



词汇: technology 技术

If you're in a job performing tedious tasks, you might think that a **robot** could do the work instead. But perhaps we underestimate how much technology already helps with the activities that we would otherwise have to do. And as **artificial intelligence** progresses we might find it replaces us in the workplace altogether.

For now, **robotic** technology is providing a **helping hand** for businesses, particularly in manufacturing, assisting humans in performing work more **efficiently** and sometimes more **accurately**. For online shopping, for example, robots have become **essential** in giant warehouses. They **sort** and move millions of objects of all different shapes and sizes, although humans are still needed to pick and **distribute** the goods.

The **advancement** of **robotics** in the workplace is good for some businesses; the ones who **research**, **develop**, build and use them. The British government estimates that by 2035, artificial intelligence could add around £630bn to the UK economy. But there are still tasks that robots can't yet do, and that's the challenge for companies such as Automata. Its co-founder, Suryansh Chandra, told the BBC that his technology will **eliminate** boring, **repetitive** jobs that humans don't like and aren't very good at, and also create new ones that are likely to replace them.

It seems **inevitable** that robots will eventually be able to do more and more of the jobs that are currently performed by humans, so should we be worried by the rise of the machines? Some experts fear hundreds of thousands of jobs could disappear as robots replace human workers. A report by the OECD suggests that 14% of jobs are "at high risk of **automation**" and 32% of jobs could be "radically **transformed**", with the manufacturing sector at the highest risk.

But as complete automation is some way off, for now we'll have to work side-by-side with our robot **colleagues** - and manage to get along with them before they learn to kick us out of the door!

词汇表

robot	机器人
artificial intelligence	人工智能
robotic	像机器人的
a helping hand	帮助，助（人）一臂之力
efficiently	有效地
accurately	准确地
essential	必不可少的
sort	挑拣，分类
distribute	分送
advancement	发展
robotics	机器人技术
research	研究
develop	开发
eliminate	消除
repetitive	重复的
inevitable	不可避免的
automation	自动化
transformed	被彻底改变

测验与练习

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. In which location do robots help with online shopping?
2. True or false? *The development of robotics is bad for business.*
3. Which business sector is thought to be at most risk from automation?
4. According to some, how will artificial intelligence affect the human workforce?
5. According to the article, how soon will full automation of the workplace happen?

2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. The new system in the canteen is working very _____ - I no longer have to queue for a sandwich!

efficient	efficiently	efficientley	efficients
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2. Because of the _____ in medical research, more and more people with cancer now survive and live a long and healthy life.

automation	accurately	transformed	advancement
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3. Climate change experts say it's now _____ that the ice caps will melt and sea levels will rise.

inevitable	essential	research	accurately
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4. The car industry is cutting its workforce due to _____.

automation	automatic	automobiles	automations
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5. My doctor has told me to _____ any dairy products from my diet.

research	essential	eliminate	transform
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答案

1. 阅读课文并回答问题。

1. In which location do robots help with online shopping?

For online shopping, robots have become essential in giant warehouses.

2. True or false? *The development of robotics is bad for business.*

False. The advancement of robotics in the workplace is good for some businesses; the ones who research, develop and build and use them.

3. Which business sector is thought to be at most risk from automation?

A report by the OECD suggests that 14% of jobs are "at high risk of automation" and 32% of jobs could be "radically transformed", with the manufacturing sector at the highest risk.

4. According to some, how will artificial intelligence affect the human workforce?

Some experts fear hundreds of thousands of jobs could disappear as robots replace human workers.

5. According to the article, how soon will full automation of the workplace happen?

Not very soon. Complete automation is some way off.

2. 选择意思恰当的单词或词组来完成下列句子。

1. The new system in the canteen is working very **efficiently** - I no longer have to queue for a sandwich!

2. Because of the **advancement** in medical research, more and more people with cancer now survive and live a long and healthy life.

3. Climate change experts say it's now **inevitable** that the ice caps will melt and sea levels will rise.

4. The car industry is cutting its workforce due to **automation**.

5. My doctor has told me to **eliminate** any dairy products from my diet.