

VOCABULARY

Household tasks

1 Match the verbs in the box to the nouns.

clear up	fix	fold	load	put away
sort	sweep	wash up	water	wipe

- _____ the clothes / the towels / the paper
- _____ the floor / the garden path / the streets
- _____ the rubbish / the recycling / your books
- _____ a room / a mess / a problem
- _____ the table / the chairs / the kitchen surfaces
- _____ your clothes / the dinner things / the shopping
- _____ the plants / the garden / the flowers
- _____ the dishwasher / the washing machine / the car
- _____ the TV / the leak / the computer
- _____ the pans / the plates / the dishes

2 Choose the correct options to complete the sentences.

- I haven't *watered* / *sorted* the plants for weeks.
- Will you *sweep* / *fold* your clothes and *put them away* / *clear them up* before you go to bed, please?
- Before we can watch TV, we have to *wipe* / *sweep* the table and *put away* / *load* the dishwasher.
- I hope you *clear up* / *sort* this mess you're making after you've finished *loading* / *fixing* your skateboard.
- The floor is dirty – you'd better *water* / *sweep* it.
- I've done the washing – can you *sort* / *load* it into separate piles of your clothes and your sister's clothes?
- Don't *load* / *wipe* the dishwasher this morning because the repairman is coming to *water* / *fix* it.
- All these plates and dishes are clean. Let's *wash them up* / *put them away*.
- Someone has put all of the rubbish in the same bin. Now I have to go through the bin and *clear it up* / *sort it* into recycling and ordinary rubbish.
- Meral, can you *sweep* / *wipe* the path outside the front door before your grandparents come? The trees have dropped leaves all over it.

3 Choose the odd one out in each list of verbs.

- You can do this to your clothes.
put away water fold
- You can do this to a room.
sweep clear up load
- You can do this to a dishwasher.
water fix load
- You can do this with a table.
clear up wipe sweep
- You can do this with pans.
put away fold wash up
- You can do this with toys.
load sort put away
- You can do this with the floor.
sweep wipe load
- You can do this with your bike.
fix sweep put away

READING

1 Quickly read the text on page 41. Where do you think it was published?

- A in a technical manual
B on a technology website
C in a science school book

2 Read the first part of the article on page 41 again. Decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap (1–8).

- | | | | |
|--|------------|-------------|------------|
| 0 ☒ A limited | B little | C minor | D narrow |
| 1 A frequent | B common | C general | D normal |
| 2 A mixture | B type | C quality | D variety |
| 3 A missing | B leaving | C avoiding | D skipping |
| 4 A way | B road | C direction | D track |
| 5 A let | B admit | C allow | D make |
| 6 A take | B set | C pick | D get |
| 7 A travel | B progress | C transport | D movement |
| 8 A suspicious | B doubtful | C wrong | D unsure |

3 Read the second part of the article again more carefully and match the paragraph titles to the paragraphs D–H.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| 1 Kitchen robots | _____ |
| 2 'Telepresence' (remote) robots | _____ |
| 3 Social robots | _____ |
| 4 Robot alarm clock | _____ |
| 5 Toy robots | _____ |



DOMESTIC ROBOTS



A domestic robot, or service robot, is a robot that is used for jobs around the house. There are only a ⁰ limited number of models around at the moment, though some people have suggested that they could become more ¹ _____ in the future. We found a wide ² _____ of them on the web.

A FLOOR CLEANING ROBOTS

These are the most popular type of domestic robots currently available. They move quickly around hard-surface flooring and carpets removing dirt and pet hair – ³ _____ obstacles like furniture and toys, and automatically finding their ⁴ _____ around.

B GRASS CUTTING ROBOTS

These sophisticated machines ⁵ _____ you to sit back in your garden and watch them do all the work! You just ⁶ _____ up a wire line around the area you want to cut, and switch it on.

C SECURITY ROBOTS

These have night-vision cameras that can detect ⁷ _____. You can programme them to move around inside or outside your house – and if anything ⁸ _____ happens, they will automatically video it and send you a text or email to tell you.



D Our favourite example of this type of robot is called UNO. It dances, plays football with you, shoots table tennis balls, sings songs – and it can recognise your voice, so that it obeys only your orders. It looks really **cute** too! You can also get electronic pets for the younger members of the family.

E These are similar to toy robots, but with a more serious purpose. A lot of them are designed to help older people by providing **company** and sometimes helping with the household tasks. In the future, we expect to see robots that are able to understand language, have conversations with you, and understand human emotions, so that they know what to do.

F A step up from social robots, these can allow you to visit a **distant** location and explore it as if you were there. They let healthcare workers check on patients, for example. Also, children who cannot leave their homes because they are ill or disabled can attend school using one of these!

G You need a highly-**specialised** robot if you want it to do the cooking for you. The one we saw was developed by a German university. It can cook pancakes and sausages, and even make sandwiches. We're not so sure about this one – you might want to **supervise** if it's using the cooker! You don't want the house to burn down!

H Our favourite of the bunch, this one is for people who can't get out of bed in the morning. It can be set to let you sleep a bit longer, but after that – when your extra time is up – it will scream loudly. If that doesn't work, it will jump off the bedside table and roll around the room flashing its lights and making a noise until you finally get up!



4 Which robot A–H would you recommend for these people?

- 1 'I spend a lot of time away from home, and the house is often empty.' _____
- 2 'It's my nephew's birthday next month. He's 12 years old.' _____
- 3 'I'm often late for school in the morning.' _____
- 4 'My grandma lives a long way from us and often gets lonely. She could also use some help around the house.' _____
- 5 'I hate making my own meals.' _____



5 Match the **highlighted** words and phrases in the text to the definitions.

- 1 designed to be good at a particular thing _____
- 2 pleasant and attractive _____
- 3 when you are with a person or people _____
- 4 watch to make sure everything is done correctly _____
- 5 far away _____