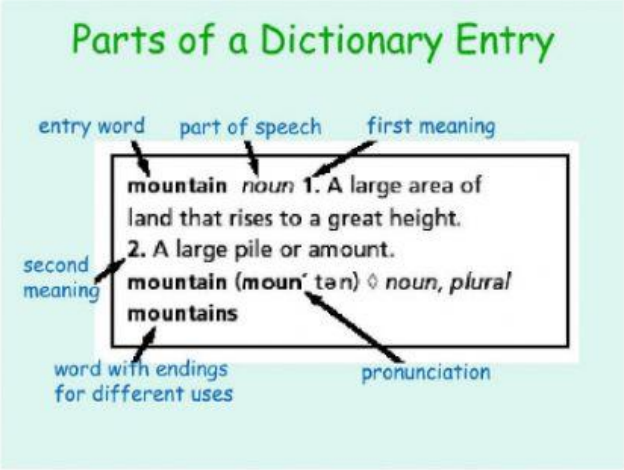
Name: _____

When you read, you may come across a word you don't know. You can find the meaning of the word in a **dictionary**. The words a dictionary lists are called *entry words*, and they appear in alphabetical order. **Guide words** at the top of each dictionary page tell you the first and last words that appear on that page.

Following each entry word, you will find the pronunciation, or way to say the word, and usually its part of speech, such as noun or verb. You will also find one or more definitions and sometimes example sentences that use the word in context. Many dictionary entries will include an etymology, or word history, as well.



Which dictionary definition of **mountain** is used in this sentence?

A mountain of books fell on the floor.

a. Definition #1
b. Definition #2

Which of these words would you most likely find on the same page as mountain?

a. Motor
b. Mount
c. Manatee
d. Mouth

What part of speech is a mountain?

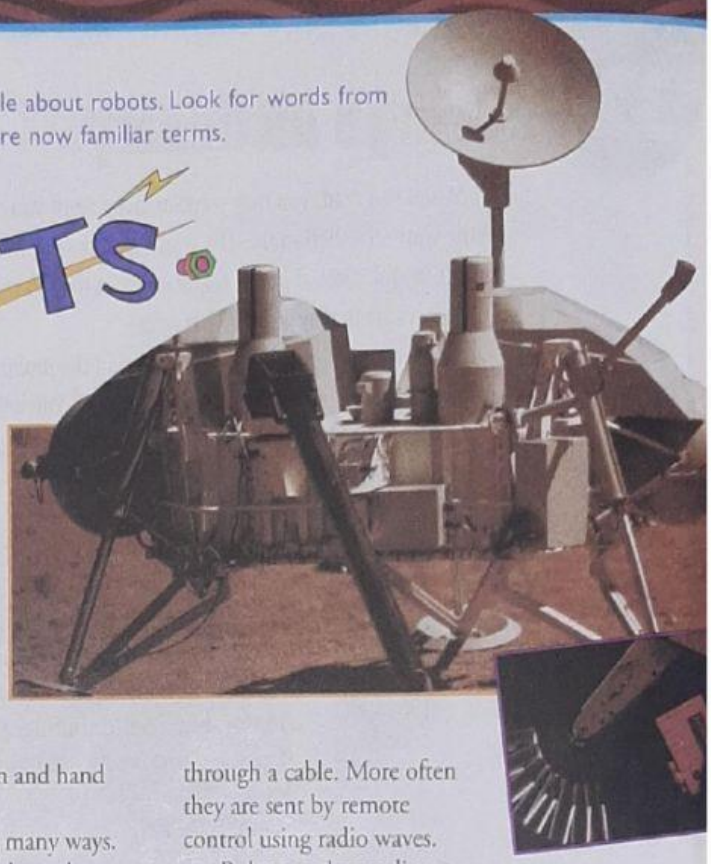
_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

On Your Own

Read the following article about robots. Look for words from robot technology that are now familiar terms.

ROBOTS



The word *robot* describes an amazing variety of machines. *Robots* have various skills, sizes, and shapes. They have different levels of intelligence. When people hear the word *robot*, they often think of a human-like creation out of a science fiction movie. In reality, most robots do not look like humans but are machines designed to do specific jobs. Many are just "smart arms." Their only human-like parts are an arm and hand that can perform jobs.

Robots are hardier than humans in many ways. They can go where humans can't go and can do work that is dangerous or repetitive. They don't require air, food, water, or comfortable temperatures. For this reason, they are perfect for work in outer space, under the sea, or in hazardous places on Earth. Robots work tirelessly. They never need a lunch break!

A robot's brain is a computer that can be programmed to perform tasks. Actually, a robot is simply a computer that moves. Sensors collect information from the robot's surroundings and send it to the computer brain. The sensors work like a human's eyes, ears, nose, and skin. One of the commonest types of sensor is a small camera that acts as the robot's eyes.

The "body" of a robot is a mix of machinery, motors, and power sources. Humans can control the "body" in various ways. They might push buttons, tilt joysticks, move a computer mouse, or give verbal orders. The operator's signals sometimes travel through a cable. More often they are sent by remote control using radio waves.

Robots no longer live only in the world of science fiction. Modern robotics has produced all sorts of mechanical workers. They guard museums at night, run errands in hospitals, milk cows, and explore the universe. Many manufacturers have robotized their factories. A lawn equipment company has already invented a turtle-shaped "mobot" that mows grass. Maybe someday your personal "sewbot" will mend your clothes and a "cookbot" will make your meals!

LIVEWORKSHEETS

robot ➤ rod

robot (rō´ bät) *noun* **1.** a machine, often imaginary, made to look and work like a human being **2.** any machine that can be programmed to perform and repeat tasks automatically **3.** a person who acts or works automatically, like a machine (from *robota*, meaning *forced labor*, first used in a play by Czech writer Karel Capek)

robotics (rō bä´ tiks) *noun* the science or technology of producing or using robots

robotize (rō´ bə tīz) *verb* **1.** to make something automatic, especially a factory process [The factory owner decided to *robotize* the assembly line.] **2.** to make somebody act in an automated, unemotional way; to turn (a person) into a robot

What is the difference between **robot, robotics,** and **robotize**?

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Which of the following words might appear on the same dictionary page as robot? (two words)

a. rock b. roam c. robust d. rodent

Write an example sentence using the word **robot**.

_____

USING ANALOGIES

Choose the word from the box that completes each analogy.

hardier	hazardous	programmed	sensor

Eye: human :: _____ : robot

Weaker : feebler :: stronger : _____

Safe : secure :: risky : _____

Built : assembled :: instructed : _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS