## READING

**1** **Read the text and choose the best heading.**

a) Famous Inventions

b) Man and the Planet—What's Next?

c) Science in the Future: Discoveries

**2** **Read the text again and answer the questions.**

1 Where has space travel taken us?

_____

2 What kind of energy will we produce?

_____

3 How will we control the locks and lights in our homes?

_____

4 What can American scientists already do?

_____

5 Why will skin and bone grown in a laboratory help people?

_____

6 Why do some people disagree with space exploration?

_____

**3** **Complete the text in Exercise 1 with the following sentences. Write the correct letter in blanks 1–5.**

a) We will no longer need to be physically present to control what happens in our homes.

b) Some people would prefer technology to be used differently.

c) Of course, at the moment, the equipment is large and inconvenient.

d) These changes will make life easier for people but will offer other advantages, too.

e) It is hard to believe that only a few years ago computers were not an everyday part of life.

**4** **Find words in the text to match definitions 1–4.**

1 important (paragraph A) _____

2 clever and complex (paragraph D) _____

3 damage to a part of the body such as a hole or cut (paragraph E) _____

4 searching for and finding out about a place (paragraph F) _____



**A** [1] _____ We now take tablets, mobile communication and other types of new technology for granted. We can speak to friends on the other side of the world as if they were in the same room and see their faces on instant-messaging systems. Space travel is no longer unusual as we explore Mars and beyond. Medical science has produced new ways of curing disease and helped build robotic hands. In the last fifty years, technology has changed the world beyond recognition. Leading scientists believe that technology will continue to change our lives in significant ways. So what can we expect in the next 20 years or so?

**B** First science will continue to change our homes and the world around us. [2] _____ Scientists believe that technology will be key in helping us to protect the environment. New systems will allow cities to become environmentally "clean." Resources will be recycled, and we will produce energy that does not pollute the environment.

**C** Houses themselves will become "smart" with water, electricity and doors being controlled via the Internet or our phones. [3] _____ We already have the technology to control locks, lights and alarms via phone apps. These will become normal as people use their mobile devices to turn on heating or air conditioning and check security from miles away or even other countries.

**D** We will continue to use technology to communicate. It is likely that broadband will become so sophisticated we will be able to project images of our friends like holograms when we talk to them. Scientists in the U.S. have already found a way to project 3D images using sensors, mirrors and video-conferencing pods. [4] _____ But they believe that the technology will eventually be good enough and small enough for people to use every day, and people will be able to project an image of themselves to wherever they want—a business meeting, for example.

**E** Medicine will continue to improve. Doctors will be able to grow skin, bone tissue and even organs in laboratories to help repair wounds. As scientists understand more about human genes, they will be able to cure or prevent illnesses by using this knowledge.

**F** Of course, not everyone is impressed by these developments. [5] _____ In fact many people believe that science should only be used to prevent hunger, war and disease, and the money spent on computers, space exploration and weapons should be used to improve the world as it is now.



LIVEWORKSHEETS