

## UNIT 6

Complete the paragraph with the correct words.

especially	intelligent	let	necessary	simple
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1. At a fast food restaurant the other day, I had to enter my order of burgers and fries on a computer.

They \_\_\_\_\_ let you ask a person anymore. I never like being served by machines, \_\_\_\_\_ when my order is a long, complicated one. The instructions were not clear, so it was \_\_\_\_\_ to start the order again. I really don't understand why people say computers are \_\_\_\_\_ —there is nothing clever about getting an order wrong! The reason we are seeing robots doing the work of humans is \_\_\_\_\_: companies want to save money, and workers are expensive.

Choose the correct meaning for each word in bold.

2. We had to **adapt** our plan to have Joao come with us.
- change
  - agree on
  - think about
3. I never **predicted** that one day I would write a book.
- promised that it will happen
  - told everyone it will happen
  - said that it will happen

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4. The new railway line **links** three important cities and reduces pollution.
  - a. connects them
  - b. goes through the middle
  - c. encourages people to live there
  
5. As soon as she **figures out** what really happened, she won't be happy.
  - a. hears about it from someone else
  - b. understands it after a lot of thought
  - c. tells people about it
  
6. It is very kind of you to **allow** me to stay at your home.
  - a. invite
  - b. pay for
  - c. give your permission to

**Choose the correct word to complete each sentence.**

7. I thought the ending of the movie was totally \_\_\_\_\_. I knew what was going to happen after twenty minutes.
  - a. controllable
  - b. suitable
  - c. predictable
  
8. Some sports only need a pair of running shoes and shorts, but others, like American football, need a lot of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. achievements
  - b. equipment
  - c. improvements
  
9. Finishing the running race in under four hours was an incredible \_\_\_\_\_. Well done!
  - a. agreement
  - b. management
  - c. achievement

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Complete each sentence with the correct word and *–able* or *–ment*.

agree	comfort	improve	suit	wear
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10. This movie contains a lot of difficult topics. It isn't \_\_\_\_\_ for children.
11. How do I know which bed is the most \_\_\_\_\_ before I buy it? Can I try it for a few nights?
12. The doctors say that there has been a lot of \_\_\_\_\_, but she is still very ill.

Read the passage.

**Meet Your Cobot**

If you're like most people, you probably don't see robots every day. But you will—especially at work. In the past, robots did simple jobs in factories, such as putting things together and painting. However, a new kind of workplace robot is more intelligent and able to help us more. Roboticist Manuela Veloso calls these new robots “cobots”—collaborative robots.

**Nurse Helpers**

Hospitals already use cobots to help nurses. Moxi works at Medical City Heart Hospital in Dallas, Texas, U.S.A. It has a smiling face, a robotic arm, and a large drawer for storage. Moxi does activities that usually take nurses away from patients. For example, it brings meals, takes tests to the lab, and removes dirty clothes and sheets. One advantage of Moxi is that it lets nurses spend more time directly helping sick people.

**Vegetable Pickers**

Cobots are also helping tired farm workers. Vidal Pérez, who works at Taylor Farms in Salinas, California, likes his new colleague—a cobot he can ride on. For seven years, Pérez picked lettuce using a large knife. It was backbreaking work. Now, though, ART (Automated Romaine Harvester) does the cutting. ART is an eight-meter-long machine that moves through the fields and cuts the lettuce with a jet of water. Pérez rides on the robot and puts the lettuce in boxes. “This is better, because you get a lot more tired cutting lettuce with a knife than with this machine,” Pérez said.

**Robots You Wear**

Other cobots move only with the help of their human colleagues. Engineers at Sarcos Robotics, Utah, U.S.A., for instance, are developing wearable robots that workers put on like suits. With the Sarcos wearable robot, humans are able to lift as much as 90 kilograms. A number of companies—including airlines— are testing the robots with their workers. At airports, for example, these robots could benefit baggage handlers by helping them to move heavy boxes more safely.

Choose *True* or *False*.

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13. Cobots are robots that work in factories without people.
  - a. True
  - b. False
14. Moxi allows its colleagues to do more important work with patients.
  - a. True
  - b. False
15. ART helps Vidal Pérez because he can travel to work much faster on a robot.
  - a. True
  - b. False
16. ART cuts the lettuces in a different way to the way that people like Vidal cut them before.
  - a. True
  - b. False
17. The Sarcos robot can help humans lift heavy boxes.
  - a. True
  - b. False

**Read the passage.****Stories That Tell the Future**

When you imagine what life will be like in the future, it isn't easy. Most predictions are incorrect. Even science fiction (sci-fi) writers, who write stories about possible futures, are usually wrong. But these writers have sometimes made predictions about future developments that are surprisingly accurate.

Many sci-fi stories focus on future problems—for example, wars between humans on Earth, or against beings from other planets. It isn't surprising that some predictions about war technology have come true. In a story written in 1903, early sci-fi writer H.G. Wells predicted metal war machines. His prediction came true just 13 years later when the first vehicles for war were built. Wells also predicted that humans would one day develop nuclear bombs. Again, his prediction came true.

Other sci-fi predictions have been about entertainment technology. Have you used a tablet computer to access online information recently? Listened to music through radio headphones? Or watched something on a flat-screen TV? For many people today, these are common activities. Yet these were all predicted many years ago by sci-fi writers.

Sci-fi writers have predicted many developments in the technology we use to communicate, too. These include computers that can translate different languages. The British writer Arthur C. Clarke invented the idea

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of a satellite in space to send TV or telephone signals around the world twelve years before Sputnik—the first man-made satellite to go into space. Sci-fi authors also predicted developments in security technology, such as the use of such satellites to track the position of objects, or even people, from space, and the use of cameras to watch us.

Some kinds of sci-fi technology have not come true yet—but are very close. There are machines called replicators that appear in the Star Trek movies and TV programs. These machines can make a wide variety of objects—from food to liquids to clothes. Although replicators do not yet exist, 3-D printers are a similar device. Self-driving cars are also common in sci-fi stories. These already exist on our streets, at least in some regions, and some experts predict they will become normal within ten years.

**Choose *True* or *False*.**

18. Science fiction writers usually make accurate predictions about the future.
  - a. True
  - b. False
19. H. G. Wells made at least two predictions about military technology that were accurate.
  - a. True
  - b. False
20. One invention that sci-fi writers did not predict was the flat-screen TV.
  - a. True
  - b. False
21. At least one sci-fi writer wrote about computers that could do immediate translations.
  - a. True
  - b. False
22. According to some experts, self-driving cars will soon become more common.
  - a. True
  - b. False

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Choose all the correct answers.

23. Which of these are examples of problems that science fiction stories deal with, according to the passage?

- ☐ diseases
- ☐ wars on Earth
- ☐ global warming
- ☐ wars against beings from other planets

24. Which of these are examples of common activities today, according to the passage?

- ☐ watching a flat-screen TV
- ☐ accessing information online
- ☐ travelling in a self-driving car
- ☐ using a 3D printer

Choose the correct word or phrase to complete each sentence.

25. The store wants to reduce its paper use. It \_\_\_\_\_ stop giving receipts to customers and send emails instead.
- a. is going to
- b. will
26. By 2050, more people \_\_\_\_\_ grow their own fruit and vegetables.
- a. are probably going to
- b. will probably
27. In the future, people \_\_\_\_\_ use single-use plastic bags. They will use them again and again to reduce waste.
- a. are not going to
- b. won't

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28. Experts say that most taxis \_\_\_\_\_ be self-driving cars by 2040.  
a. are going to  
b. will
29. We \_\_\_\_\_ buy an electric car. We've decided to buy bicycles instead.  
a. aren't going to  
b. won't
30. Sports like golf and soccer use a lot of water to grow the grass. By 2050 they \_\_\_\_\_ have plastic grass to play on.  
a. are probably going to  
b. will probably

**Match the sentences.**

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| 31. Sam's smartwatch tracks his running and cycling.                | ● | ● a. It helps him stay motivated to achieve his fitness goals.    |
| 32. John's phone has a powerful camera.                             | ● | ● b. They put special sensors into it to "see" all around it.     |
| 33. The team of engineers designed the self-driving car.            | ● | ● c. It allows you to manage these devices using your smartphone. |
| 34. The gamers love playing with the virtual reality headsets.      | ● | ● d. They think that they will be the future of gaming.           |
| 35. The automatic system controls lights and machines in your home. | ● | ● e. He loves taking beautiful photos with it.                    |

**Read each sentence. Which pronoun can replace the repeated word? Write the correct word.**

36. Charles Babbage is sometimes called the "Father of Computing." **Babbage** designed two mechanical computers in the nineteenth century.

\_\_\_\_\_

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37. ENIAC was one of the world's first electronic computers. **ENIAC** was built between 1943 and 1946.
- \_\_\_\_\_
38. Transistors were first invented in the late 1940s. **Transistors** allowed computers to become smaller, faster, and more reliable.
- \_\_\_\_\_
39. Integrated circuits were another important invention in the history of computing. Without **integrated circuits**, modern computers would not be possible.
- \_\_\_\_\_
40. Since the days of Babbage, computers have become more powerful and more useful. Even a basic **computer** today has more computing power than the most powerful machine in the 1960s.
- \_\_\_\_\_

**You are going to write a paragraph on the following topic.**

41. **Think about your own experiences with one of these two topics.**  
**Topic 1:** What do you think a typical classroom will be like in 30 years from now?  
**Topic 2:** What do you think entertainment will be like in 30 years from now?

**A. OUTLINE Plan an outline for your paragraph.**

Start with what your opinion is in general.

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Add your ideas about possible future changes.

End with a personal point of view about these changes.

**B. Think of some words and phrases you can use in your paragraph. Write them in the box.**

The words and phrases below can be useful when writing about the future.

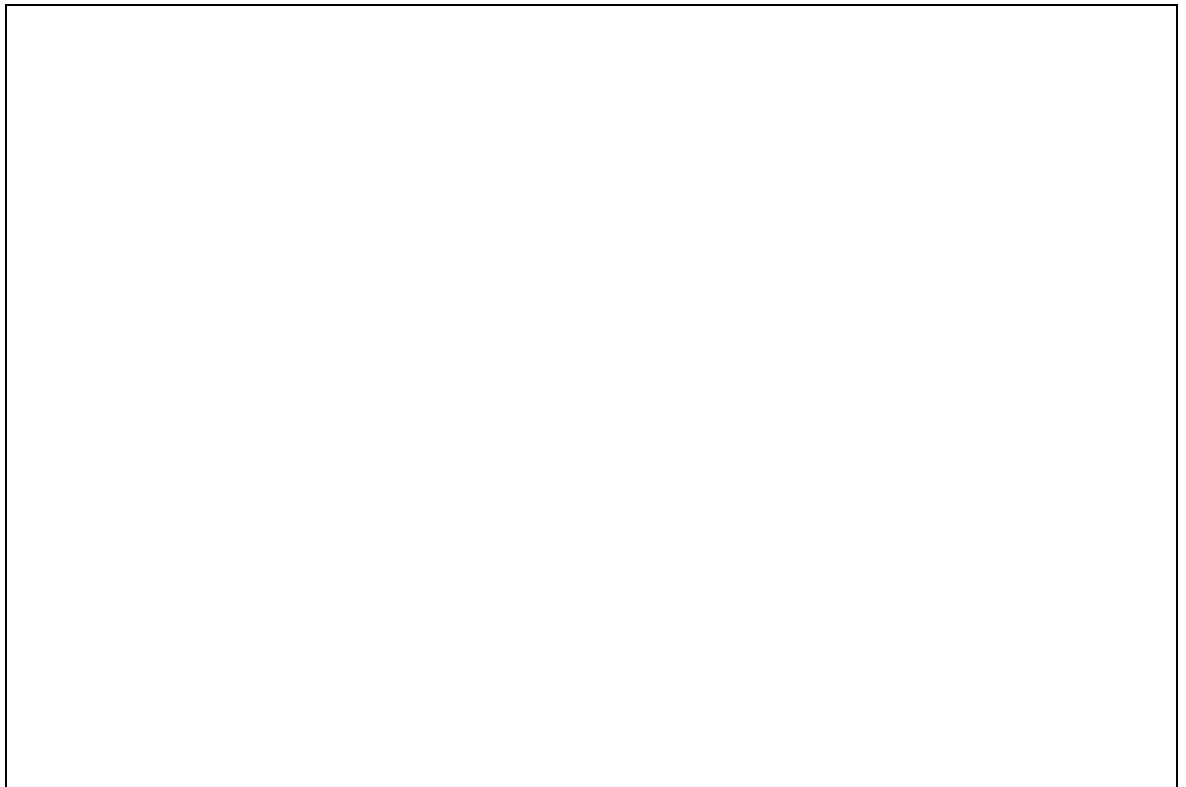
- *In my opinion, ...*
- *30 years from now, there will probably be ...*
- *In my country, we are going to ...*
- *Maybe we will have ...*
- *This will let ...*
- *We will watch TV on ...*

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- C. Write your paragraph based on your outline. Use the model to help you. Remember to use the vocabulary you wrote down.**

**Model:**

*In my opinion, a typical classroom in 30 years from now will not be very different from what we have today. There will probably be a bit more equipment, such as a computer in every classroom, even in poorer countries. In my country next year, they are going to give a laptop to every student, but I don't think that this is typical around the world. Maybe teachers will have intelligent robot assistants to answer questions. This will let the teacher help slower students. But I hope people will still understand that it is important for people to talk to each other and work with each other because this is necessary for learning.*



(12 points)