

Part II - READING COMPREHENSION (B)

*Read the following passage carefully and answer question 2 in English.
Hebrew or Arabic will not be accepted in this part of the test.*

Technology in South Korea

I

South Korea is trying to turn what sounds like science fiction into everyday life. Companies like Microsoft and Motorola test futuristic technologies here before introducing them in the United States. Now, the government has organized more than 30 companies, as well as 1,000 scientists from universities, to make
5 robots full members of society.

II

By 2007, networked robots that relay messages to parents, teach children English and sing and dance for them when they are bored, are expected to be on the market. Outside the home, robots are expected to guide customers at post offices or patrol public areas, searching for criminals and sending images
10 to monitoring centers.

III

If all goes according to plan, robots will be in every South Korean household between 2015 and 2020. These small, \$500 robots will move around the house using sensors to vacuum or sweep. "My aim," says Oh Sang Rok, manager of the ministry's intelligent service robot project, "is to put a robot in every home
15 by 2010." In November 2005, three types of robots were tested in 64 households, as well as two post offices, with mixed results. In October 2006, a second phase in the testing will put robots in 650 households and 20 public places.

IV

Mr. Oh of the Communication Ministry says "South Korea has been behind its
20 American, Japanese and European competitors. Other countries have focused on developing military, industrial or humanoid robots. In contrast, South Korea decided to develop service robots that, instead of operating independently, get their intelligence from being part of a network."

(Adapted from www.nytimes.com)

2. Answer the following questions. (30 points)

- a. What does the South Korean government want to do? (paragraph I)

- b. *Match [A] to [B] according to the text.*

A

- a. the number of scientists working on robots
- b. the year networked robots will be available
- c. the number of homes where robots were tested
- d. the price of a small robot for a home

B

- (i) 2007
- (ii) 64
- (iii) 1,000
- (iv) 500

(a) _____

(b) _____

(c) _____

(d) _____

- c. *Tick (✓) the correct answer according to paragraph III.*

What is Oh Sang Rok's aim for robots in South Korea?

- ☐ (i) To organize companies and scientists.
- ☐ (ii) To put robots in every home very soon.
- ☐ (iii) To test robots in homes and factories.

- d. *Tick (✓) the THREE correct answers according to paragraph II.*

What will networked robots be able to do?

- ☐ (i) Write telephone messages.
- ☐ (ii) Give messages to parents.
- ☐ (iii) Do homework for children.
- ☐ (ii) Teach children a language.
- ☐ (iii) Help people at post offices.
- ☐ (iii) Intrude into people's lives.

- e. *Tick (✓) the correct answer according to paragraph IV.*

What kind of robots did South Korea concentrate on developing?

- ☐ (i) Industrial humanoids to work in factories.
- ☐ (ii) Military robots to help win wars.
- ☐ (iii) Networked service robots for homes.

- f. *Read the main ideas below. Write the paragraph number that each main idea refers to.*

Main Idea	Paragraph
1. The government's plan for South Korea	
2. The technological focus of South Korea	
3. Activities robots will be able to do	
4. Where robots were tested and their price	