

Job Automation

World of Work

Topic Introduction: Answer the questions as a group.

1. Have you heard of the concept of job automation?
2. Do you think your job is at risk of being automated? Why/Why not?
3. Can you think of any jobs that have already been automated?
4. What jobs do you think won't exist in 20 years' time?
5. Do you think job automation is overall a good thing?
6. Do you think that machines will do all jobs in the future?



Video: Watch the video below and discuss if your answers have changed.

video link: <https://youtu.be/gWmRkYsLzB4>

Grammar Focus: Study the structures below with your teacher.

likely to: e.g., Job automation is likely to change the future of work drastically.
e.g., Cleaning robots are **quite** likely to exist in the future.

In the place of **quite**, we may use other adverbs to express lower or higher probability.

← **not at all** - **hardly** - **somewhat** - **quite** - **very** - **highly** - **extremely** →

There's a chance that: e.g., There's **a** chance that supermarkets will be totally automatic one day.
e.g., There's **every** chance that robots could replace bus drivers in cities.

In the place of **a** or **every**, we may use other adjectives to express lower or higher probability.

← **no** - **a slim** - **some** - **a fair** - **a good** - **a strong** - **every** →

Grammar in Use: Take a look at the jobs mentioned below.

Psychologists	Data Entry Clerks	Marketing Managers	Drivers	Teachers
Proof-readers	Healthcare Workers	Telemarketers	Dentists & Orthodontists	Cashiers

Speaking I: Are the following advantages or disadvantages of job automation?

1. It replaces humans in dangerous environments.
2. It requires a high initial investment.
3. It leads to a more efficient use of materials.
4. It creates possible security threats.
5. It frees up workers to take on other roles.
6. It increases productivity.
7. It reduces the hours of an average working week.
8. It displaces workers due to job replacement.
9. It increases output consistency.



Speaking II: With what you have learnt, hold a debate on whether job automation is a good or bad thing overall for society.