3.2 INT ASO READING



READING

1 Look at the photos and answer the questions.

1 What inventions or developments do the pictures show?

2 How do you think they can benefit people?

B Complete the summary of the article with words from the text. Use one word in each space.

The writer believes a machine will be able to [1] _____ our words into different languages. She thinks we'll use monitors in our [2] _____ to check our health, and 3D printers will make perfect [3] _____ of human organs like the heart. We will entertain ourselves with virtual reality, as computers learn to interact with the [4] _____. The problems caused by [5] _____ change will mean vertical farming becomes popular.

C Discuss with other students.

1 Which ideas in the article do you like? Can you think of other uses for these inventions?

2 Which ideas don't you like? Why not?

3 Which ideas do you agree will probably come true?

A better world?

Communication

In the near future, we may be able to communicate in any language we choose. A number of companies are working on translating machines that use the voice frequencies of the speaker. This makes it sound as though the user is speaking the foreign language. We already have translating machines, but they are slow and inaccurate and sound like robots. In only a year or two, this new machine, which will be a headset, could come onto the market and allow us to speak every language under the sun.

Health

The future of health is going to be a tale of big and small. Tiny nano monitors will be placed inside our bodies, and these will produce big data—enormous amounts of information—that allow us to check our health and help us predict illnesses. Another big development probably won't be ready in the short term, but, in the long term, there is hope that 3D printers will make copies of body parts, such as hearts, livers and kidneys. If it happens, it is likely to save millions of lives. Using 3D printers, we can already make copies of plastic and metal objects. The next step is to copy living tissue.

Entertainment

Full immersion virtual reality will be with us in perhaps ten to twenty years' time. We will be able to plant tiny microchips in the brain, allowing a person to experience games, movies and virtual life as if they were real. As computers interact with the brain, we will have the sensation of touching, seeing, hearing and smelling virtual objects in virtual worlds. Instead of just watching heroes in movies, signals to the brain will let us feel what our heroes feel and see what they see. Fortunately, if things get too terrifying, we will be able to switch it off with the push of a button!

Global Problems

In the next thirty years, climate change is going to seriously affect traditional farming. Floods and droughts will disrupt farming patterns that have existed for thousands of years. Because of this, cities will have to start producing food, and vertical farming will become common. Apartment buildings and skyscrapers will have gardens built into them. Each floor will grow different plants, fruits and vegetables, and the water will be recycled. Instead of stretching out for miles across the landscape, farmland will now rise hundreds of feet into the air.



LIVEWORKSHEETS