

Reading: a newspaper article

1 Read the newspaper article. Complete the sentences.



The Weekly Report | 10th April

NEWS // ROBOTS OF THE FUTURE

The Cyborg Factory in Berlin makes robots. At the moment they are very expensive to produce and very expensive to buy, but Helga Weber, the factory's chief engineer, believes we are at the beginning of a consumer revolution. 'If you believe what all the experts say,' she says, 'in the future robots will be everywhere. They will be cheaper to make and buy. These robots will do many of the things that people do now. If you have a problem with your teeth, for example, you'll go to a robot dentist who will be programmed to check your teeth and tell you if they are OK. Robot cleaners will clean our houses, while robot engineers will design and build the world around us.'

At present, the Cyborg Factory only manufactures robot mechanics for the car industry, but things are beginning to change. 'We're working on a design for robot farmers at the moment. The demand is growing in the world of agriculture for robots who can be programmed to do the same task again and again.'

The factory is impressive. It's on an enormous site in the west of Berlin and employs over 2,000 people. Will all of these people have jobs in the future? Helga laughs. 'Who knows?' she says. 'Maybe we will all be replaced. My colleagues think there will be robot businessmen and -women, robot computer programmers, even robot artists and robot police officers.' Thankfully, in the course of our conversation, Helga did not say whether there would ever be robot journalists.

- 1 The company is called the Cyborg Factory.
- 2 It is located in _____.
- 3 Helga Weber is the chief _____.
- 4 The company produces only robot _____ at present.
- 5 At the moment, it is working on a design for robot _____.
- 6 Over _____ people work for the company.

1 Complete the table with the information from the box.

Tokyo, Japan ~~Robots for Art~~ robot artists Kondo Taka
multinational companies, rich businessmen and -women

'If you tell the robot what kind of painting you want, it will do exactly what you ask.'

Name of the company	Robots for Art
Location	
What it produces	
Who buys the robots?	
Name of the chief engineer	
What the chief engineer says	

Help with Writing

When writing an article, put the most important information at the very beginning. You should not make readers wait long to find out exactly what the feature is about.

2 Imagine you write for the newspaper *The Weekly Report*. Write an article about Robots for Art using the notes you made in Activity 1 and the article on the Reading page to help you. Include the following information:

- a title for the newspaper article
- the name and location of the company
- what the robots can do and who buys them
- who the chief engineer is and what she says.
