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Unit 10- part 2:



What do you think the reading is mainly about?

a. the problems of using mind-control technology

b. applications of mind-control technology

Mind control is no longer science fiction. Thanks to breakthroughs in our understanding of the brain, together with new technology, there are already some amazing things we can do.

Thinker Thing

In 2012, a Chilean company called Thinker Thing produced the first object to be created by thought alone. The company used electroencephalography (EEG) headset together with a 3D printer. A user was shown a series of evolving shapes on a computer screen. The EEG headset was able to tell if the user had positive or negative responses to the shapes. Eventually, an object was printed in 3D in line with the user's preferences. As this technology improves, it's possible that every child will be able to design and build their perfect toy in just minutes.

BrainDriver

In Germany, engineers have developed an application called BrainDriver that allows a driver to control a car with his or her mind. The idea is to combine an EEG headset with an autonomous driving system. So as your car drives itself, you'll be able to make some key

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decisions without pressing any buttons. For example, you'll be able to choose a more interesting route, speed up, or make a stop to pick up some food. All these decisions could be made using your mind and interpreted by the car's computer.

MiND Ensemble

At the University of Michigan, the MiND Ensemble (Music in Neural Dimensions) creates music based on a person's thoughts. A performer wears EEG headwear that records signals from their brain. Special computer software then produces different sounds and musical notes based on these signals. So, as the person's thoughts change, so does the music. Right now, there is no guarantee that the music in your head will be the same as what the computer produces, but in the future, who knows?

Match the two parts of each sentence.

1. Thinker Thing **2. The BrainDriver application** **3. The MiND Ensemble**		- **___ creates objects using mind control.** - **___ allows someone to control a car using their mind.** - **___ makes music using people's thoughts.**

Complete the chart. Write the letters a–f.

1. Thinker Thing

a uses an EEG headset
b connects to a 3D printer
c needs a computer
d was developed in Europe
e creates something new
f shows objects on a screen

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2. The BrainDriver application

a uses an EEG headset
b connects to a 3D printer
c needs a computer
d was developed in Europe
e creates something new
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3. The MiND Ensemble

a uses an EEG headset
b connects to a 3D printer
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A. Highlight the correct option to complete each sentence.

1. A breakthrough is an important (discovery / decision).

2. If something evolves , it (stays the same / changes).

3. If something is autonomous , (no one / one person) controls it.

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4. If you interpret something, you work out the (cause / meaning) of it.

5. A signal is a way of sending and receiving (information / objects).

Evaluating Work with a partner. Make a list of the advantages and disadvantages of each piece of technology mentioned in the passage. Which of the applications do you think will be most common in the future?

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