

Final test B LISTENING 1

Presenter: Robots are reshaping the workplace, but do you know just how much?

First of all, robots can be our companions and teachers. You're probably familiar with "intelligent appliances", like robot vacuums and TVs that respond to voice control. But now, humanoid robot companions exist. Pepper, a robot designed in France and sold to Japan, interacts with humans through voice, touch, and emotions. Nuri Atti, a robot invented in South Korea, is an educational toy that can teach children how to learn English better than real teachers!

Then there are robots as workers. In some workplaces, businesses might cut down on staff in the future. For example, in Japan, a hotel called Henn-na is the first in the world to be staffed by robots. When you check in, a humanoid robot greets you. The hotel rooms open by face recognition, and the lights turn on and off with voice recognition.

A restaurant in China has robots that prepare and serve food. And a well-known American burger chain is planning to open new restaurants run by robots.

Researchers have made some predictions about how technology will affect the job market in the future. Findings show that robots will probably replace some workers such as accountants, cashiers, telemarketers, and drivers. However, careers like social work or occupational therapy, which rely on interacting with people, will probably not be affected as much by robot technology.

Some people say that robot technology will lead to greater unemployment. But maybe in the future we'll have looked back at today and seen that we worried for nothing. How far do you think the robot revolution will go?

Final test B LISTENING 2

Presenter: Hi, and welcome to Norma's blog. I used to have a 9-to-5 job like many people, but then one day it all changed. I decided that I had had enough of the four walls of the office. I needed to see the world. I needed to breathe fresh air. For the past five years, I've been traveling around the world and blogging as I go. I've just come back from a camping trip and now have some tips for any campers out there.

Test your equipment before you leave

There is nothing more annoying than arriving and finding something that you need is broken. You may be miles away from help, so make sure that everything works before you pack it! Flashlights, portable chargers – everything!

Think of the extras

Of course, you need to take a tent, pillows, an air mattress, and blankets. But don't forget the little things that will make your camping more comfortable.

Here are some ideas:

Lighting

Campsites sometimes turn off lights at night, so solar-powered lighting is useful, especially for that middle-of-the-night trip to the bathroom. Solar lights are cheap and easy to buy.

Towels

Don't you always wish that you'd taken more with you? They never seem to dry quickly, do they? Buy some thin ones that you can fold up into a tiny ball. They are easy to pack, and you can have enough for the beach and the shower.

Garbage

You don't want to leave it around and attract wild animals overnight. Make sure you take enough garbage bags with you, and have a plastic container with a lid that will keep the garbage in and the animals out.

Mosquitos!

Remember to take a fine net you can use at night and a good bug spray that you can use in the tent and on you. Mosquitos are a pest all the time, but it's especially annoying to get bites at night.

Then pack it all up and have fun!