



# Mid-term English Test Nr 2

9 / 2 / 2012

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_ /20

## A. LISTENING COMPREHENSION (8 pts)

**Listen to the passage about Saya, the humanoid schoolteacher, and answer the following questions.**

1) Fill in the table with information from the passage. (2 pts)

Humanoid	Creator	Subject(s) it teaches	Age of its pupils
Saya	Prof. Hiroshi Kobayashi	.....	.....

2) Circle the two emotions that Saya cannot express. (2 pts)

anger \_ surprise \_ regret \_ boredom \_ sadness

3) List two reasons that make of Saya a beneficial robot in the field of education. (2 pts)

- .....
- .....

4) Complete the sentence below with words from passage. (1 pt)

Saya was ①..... created to work as a receptionist in Japanese companies five years ago but was recently reprogrammed by ②..... into its latest incarnation as a schoolteacher.

5) Say whether the underlined sounds are similar (S) or different (D). (1 pt)

↻ arching \_ receptionist (...)

↻ range \_ shortage (...)



## B. LANGUAGE (12 pts)

1) Fill in the blanks with 8 words from the box. (Be careful! There is 1 extra word.) (4 pts)

flexibility / while / cyber / drop out / pursue / although / enthusiastic / ensures / traditional

Many children find that a virtual education program is a highly effective method of learning. Educational programs and software as well as student–teacher online interaction make the virtual education program an excellent supplement or replacement for ①..... education. Every child has different needs, and with virtual education, the student is able to determine when he wants to work. This often makes the students much more ②..... about learning. Some people want to work in the morning ③..... others feel more inspired to produce work in the afternoon or evening. Virtual education offers children the ④..... to decide when they want to study and also ⑤..... that they learn the curriculum at the set pace. Thanks to ⑥..... courses, disabled students, or those who are in hospital or recovering at home, those who ⑦..... of school and would like to get back enjoy a golden opportunity to ⑧..... their education.

2) Circle the correct option. (4 pts)

Someday we will all have robots that will be our ①(**personal** / **subjective** / **portal**) servants. They will look and ②(**behaviour** / **behavioural** / **behave**) much like real humans. We will be able to talk to these mechanical ③(**helpers** / **humanoid** / **impediments**) and they will be able to respond in kind. ④(**Amazement** / **Amazing** / **Amazingly**), the robots of the future will be able to learn ⑤(**in** / **from** / **on**) experience. They will be smart, ⑥(**strong** / **launched** / **mature**) and ⑦(**tired** / **tiring** / **untiring**) workers whose only goal will be to make our lives ⑧(**more deprived** / **merely** / **easier**).

3) Put the bracketed words in the right form or tense. (4 pts)

As a teacher of the deaf, Bell was determined to help deaf people speak, so that they could take part in the speaking world, rather than be (**isolate**) ①..... and alone. To do this, he tried to find a way to make sound visible. Bell got his idea for making sound visible from his (**know**) ②..... of how the ear hears.

As a young man, Alexander Graham Bell (**teach**) ③..... deaf students in schools and universities and tutored them (**private**) ④..... to help them communicate. He (**train**) ⑤..... in this work by his parents.

In 1862, Bell enrolled as a "student teacher" at a boy's school near Edinburgh, Scotland. There he tutored music and (**elocutionist**) ⑥..... in exchange for instruction in other (**subject**) ⑦..... Later, he became a full-time teacher, using "Visible Speech" in (**tutor**) ⑧..... a class of deaf children. In April, 1871, Bell went to Massachusetts, where he met with great success.

# The Telegraph

## Robot teacher conducts first class in Tokyo school

By Danielle Demetriou in Tokyo



### [Section 1]

Saya, the female humanoid robot, taught a science and technology lesson to a class of 10-year-old pupils at Kudan Elementary School in Tokyo.

With her neat brown hair, pink lipstick and skirt suit, the robot, created by scientists at Tokyo University of

Science, has been designed to resemble as human a form as possible.

Using a range of programmed movements from eyebrow arching to smiling, her face is capable of expressing six basic emotions in the classroom – surprise, fear, disgust, anger, happiness and sadness.

### [Section 2]

While Saya's creator Professor Hiroshi Kobayashi said the robot's main purpose was to highlight the joys of technology to children, he also said it would benefit schools suffering from a shortage of human teachers.

"In the countryside and in some small schools, there are children who do not have the opportunity to come into contact with new technology and also there are few teachers out there that can teach these lessons," said Professor Kobayashi.

"So we hope to be able to develop this robot so it can be remotely controlled to teach these classes."

Saya was initially created to work as a receptionist in Japanese companies five years ago but was recently reprogrammed by scientists into its latest incarnation as a schoolteacher.