

English

Stage 4

Paper 1 Non-fiction

Cambridge Primary Progression Test

Insert



2022

Text A

JAPAN'S 'ROBOT HOTEL' FORCED TO FIRE MOST OF ITS 'ANNOYING' ROBOTIC STAFF

A hotel in Japan has had to stop using more than half of its robotic staff. This follows criticisms from guests about the limitations of some of the machines. The robots employed by the Kyojin Hotel do jobs such as receptionist, gardener and even a children's entertainer that performs magic tricks.

The Kyojin Hotel describes itself as 'futuristic meets comfort' thanks to 'state-of-the-art' technologies. 'We are trying our hardest to offer each of our guests a sensation of comfort and wonder that goes beyond the ordinary,' the hotel's website states. 'Staying at Kyojin Hotel is always filled with unexpected and delightful surprises. This unique experience will boldly take our guests one step further into the future.'

When our reporter from *The Weekly Worth* visited, the only humans to be seen anywhere in the hotel were the multitudes of guests. 'By having robots in charge, we aim to make it the most efficient hotel in the world,' said American founder Tye Benson at the opening of his second hotel in Paris last year.

The 'Robot Hotel', which made headlines in 2020 when it opened in Tokyo, also made use of more experimental machines, such as a mini bedside robot which can make wakeup calls, read bedtime stories and even provide juice and muffins* for breakfast.

However, problems with this robot led it to repeatedly wake up sleeping guests in the middle of the night. Our reporter explains that the robot mistook the guests' loud snoring for voice commands. The guests had to ask the robot to leave the room, so they could get a good night's sleep!

It would seem, Mr Benson, that robots aren't quite ready to take over control yet!

***Glossary**

muffins: small cakes

Text B

What is the future role of robots?

We already use robots in many ways. They help us at home, at work and in hospitals. In the future, there will be lots more robots doing lots more things to help us. They'll also become easier to communicate with. Some robots may become so lifelike that we'll even stop thinking of them as robots!

- **Personalised robots**

Robots in the future may help us more in everyday life and act as personal assistants. Future robots could feel happy or sad just like you and me. This would help them to understand what we want and even to become our future forever-friends.

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- **Self-changing furniture**

Imagine that your table and chairs could change shape and move. Scientists are working on robots that transform themselves into many different types of furniture. A table could change into a chair and even walk across the room!

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- **Green robots**

New robots could help look after the environment. From recycling rubbish to protecting rare animals, and even eating pollution in the sea, they could work to protect the planet.

- **Robot builders**

In the future, houses could be built entirely by robots. The robot bricklayer SAM100 can work six times faster than a human, laying 3000 bricks a day. We already use 3D printers for so many things, and in the future, building houses this way will be completely normal.

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- **Nanorobots**

Scientists are trying to make robots that are as small as the head of a pin. These 'nanobots' could be used by doctors to deliver medicines to specific areas inside the body.

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