TECHNOLOGY AND SPORT

Technology is changing how we play and watch sport. Here are some examples.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)

You can't have an amazing football team with just 11 good players – you need a fantastic coach, too. Now, some clubs are using an AI coach for extra help. The AI coach listens to the human coach carefully and saves important information about the players. For example, it's good to know which players kick with their left or right foot to score goals or that the goalkeeper can dive well but can't jump high. Before a game the human coach talks to the AI coach: 'Can I ask you about today's match?' Then they choose the team together, but the human coach makes the final decision – for now.

ROBOT TECHNOLOGY

There are some sports you can't do easily alone – you need another player to do them. Meet Forpheus – the robot who can play table tennis. The latest model of this AI robot has got five cameras that work like eyes – two looking at the ball, two looking at the human player and one looking at the bat. Forpheus has a robotic arm that can move like a human wrist and elbow and it's the only robot that can hit back difficult balls. At the end of the game, Forpheus tells the player what to do next: 'Your backhand isn't good. You can practise with me now.'

VIRTUAL REALITY (VR)

Do you want to go to London to watch famous tennis players like Coco Gauff and Naomi Osaka play in the Wimbledon Ladies' Final? Perhaps your parents say you can't go and tell you to watch it on TV. Don't worry! Now, with VR you can watch sport in a new way and feel like you are at the live match by wearing a VR headset. With VR, you can even play on Wimbledon's Centre Court against one of the previous champions, Andy Murray. The only thing you can't do, perhaps ... is win the game.

Read the text. Are these sentences True or False?

1. A good football team has to have eleven good players and an excellent coach T/F

2. AI coach teaches players to kick the ball T/F

3. Forpheus has a robotic arm similar to a human's T/F

4. With VR you can watch tennis on TV T/F

LIVEWORKSHEETS