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## **Level 2**

# **Japanese show robot news readers**

**28th June, 2014**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1406/140628-robots-2.html>

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**Please try Levels 0 and 1 (easier) and the 26–page Level 3 (harder).**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1406/140628-robots-2.html>

Japanese scientists have made the world's first news-reading robots. They look and act like humans. They also sounded human and had a sense of humour. The scientists showed two robots to reporters. One of them is called "Kodomoroid". Both names use part of the English word "android" with the Japanese words for child and adult. The robots read news on an imaginary earthquake in Tokyo and a raid by the FBI. The robots' creator is a top robotics professor, Hiroshi Ishiguro. He did not say when robots would really read the news on television.

Robots are big business in Japan. Many companies spend a lot of money on making them. They research ways to make robots better and better. Japanese people have a positive image of robots. They think they are helpful and cute. Westerners think robots are a little scary. They worry that robots will take over the world and control us. Professor Ishiguro said: "We will have more and more robots in our everyday lives in the future." He added that they are now not so expensive. He said: "Robots are now becoming affordable - 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>

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1406/140628-robots-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                     |                            |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. They look and                    | a. professor               |
| 2. had a sense                      | b. act like humans         |
| 3. The scientists showed            | c. earthquake in Tokyo     |
| 4. the English                      | d. really read the news    |
| 5. news on an imaginary             | e. of humour               |
| 6. The robots'                      | f. word "android"          |
| 7. a top robotics                   | g. creator                 |
| 8. He did not say when robots would | h. two robots to reporters |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                        |                        |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Robots are big      | a. better and better   |
| 2. ways to make robots | b. and more            |
| 3. have a positive     | c. becoming affordable |
| 4. helpful             | d. over the world      |
| 5. robots will take    | e. owning a laptop     |
| 6. We will have more   | f. and cute            |
| 7. Robots are now      | g. image of robots     |
| 8. no different from   | h. business in Japan   |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1406/140628-robots-2.html>

Japanese scientists (1) \_\_\_\_\_ world's first news-reading robots. They (2) \_\_\_\_\_ humans. They also sounded human and had a sense of humour. The scientists showed two robots to reporters. One (3) \_\_\_\_\_ "Kodomoroid". Both names (4) \_\_\_\_\_ English word "android" with the Japanese words for child and adult. The robots read news on an imaginary earthquake in Tokyo and a raid by the FBI. The robots' creator is (5) \_\_\_\_\_, Hiroshi Ishiguro. He did not say when robots (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the news on television.

Robots (7) \_\_\_\_\_ Japan. Many companies spend a lot of money on making them. They research ways to make robots better and better. Japanese people (8) \_\_\_\_\_ of robots. They think they are (9) \_\_\_\_\_. Westerners think robots are a little scary. They worry that robots will take over the (10) \_\_\_\_\_. Professor Ishiguro said: "We will have more and more robots (11) \_\_\_\_\_ lives in the future." He added that they are now not so expensive. He said: "Robots are now (12) \_\_\_\_\_ - no different from owning a laptop".

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1406/140628-robots-2.html>

Japanese scientists have made the world's first news-reading robots. They look and act like humans. They also sounded human and had a sense of humour. The scientists showed two robots to reporters. One of them is called "Kodomoroid". Both names use part of the English word "android" with the Japanese words for child and adult. The robot spread news on an imaginary earthquake in Tokyo and a raid by the FBI. The robots' creator is a top robotics professor, Hiroshi Ishiguro. He did not say when robots would really read the news on television. Robots are a big business in Japan. Many companies spend a lot of money on making them. They research ways to make robots better and better. Japanese people have a positive image of robots. They think they are helpful and cute. Westerners think robots are a little scary. They worry that robots will take over the world and control us. Professor Ishiguro said: "We will have more and more robots in our everyday lives in the future." He added that they are now not so expensive. He said: "Robots are now becoming affordable - no different from owning a laptop".

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a)

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b)

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c)

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d)

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e)

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f)

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g)

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h)

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*Japanese show robot news readers – 28th June, 2014*  
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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a)

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b)

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c)

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d)

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e)

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f)

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g)

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h)

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