

## Yancheng Prison's New AI Surveillance

If any of the inmates at Yancheng prison are considering an escape attempt, they'd better do it soon. The Chinese prison is currently wrapping up months of construction on a new "smart" surveillance system designed to monitor prisoners at every moment, including while they are in their cells. According to an official, this will make prison breaks virtually impossible — but it might also wreak havoc on prisoners' psyches.

According to the *South China Morning Post*, the facility is almost finished installing a network of cameras and sensors capable of constantly tracking inmates. These cameras and sensors will feed into an AI system that uses facial identification and movement analysis technologies to monitor each individual inmate at the Chinese prison, producing a daily report about each one and flagging any unusual behavior. "For instance," project representative Meng Qingbiao told SCMP, "if an inmate has been spotted pacing up and down in a room for some time, the machine may regard the phenomenon as suspicious and suggest close-up checks with a human guard."

This isn't the first example we've seen of prison officials attempting to make facilities "smart". In February, Hong Kong's Correctional Services Department announced the implementation of several technologies designed to help prisoners stay safe during their imprisonment. However, Zhang Xuemin, a physiology professor at Beijing Normal University, told SCMP the new system will "definitely affect" the prisoners' mental state. And while he didn't elaborate on what that effect might be, past research has shown that constant surveillance can increase a person's stress and anxiety levels, while decreasing their trust in others — meaning the trade off for an escape-proof "smart" prison might be the mental health of its inmates.

(Adapted from <https://www.futurism.com>)

**Question 1.** Which of the following can be the title of the passage?

- A. Human Guards Replaced By AI in Chinese Prisons
- B. AI Technology Stopped A Breakout In China
- C. The Negative Effects of AI on Chinese Prisoners' Health
- D. China Installing "AI Guards" in Prison Cells

**Question 2.** According to the passage, past research revealed that constant surveillance can affect all of the following EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. how much a person believe in other people.
- B. how stressed a person is.
- C. how smart a person is.
- D. how anxious a person is.

**Question 3.** The word "regard" in paragraph 1 can be best replaced by \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. object
- B. comment
- C. consider
- D. disapprove

**Question 4.** The word "this" in paragraph 2 refers to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. the surveillance system
- B. an escape attempt
- C. an official
- D. the Chinese prison

**Question 5.** According to the passage, the AI surveillance system at Yancheng prison may suggest close-up checks with a human guard when \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. a prisoner is suffering from anxiety.
- B. a prisoner is attempting to escape.
- C. a prisoner is moving for too long.
- D. a prisoner is behaving abnormally.

