

FUTURE SEEN FROM THE PAST

4 Choose the correct options to complete the text.

From 1965 to 2003, the television show *Tomorrow's World* tried to predict how the world ¹*would / was bound to* change in the near future. Here are some things they got mostly right:

In 1967, the show featured a 'home computer terminal' capable of organizing a diary, updating the user with banking information, and sending and receiving messages. According to the show, the home computer ²*was going to be / was* so convenient and easy to operate that it ³*was bound to be / was about to be* standard in every home by 1987 – and as cheap to rent as a telephone.

A 1968 episode asserted that gardeners everywhere were ⁴*about to / unlikely to* replace their plants with artificial ones because they were much easier to care for. While this didn't happen, by the 1980s top football clubs began installing fake grass on their grounds.

In 1994, unknown inventor Trevor Baylis said that his battery-less radio ⁵*was going to / was about to* revolutionize communications in poorer countries if he could find funding to produce it. As a result of his going on the show, the Freeplay radio ⁶*would / was going to* become a huge success.

And one they didn't get right:

In 1981, *Tomorrow's World* featured a robot that played the game snooker*. The programme suggested that robotic snooker players ⁷*wouldn't / were going to* become commonplace – which we now know was never ⁸*going to / about to* happen.