Vocabulary:

In 1769, French inventor Nicolas Cugnot **designed** the first automobile. This **mechanical** vehicle was powered by steam. Using Cugnot's drawings, a mechanic named M. Brezin **constructed** the automobile. It was large enough to carry four people and heavy weapons.
In 1885, German engineer Gottlieb Daimler designed the first gas engine. Soon after that, other carmakers began to make and sell gas-powered cars for personal use.
Then, in 1913, American businessman Henry Ford created the first moving assembly line in his car factory. As the car moved along the assembly line, each worker performed only one **task**, such as attaching a single part. The assembly line had a big impact on **industry** because companies could produce goods more quickly and cheaply. However, many people say that work on an assembly line is very **dull** because workers repeat the same task over and over again.

1. designed
2. mechanical
3. constructed
4. task
5. industry
6. dull

a. a piece of work to be done
b. boring
c. machine-like
d. made the plans for
e. business
f. built

Vocabulary:

In the 1980s, scientists created the first robotic cars. A robotic car can move **automatically**, without a driver. Scientists have also created airplanes th controlled by a computer and **programmed** to fly without a pilot. These have been used to explore hard-to-reach places. They can take pictures and **obtain** information about these places. Recently, scientists have begun to develop robotic aircraft that are powered by **nuclear** energy. These powerful aircraft would be able to stay in the air for months at a time.
In the future, robotic vehicles could have a **significant** impact on travel, exploration, and warfare.

7. automatically
8. programmed
9. explore
10. obtain
11. nuclear
12. significant

g. to find out about a place by traveling through it
h. important
i. by itself
j. instructed by a computer to do something
k. energy from a divided atom
l. to get

Vocabulary:

INTERACT WITH VOCABULARY! Work in pairs. Student A: Read aloud sentence starters 1-5 from Column 1. Student B: Listen and complete each sentence with a phrase from Column 2. Notice the boldfaced words. Switch roles for 6-10.

1. The first automobile was **designed**
2. It was **powered**
3. Henry Ford was the **creator**
4. Assembly lines are **used**
5. In a factory, different tasks are **performed**

a. **by** steam.
b. **in** industry.
c. **by** different workers.
d. **by** Joseph Cugnot.
e. **of** the first assembly line.

6. Robots can **pick**
7. Robots are **significant**
8. Some robotic cars are **programmed**
9. Robotic airplanes can **get information**
10. Even detailed photos can be **obtained**

f. **for** city driving.
g: **by** these robotic airplanes.
h: **up** things without getting tired.
i. **from** hard-to-reach places.
j. **to** the success of industry.

Extra Vocabulary Exercise:

design
mechanical
constructed
task
industry
dull
automatically
programmed
explore
obtain
nuclear
significant

1. The new law had a _____ impact on environmental protection.
2. The bridge was _____ to withstand strong earthquakes.
3. The automobile _____ has seen rapid technological advancements in recent years.
4. It was her _____ to organize the files for the meeting.
5. The engineer used his _____ skills to fix the broken engine.
6. The lights in the hallway turn off _____ when no one is present.
7. Scientists often _____ unknown territories to discover new species.
8. The robot was _____ to clean the entire house in under an hour.
9. The repetitive nature of the job made it feel _____ and unchallenging.
10. The power plant used_____ energy to generate electricity for the city.
11. The architect's _____ of the new building impressed everyone.
12. In order to _____ accurate results, the scientist repeated the experiment several times.