

Tomorrow's World



Read and listen to the radio interview. What prediction does the expert make?



- Presenter** Hello! My guest today is Selma Nash and she's a futurist. That's an unusual word. What does it mean?
- Expert** I work for a computer company and I predict the future.
- Presenter** Do you just guess?
- Expert** No, I don't. I look at the science and I make predictions. For example, in the future people won't go to a chemist's for medicine, they'll get all their medicine in their food.
- Presenter** Will the food be unpleasant?
- Expert** No, it won't. The medicine won't have a taste. People will eat it but they won't know.
- Presenter** I don't like that idea. What else will happen?
- Expert** I think AI will be the most important thing in the next ten years.
- Presenter** Can you explain what 'AI' stands for, please?
- Expert** Yes. It's Artificial Intelligence.
- Presenter** Like robots?
- Expert** Yes, machines with brains. I believe robots will be cleverer than us in the future.
- Presenter** Really?
- Expert** Yes, soon robots will learn, think, make decisions and do things independently.
- Presenter** So they'll be better than us because they'll always be logical. They won't make emotional decisions.
- Expert** I disagree! I think that very soon, robots will have emotions.
- Presenter** Will they be like people?
- Expert** Yes, they will. Like us, they'll feel unhappy sometimes. But they'll be very clever and they won't get tired. And they'll work anywhere because they won't get hot or cold.
- Presenter** So, they'll never be uncomfortable! Amazing! When will this happen?
- Expert** The exact date is unknown but I think it'll be very soon.

Read the interview again. Answer the questions.

- 1 What does Selma Nash do every day?
- 2 Does the presenter want to have medicine in his food?
- 3 Is Selma Nash interested in artificial intelligence?
- 4 Do computers have emotions today?

Find the opposites of the words.

comfortable _____
happy _____
known _____
pleasant _____
usual _____

Choose adjectives from the exercise above to describe these people.

- 1 Cathy doesn't like her job and has no money. _____
- 2 Curtis lives in a very small flat and he's almost two metres tall. _____
- 3 Jack isn't friendly and he often says horrible things about people. _____
- 4 Mike is a singer. He isn't famous but he loves his job. _____
- 5 Enzo is Italian but he doesn't like pizza or pasta. _____

WILL for predictions

Complete the sentences from the interview with will or won't.

Affirmative	
Robots ¹ _____ think and learn.	
Negative	
People ² _____ go to a chemist's.	
Questions	Short Answers
³ _____ they be like people?	Yes, they ⁴ _____ . No, they won't.
Wh- questions	
When ⁵ _____ this happen?	

We use will and won't to talk about the future.

Complete the paragraph with will or won't

In the future, computers _____ be better than people. They _____ learn, think and make decisions but they _____ get tired, hungry or ill. _____ these machines be like today's computers? No, they _____. Some experts think they _____ feel anger and happiness. What _____ these clever machine look like? No one knows.



ORAL PRACTICE - Use the cues to make questions about the future.

- A Will people use traditional telephones?
B No, everyone will have a mobile phone.

- use traditional telephones
- have an id chip in your body
- have laptops
- read newspapers
- watch television
- write letters

Make predictions about life in ten years' time. Think about:

-school -home -clothes -music -shopping

Schools won't have libraries. Students will have interactive touch table desk.

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Make predictions about your life in ten years' time. Use the cues and your own ideas.

-education - family life -home -money -interests
-free time -occupation -holidays -transport

[illegible]