

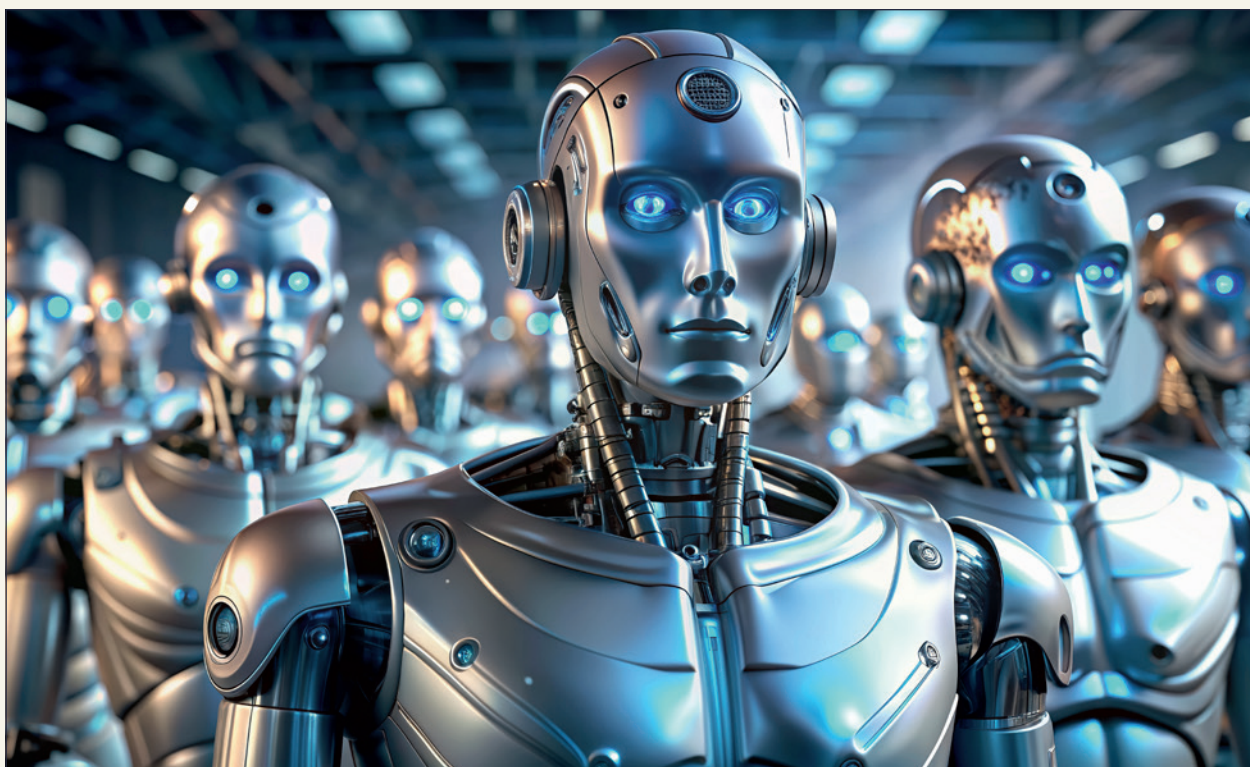
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1 The power of swarm intelligence (SI)

Read the text about a type of collective decision-making.

Answer the questions (1–8) using a maximum of four words. Write your answers in the spaces provided. The first one (0) has been done for you.

The power of swarm intelligence (SI)



Swarm intelligence (SI) is how some social animals have naturally evolved. It explains why ants build colonies, bees form swarms, fish swim in schools, and birds fly in flocks. Nature shows that when animals work and think together as a group, they reach their goals faster and more accurately than if they tried alone. In other words, they are smarter together.

Swarm intelligence is the group behaviour of systems that are self-organised, whether natural or artificial. These systems move quickly and in a coordinated way. In nature, this teamwork is unique to each species. Ants use pheromones to guide each other to food, bees use vibrations, fish feel movements in the water, and birds sense the motions of the flock.

Scientists have learned from nature and applied these ideas to machines. When swarm intelligence is used in artificial intelligence (AI), especially in robotics, intelligence is increased through computer systems. These systems are usually a group of “boids” (a computer simulation that copies the behaviour of flocking birds) that work together by following a set of rules. There is no central control telling each boid what to do. Instead, they work together to solve complex problems.

A robot swarm is made up of many small, similar robots. Each robot has a sensor, and some may also have a camera, radar, or sonar to collect information about their surroundings. When one robot gathers data, it gives this information to the others.

Make each piece of clothing last longer with careful maintenance. Wash your clothes only when necessary, using gentle soaps that won't damage them. You can also learn basic sewing skills to repair rips, lost buttons, and even broken zippers. One way to get more use out of any item is to (7) _____. After all, trends come and go, but well-fitting clothes will always be in style.

To make a more significant impact, skip buying new altogether in favour of used clothes. You could visit a second-hand shop or even just ask relatives if they have any unwanted clothing. The environmental cost has already been paid for these items, and by wearing them, you'll (8) _____.

Hopefully you've been persuaded to avoid fast fashion.

A	convince us to buy more
B	offers recycling of its garments
C	made from organic, eco-friendly materials
D	no matter the quality or external costs
E	keep the material out of waste sites for a little longer
F	to maximise profit rather than improve sustainability
G	invest much to begin with
H	are able to be adapted for a variety of outfits
I	shoppers will avoid buying trendy clothes
J	get a tailor to modify it to your measurements
K	brands will continue to supply it

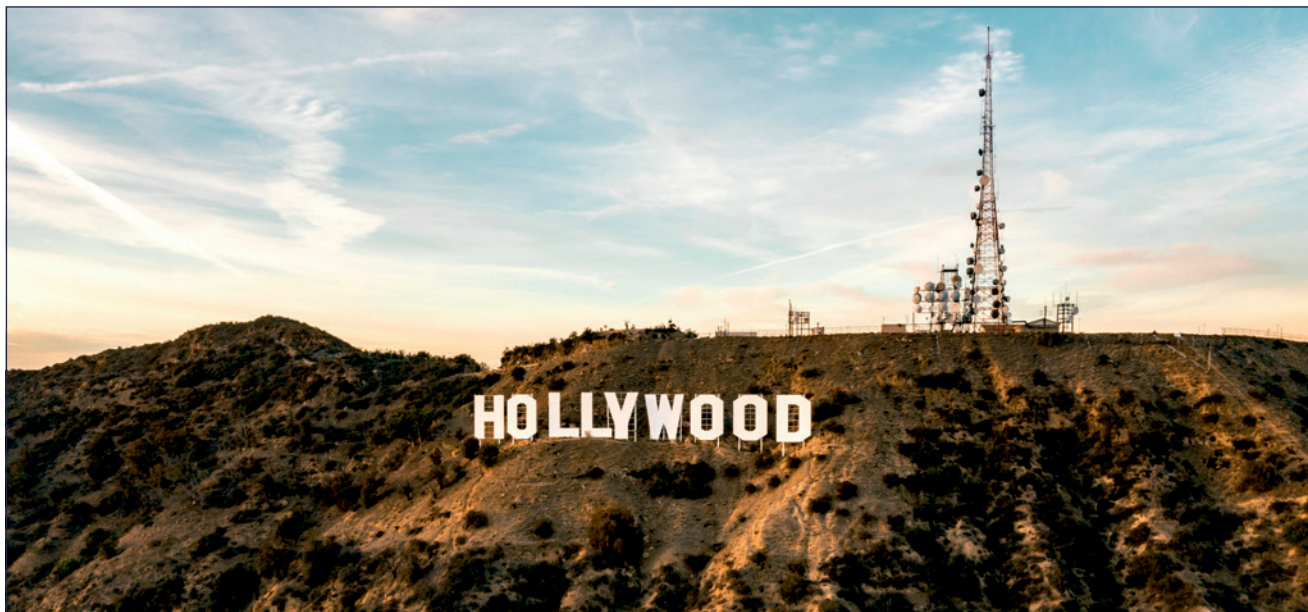
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
D								

5 The history of the Hollywood sign

You are going to listen to a man speaking about an iconic structure in Los Angeles.

First you will have 45 seconds to study the task below, then you will hear the recording twice. While listening, complete the sentences (1–8) using a maximum of four words. Write your answers in the spaces provided. The first one (0) has been done for you.

After the second listening, you will have 45 seconds to check your answers.



0	In the 1920s, they transported parts of the sign with ____.	<i>a team of horses</i>
1	One could see the sign easily, as it was lit by ____.	
2	Originally the sign was supposed to be in place for ____.	
3	The sign remained in place because of the ____.	
4	The word that disappeared from the sign was ____.	
5	The sign was upgraded to include ____. (Give <u>one</u> answer.)	
6	The sign was reopened to celebrate the city's ____.	
7	In order to control the area around the sign, the authorities set up ____. (Give <u>one</u> answer.)	
8	Next to the sign there are Hollywood's ____.	

9

Moving into our first house

You are going to listen to Helen and Chris talking about their move to a new home.

First you will have 45 seconds to study the task below, then you will hear the recording twice. While listening, choose the correct answer (A, B, C or D) for each question (1–8). Write your answers in the spaces provided. The first one (0) has been done for you.

After the second listening, you will have 45 seconds to check your answers.



0 Why were Helen and Chris so cheerful?

- A It was the festive season.
- B They left their apartment for good.
- C They went on a holiday.
- D They bought new furniture.

1 How did the couple travel to their new house?

- A They went together in one car.
- B They drove their hired moving lorry.
- C Chris travelled with a family member.
- D Helen travelled with a relative.

2 What did Helen do during the trip?

- A She played games with her co-driver.
- B She helped navigate the roads.
- C She gave her co-driver food.
- D She wrote text messages.

3 Why did Chris take a longer route?

- A He took the scenic route.
- B He went to fetch a relative of his.
- C He had to collect documents from the lawyer.
- D He delivered something to the property manager.

4 What did the couple discover right away?

- A The heating system was damaged.
- B The electricity was not working.
- C The water taps were running.
- D The radiator started leaking.

5 What did the couple do on their first night?

- A They did not sleep at all.
- B They slept dressed in extra clothes.
- C They lit a fire to heat the room.
- D They fixed a problem with the energy provider.

6 Which costly incident occurred some time later?

- A Bad weather destroyed something in their garden.
- B They had to buy a new roof due to heavy rain.
- C Strong winds damaged their door to the garden.
- D Their water system needed to be replaced.

7 What did the couple find in special boutiques?

- A Something very valuable.
- B Items for their house.
- C An item made of silver.
- D A very old wooden box.

8 What is the couple still looking for in their garden?

- A A place to have a drink.
- B Deckchairs to relax in the sun.
- C The control for the pool of water.
- D An umbrella to provide some shade.

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
B								

8

The role of robots

A British startup called FutureTech wants to hear from young people about how they think the future of technology will look. They have asked young people to send in an article answering the following question:

What role will robots play in the future?



You have decided to send in an article.

In your **article** you should:

- discuss which types of robots may be important in the future
- explain whether you think robots could take over people's jobs
- outline possible consequences of relying heavily on robots

Give your article a **title**. Write around **200 words**.