



The robot revolution isn't a thing of the future – robots are taking over right now and the world of work is never going to be the same again.

A



THE EMERGENCY SERVICES

The next time you get into trouble when you're swimming in the sea, you will be glad that Emily is there to rescue you. Emily's not a lifeguard though. Emily is a remote-controlled robot that races through the water ten times faster than any human swimmer. She may not drag you back to shore, but she will keep you afloat until a lifeboat picks you up. Elsewhere, the US Navy is working on Octavia, a robot firefighter that never gives up. It battles through the smoke and flames to put out fires that would be far too dangerous for human firefighters.

HEALTHCARE

Even the best surgeon's hand sometimes shakes while operating on a patient. Soon though, patients will wake up after surgery knowing that the steadiest of robotic arms will have been operating on them. Meanwhile, in another part of the hospital, a robot nurse, the RP7, will be taking a patient's pulse and temperature then emailing their medical history to a specialist in another country. In the corridor, a fleet of robots will be hard at work day and night collecting dirty sheets, delivering clean ones and handing out food. These robots won't replace humans, but they will allow the human staff to get on with saving people's lives.

B





WAITERS

A robot waiter shows you to your table, takes your order and heads for the kitchen where the chef – another robot – cooks your steak. After a delicious main course, another robot provides entertainment until the dessert comes. It may sound like a sci-fi film, but actually this is the Haohai Robot Restaurant in China where all 18 members of staff are robots. Amazingly, this is the fourth robot restaurant in China. The good news for customers is that you don't need to give them a tip; the bad news for the restaurant manager is that they only work a five-hour shift before taking a two-hour break to recharge their batteries.

ROBOCOPS

Robocop will soon be patrolling your neighbourhood as police forces around the world take advantage of technological advances to fight crime. US police departments are getting their very own ex-army robots for situations that are too risky for a human being.

The 'Throwbot' is a pocket-sized robot that police will throw around corners to check out who or what is waiting for them; the 'Packbot' and the 'Talon' can defuse a bomb just as well as any bomb disposal expert. The only thing the forces of law and order don't have is a robot judge ... yet!



Check the words in **bold** in the Word List. What job does each sentence refer to? Choose from the list. ...

surgeons

nurses

lifeguards

waiters

firefighters

police officers

bomb disposal experts

1 They **operate** on patients.

2 They **take** customers' **orders**.

3 They **patrol** the streets and **fight** crime.

4 They **defuse** bombs.

5 They battle through smoke and flames to **put out** fires.

6 They **rescue** people who are in danger of drowning.

7 They **take** a patient's **temperature**.

3 Read the questions 1-10 carefully and underline the key words. ...

Read again and for questions 1-10, choose from the texts (A-D). ...

The texts may be chosen more than once.



Which text mentions:

- | | | |
|----|-----|---|
| 1 | ... | a robot you will see on the streets? |
| 2 | ... | a person not doing their job well? |
| 3 | ... | a robot that will amuse you? |
| 4 | ... | robots that need to stop working for a while? |
| 5 | ... | a robot that tidies up? |
| 6 | ... | a robot that you will be happy to see? |
| 7 | ... | a very small robot? |
| 8 | ... | a robot sending some information? |
| 9 | ... | a robot that is quicker than a person? |
| 10 | ... | a robot that does not stop? |

a) Match the phrasal verbs in **bold** in the text to their meanings. 

Click on the **bold** words in the SHOW TEXT for help.

picks you up

gives up

put out

wake up

handing out

get on with

heads for

check out

• stop sth burning

• see

• giving

• stop sleeping

• goes and gets you

• continue

• stops trying

• goes to

b) Match the highlighted words to their antonyms below. 

Click on the highlighted words in the SHOW TEXT for help.

drag

afloat

steepest

hard at work

delicious

amazingly

risky

defuse

• explode ≠

• disgusting ≠

• unsurprisingly ≠

• sinking ≠

• shakiest ≠

• safe ≠

• push ≠

• relaxing ≠



Speaking

Tell the class two things that each robot in the texts can do.

