



Unit 3 Robots

Cross-curricular – Technology

- 1 Popatrz na rysunek i przeczytaj tytuł tekstu. W jaki sposób robot pomaga w pracach domowych?
- 2 Przeczytaj tekst i sprawdź swoją odpowiedź.

Robots to help with housework

Robots do jobs in factories, where they make cars, for example. In a factory, the job is always the same and things are the same size and shape, so the work is easy. The problem is – how do robots work when there are different shapes?

A team from the University of California, Berkeley, have got a computer program for their robot, the 'PR2'. A two-minute video on YouTube shows you how PR2 folds a towel. This is a simple job for a person, but not for a robot. It picks up the towel and turns it, first with one arm and then with the other arm. Then it takes a photo. The photo tells the robot the shape of the towel. Then it takes it to a table and folds it. The technology is very advanced. The bad news is that it is very slow.

In Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan, there is a robot called the 'Twendy-one' robot. He is white, with bright blue eyes. He helps old people in their homes. For example, he helps them get out of bed. He makes breakfast. He takes butter from the fridge and carries it to a plate on the table, with a piece of bread.

The iRobiQ, from Yujin Robots of South Korea, connects to the broadband internet in your home. It starts the washing machine, changes the TV channel and takes the rubbish out. It wakes you up in the morning with a song. It can also teach children to speak English!



i INSIDE INFORMATION

- The PR2 takes 1,478 seconds to fold a towel.
- The 'Twendy-one' is 147 centimetres tall and 111 kilos.
- The iRobiQ listens to your voice and does what you tell it.

WORD BOOSTER

Dopasuj wyrazy 1–5 do definicji a–e.

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 1 broadband | a form of something: round, octagonal etc. |
| 2 factory | b cloth for drying hands or dishes |
| 3 fold | c large building where they make things like cars |
| 4 shape | d connects a computer to the internet |
| 5 towel | e bend paper or cloth to make it tidy or smaller |

- 3 Dopasuj modele robotów do ich charakterystyk.

The 'Twendy-one' The PR2 The iRobiQ

- 1 It takes a long time to fold a towel.
 - 2 It has blue eyes and helps you get up in the morning.
 - 3 It sings to you in the morning.
- 4 Przeczytaj tekst jeszcze raz. Zdecyduj, czy podane zdania są zgodne z treścią tekstu (T-true), czy – nie (F-false).
 - 1 It is difficult for robots to work with different shapes.
 - 2 The American team have got a video program.
 - 3 The PR2 turns the towel with two arms at the same time.
 - 4 The way it folds the towel is very slow.
 - 5 The 'Twendy-one' helps old people.
 - 6 The iRobiQ is from Waseda University, Tokyo.
 - 7 There is a robot that sings and teaches languages.

- 5 Odpowiedz na pytania.

Do you think housework robots are a good idea? Why?/Why not?
What do you think of a robot English teacher?

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