

Robots

Level

Intermediate and above

Tasks

Filling in the missing vowels in a group of expressions connected with robots

Completing a Fact box about a new home-help robot from Japan

Reading and summarising an article

Identifying the odd-one-out in a list of words which collocate with 'research'

Discussing points arising from the article

How to use the lesson

- 1 Write the title of the lesson on the board. If possible, show the class a picture of a robot. Ask students if they know any ways in which robots can be used. Hand out the worksheet and after students have filled in the missing vowels, elicit anything they know about each term.

Answers

robotics industry / speech recognition / automobile production / artificial intelligence

- 2 Ask students to guess the meaning of 'humanoid'. Ask them to complete the missing information in the Fact box by scanning paragraph one of the article.

Answers

Height: one metre

Weight: 300 kg

Cost: between \$10,000 and \$14,000

- 3 Ask students to read the whole article and summarise the contents. Deal with any useful vocabulary such as:
autonomous / prototype / to commission.
- 4 Students find one word in each line that does not collocate with the word 'research'.

Answers

1 – (b) rechargeable

2 – (d) dramatically

3 – (c) to automate

- 5 Ask students to work in small groups to discuss the questions. Monitor the discussion. Ask the groups to report their ideas to the class. Provide language feedback.

Related websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

<http://www.mhi.co.jp/kobe/wakamaru/english/>

<http://www.mhi.co.jp/indexe.html>

<http://www.roboticonline.com/>

http://ranier.hq.nasa.gov/telerobotics_page/coolrobots.html