What are the advantages of these practices? Do you see any other uses for robots in combat and police work?
- Do you think that one day robots will replace teachers?
- What threat do robots present to mankind?
- Do you believe robots will ever outsmart people and take over the planet?
- Robotic surgery is a method to perform surgery using very small tools attached to a robotic arm and a surgeon controls the robotic arm with a computer. How beneficial do you think this is now and for the future of medicine?
- Do you believe it's just a matter of time before fast-food workers are replaced by robots?
- What do you think would happen to the world's economy if robots began replacing people in the workforce?
- Did you ever have a favourite Sci Fi films hero who was a robot?
- Would you ever trust a robot to watch your children or walk your dog?

Presentation Work in pairs or groups. Discuss the benefits and disadvantages of robots. Share information with the class.