

UNIT 8 – READING SECTION

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

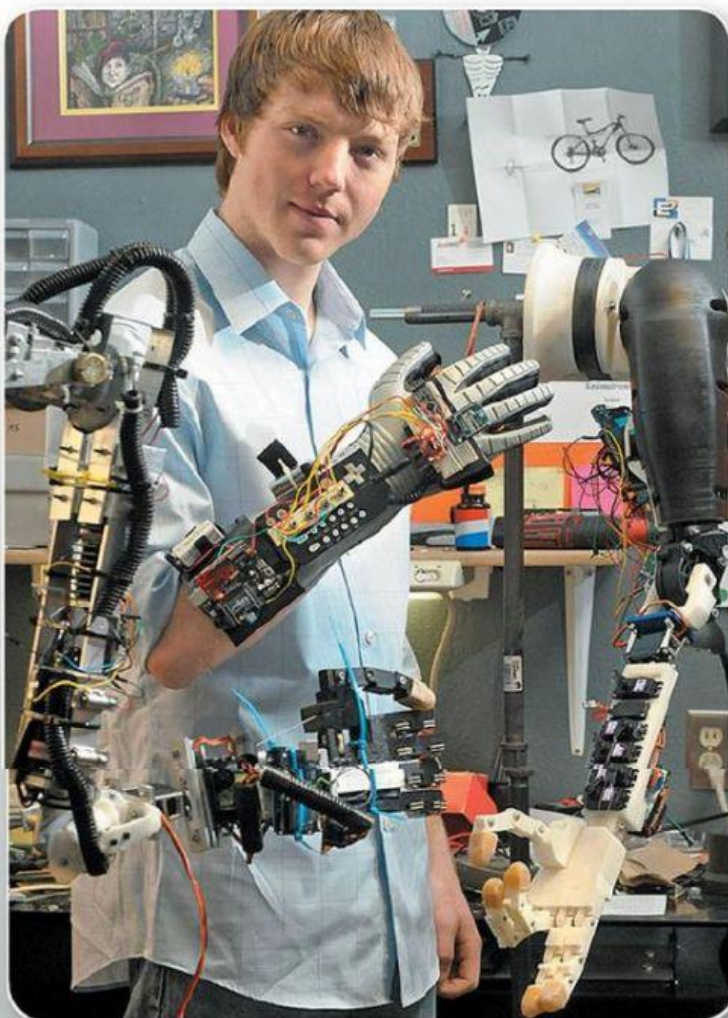
Meet the BOTS

Many people know that robots explore space and build things in factories. But did you know that there are many other kinds of robots? Let's meet some of these "bots" and find out what they do.

Social robots are very popular. The robot, Pepper, was developed by Japanese and French engineers. It can recognize human emotions and can even adapt its behavior to match the mood of whoever it is interacting with. Pepper was so popular that it sold out completely—in just one minute!

Medical robots are extremely important. The da Vinci Surgical System lets a doctor sit several feet away from a patient and controls the robot's every move. Thanks to robotics engineers, like Easton LaChappelle, a seven-year-old girl now has a new prosthetic arm. He made her an inexpensive robotic arm using a 3D printer and inexpensive ready-made parts.

Domestic robots (robots that clean your house) are very popular as well. There are a lot of different robots that vacuum your room for you. The Botvac, for example, uses lasers to scan and map your room before choosing the best route to clean the entire room. And if you don't like doing yard work, the Robomow will cut the grass for you.



Easton LaChappelle

Explorer robots are incredibly useful, too. Two Mars rovers, Opportunity and Curiosity, are exploring Mars. Amazing! What will future bots do?

2 Read. Check T for *True* and F for *False*.

1. Social robots are not very popular. (T) (F)
2. The Botvac uses lasers to scan your room. (T) (F)
3. Robotics engineers are people who design robots. (T) (F)
4. The two rovers, Opportunity and Curiosity, are exploring the moon. (T) (F)

3 Complete the chart. Write what each robot does. Check what kind of robot it is.

	Function	Social	Explorer	Domestic	Medical
Pepper	<i>It's a companion.</i>	✓			
Robomow					
Botvac					
da Vinci					
Curiosity					

4 Work with a partner. Discuss which type of "bot" is the most ...
complex. unnecessary.

I think medical robots are the most useful.

Really? They are the most complex, but I think social robots are the most useful.



A restaurant in China has robot waiters! They even smile when they visit the tables.

