

INVENTIONS

INSTRUCTIONS: Read both descriptions and complete them using the sentences from box.

who doesn't accept errors
which is hardly surprising
which he called the Waterboxx
where few native speakers work as
English teachers

which is one of the driest regions on Earth
which is increasingly important in his country
which are already in its database
where there is little water

whose previous job was exporting flowers
which have been destroyed by heavy
industry over recent years

ENGKEY

The kids think that their teacher sounds rather robotic today, 1) _____. She's short, white and made of plastic. This is Engkey, the brainchild of Doctor Choi- taek. A government scientist from Korea. Doctor Choi- take is a specialist in robotics, 2) _____.

This is reflected by the high cost of one of these machines - at 10 million won (about \$9000) each . Engkey isn't the cheapest teacher around. But the cost is worth it because a robot can go to islands and rural areas 3) _____.

Once there, it can get to work. And it has a tough teaching technique their students sometimes don't expect. Engkey is the sort of teacher 4) _____ and pronunciation mistakes are met with a strict "Not good this time!"

However, there are some drawbacks to using a robot teacher. The main one is that Engkey can only correct mistakes 5) _____. That's one reason it can't interact with the students all the time. Nevertheless, the Koreans are hoping to use robots like this in the classroom in the future. So perhaps Engkey really does represent the future of classroom teaching.

WATERBOXX

Many countries need a large part of their water for farming. To solve this, Pieter Hoff has come up with an intriguing innovation 1) _____. It is basically a bucket that has a cover with two holes in it to catch rainwater. In the centre there is an opening to plant a tree.

It enables plants to grow and survive in areas 2) _____ like the Sahara, 3) _____.

It is a breakthrough that could bring salvation to enormous numbers of people worldwide. Mr. Hoff believes that the Waterboxx could help replant many of the world's forests 4) _____.

The good news is that Mr. Hoff, 5) _____, has recently received a grant from the government in his native Holland. This means that he doesn't need to make a lot of money from his invention, so the price for the Waterboxx could be as low as € 1 (although it is now €199 for 10). Mr. Hoff's simple idea could soon change the lives of millions of people and make him an inspiration for future inventors.