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Level 1

Japanese show robot news readers

28th June, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1406/140628-robots-1.html>

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1406/140628-robots-1.html>

Japanese scientists have made the world's first news-reading robots. They look, sound and act like humans. The scientists showed two robots to reporters. One is called "Kodomoroid," the other is "Otonaroid". The names use the English word "android" with the Japanese words for child and adult. They read news on an imaginary earthquake in Tokyo. The robots' creator did not say when robots would really read the news on television.

Robots are big business in Japan. Companies spend a lot of money on them. They try to make robots better. Japanese people like robots. They think they are helpful and cute. Westerners think robots are scary and worry they will take over the world. A professor said: "We will have more and more robots in our everyday lives in the future." He added: "Robots are now [cheaper and are] no different from owning a laptop".

Sources: <http://www.nydailynews.com/life-style/world-android-newscasters-deliver-news-japan-article-1.1844180>
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-2667093/Can-tell-difference-Worlds-robotic-broadcasters-lifelike-read-news-recite-tongue-twisters.html#ixzz35hjH78dt>

VOCABULARY MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1406/140628-robots-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. the world's first news- | a. earthquake in Tokyo |
| 2. They look, sound and | b. English word "android" |
| 3. The scientists showed | c. say when |
| 4. The names use the | d. reading robots |
| 5. the Japanese words | e. on television |
| 6. an imaginary | f. two robots to reporters |
| 7. The robots' creator did not | g. act like humans |
| 8. read the news | h. for child and adult |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Robots are big | a. better |
| 2. Companies spend a lot | b. and more |
| 3. They try to make robots | c. over the world |
| 4. helpful and | d. business in Japan |
| 5. Westerners think robots | e. owning a laptop |
| 6. they will take | f. cute |
| 7. We will have more | g. of money on them |
| 8. no different from | h. are scary |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1406/140628-robots-1.html>

Japanese scientists (1) _____ world's first news-reading robots. They look, (2) _____ humans. The scientists showed two (3) _____. One is called "Kodomoroid," the other is "Otonaroid". The names use the English word "android" (4) _____ words for child and adult. They (5) _____ imaginary earthquake in Tokyo. The robots' creator (6) _____ robots would really read the news on television.

Robots (7) _____ Japan. Companies spend a lot of money on them. They try to (8) _____. Japanese people like robots. (9) _____ helpful and cute. Westerners think robots are scary and worry they will (10) _____. A professor said: "We will have more and more robots in (11) _____ in the future." He added: "Robots are now [cheaper and are] no different from (12) _____".

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1406/140628-robots-1.html>

Japanese scientists have made the world's first news-reading robots. They look, sound and act like humans. The scientists showed two robot reporters. One is called "Kodomoroid," the other is "Otonaroid". The names use the English word "android" with the Japanese word for child and adult. They read news on an imaginary earthquake in Tokyo. The robots' creator did not say when robots would really read the news on television. Robots are big business in Japan. Companies spend a lot of money on them. They try to make robots better. Japanese people like robots. They think they are helpful and cute. Westerners think robots are scary and worry they will take over the world. A professor said: "We will have more and more robots in our everyday lives in the future." He added: "Robots are now [cheaper and are] no different from owning a laptop".

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)
