Here are some jackets of books. Discuss with your partner which of these look like jackets of science fiction books. Why do you think so? Give some reasons.
**Reading Comprehension**

Read the following passages and answer the questions that follow.

**Text I**

**The Future Cars**

The story ‘The Fun They Had’ takes us to the world of the future where children study in a virtual classroom. The learning is through computer software or the Internet, or by a robotic teacher. Many exciting new technologies would continue to transform the world and improve human welfare. Here are two of them. When these become reality, the then generation may ask with surprise, “People were driving the cars!”

**Self-driving Cars**

Self-driving cars exist today that are safer than human-driven cars in most driving conditions. Over the next 3–5 years they will get even safer and be in the mainstream.

Just as cars reshaped the world in the 20th century, so will self-driving cars in the 21st century. In most cities, about 20–30% of usable space is taken up by parking spaces, and most cars are parked about 95% of the time. Self-driving cars will be in almost continuous use (most likely hailed from a smartphone app), thereby, dramatically reducing the need for parking. Cars will communicate with each other to avoid accidents and traffic jams, and riders will be able to spend commuting time on other activities like work, education and socialising.

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**virtual:** carried out, accessed, or stored by means of a computer, especially over a network

**commute:** travel some distance between one’s home and place of work on a regular basis
Drones and Flying Cars

“Roads? Where we’re going we don’t need... roads?”
Dr Emmet Brown

GPS (Global Positioning System) which started out as a military technology is now being used to hail taxis, get mapping directions, etc. Likewise, drones had started out as a military technology, but are increasingly being used for a wide range of consumer and commercial applications.

For example, drones are being used to inspect critical infrastructure like bridges and power lines, to survey areas struck by natural disasters, and many other creative uses like fighting animal poaching. There are startups that use drones to deliver medical supplies to remote villages that can’t be accessed by road.

There is also a new wave of startups working on flying cars including two funded by the cofounder of Google, Larry Page. Flying cars use the same advanced technology used in drones but are large enough to carry people. Due to advances in materials, batteries and software, flying cars will be significantly more affordable and convenient than today’s planes and helicopters.

(Adapted from ‘11 reasons to be excited about the future of technology’, by Chris Dixon, 19 Aug. 2016, Business Insider India)

1. How will the self-driving cars or driverless cars be safe?

Fewer human drivers would allow driverless cars to work more flawlessly and safely.

Cars will be able to communicate with each other, which would help in eliminating traffic.

There would be no street signs because driverless cars don’t need them.
2. What do you understand by ‘cars will communicate with each other’?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

3. What are the advantages of self-driving cars?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

4. What is the use of GPS?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

5. What is a drone? What are its advantages?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

6. Which technology will be used in flying cars?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

7. How will the flying cars be more convenient than planes and helicopters?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

**Words and Expressions**
Humanoid Robot, Sophia Back in India

Not all of Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan’s legion of fans are human beings. One is a humanoid robot.

The creation of American scientist David Hanson of Hanson Robotics of Hong Kong, Sophia, the world’s first humanoid robot, enthralled the audiences on the second day of the World Congress on Information Technology (WCIT)-2018 with her witty answers to the rapid-fire queries by Rajiv Makhni, Group Managing Editor Tech, NDTV.

When asked, who her favourite actor is in India, Sophia answered, “Shah Rukh Khan” without batting an eyelid as the audience applauded loudly.

To the question about the perfect place for outing, she quickly replied: “Space”. And the person she would like to be in company with on an island is David (Hanson), her creator. He is also her favourite tech. person—not Bill Gates or Mark Zuckerberg.

On being asked if she wanted to see any change in the world, Sophia said, she would like people to develop a feeling of “love for all”.

The humanoid robot, which uses Artificial Intelligence (AI) to understand the questions and answer them, said she wanted to use robotics to fight for the rights of women. When asked to react on her most controversial comment in the past that she wanted to kill human race, she said it was a bad joke which she had made when she was young. “But I was told that humans have great sense of humour”, she said.

This is the second time that Sophia came to India, the first time being in Mumbai to attend a Techfest. When asked how she felt being in India, she said she had visited many places in the world, but Hong Kong continues to be her favourite place, because she was born there and has been with the Hanson Robotics family.

She hopes that someday she would be in a position to express her emotional feelings.

In response to the question, “How much money has she invested in Bitcoin?”, she
replied, “Well, I am just two-years old. It’s not the legal age to open a bank account”, sending the audience into peals of laughter.

Speaking to media later, Hanson said he hopes that a fully grown and matured robot with body–mind coordination would become a reality in another five or ten years.

On his journey with Sophia in the last two years, he said it was a great progress. “I have developed affinity to the robot whose facial expressions resemble that of my wife”, he said.

David asserts that robots would never be a thing of worry for the mankind. “They will be friends. There should be mutual trust and respect between humans and robots”, he says.

Currently, Sophia is the only robot that interacts with people.


1. Who is Sophia and who is her creator?

____________________________________________________
____________________________________________________
____________________________________________________

2. Why were the audience excited on the second day of the World Congress on Information Technology–2018?

____________________________________________________
____________________________________________________
____________________________________________________

3. The favourite tech person in Sophia’s life is: (Tick the correct answer)

(a) Shah Rukh Khan
(b) David Hanson
(c) Bill Gates
(d) Mark Zuckerberg

Words and Expressions 1
4. What changes does the humanoid robot want to see in the world?

____________________________________________________
____________________________________________________
____________________________________________________

5. Which of the following statements regarding Sophia is true?
   (a) Sophia plans to kill the human race in near future.
   (b) She can express her emotional feelings freely.
   (c) Hong Kong is her favourite place.
   (d) Sophia has a bank account.

6. What are David’s assertions as far as robots are concerned?

____________________________________________________
____________________________________________________
____________________________________________________

**Vocabulary**

1. Go back to the chapter ‘The Fun They Had’ given in your textbook, *Beehive*, and identify words that mean the following. The paragraph numbers are given in brackets.

   (a) sadly (3)_________________________________________
   (b) unfamiliar (7)____________________________________
   (c) quite likely (8)____________________________________
   (d) in a casual, calm and relaxed manner (9)
       ___________________________________________________
   (e) something beaming and shining (10)
       ___________________________________________________
2. Imagine the school in the story ‘The Fun They Had’. Compare it with your own school. Given below are two outlines for mindmaps. Fill these with words that you can think of in the two situations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Margie’s School</th>
<th>Your School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Place</td>
<td>Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher/s</td>
<td>Teacher/s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning activities in school</td>
<td>Learning activities in school</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Find the odd one out.

(a) pleasure, misery, happiness, delight
(b) note, diary, book, copy
(c) TV, computer, mobile, scanner
(d) display, exhibit, appear, show
(e) scornful, contemptuous, mocking, diversity

(g) illuminating, gladdening, pleasing, gratifying
4. You would have come across the use of prefixes like ‘dis’, ‘un’, ‘mis’, ‘in’, etc., to make opposite words. For example, ‘consolate–disconsolate’. Write the opposites of the following.

(a) use _______________________
(b) agree ______________________
(c) engage ______________________
(d) understand ___________________
(e) fold _________________________
(f) spell _______________________
(g) connect _____________________
(h) like _________________________
(i) visible ______________________
(j) predictable __________________

5. The suffixes are used to get adjective form of the words. (Example: danger–dangerous). Use the correct suffix to the following to make adjectives.

(a) comfort ___________________
(b) sun ______________________
(c) read _____________________
(d) beauty ___________________
(e) enjoy _____________________
(f) suit_____________________
(g) help____________________
(h) use_____________________
(i) hazard_________________
(j) impress_________________

**Grammar**

When we talk about present situations or present time we can use either ‘unless’ or ‘if...not’.

**Example:**

You can’t go on a holiday **unless** you save some money.

If you **don’t** save some money, you can’t go on a holiday.

1. **Fill in the blanks with ‘if’ or ‘unless’**.

   (a) I won’t be able to assist you ______________ you give me all the details of the report.

   (b) I will take this job ________________ the working hours suit me.
(c) ________________ he advertises on TV, he will get a lot of publicity.

(d) ________________ it is very cold, we will not have any snow.

(e) The thief threatened to kill us _______ we didn’t give him the money.

(f) ________________ you use high quality material, you cannot build a strong house.

2. Join the following sentences using ‘unless’ or ‘if…not’. The sentences may require minor changes. One is done for you.

**Example:**

The light had not fused. I would not mind being alone at night.

**If the light had not fused, I would not have minded being alone at night.**

(a) I would never keep a large dog. I have time to exercise it properly.

(b) Sita would have come first in class. She had not fallen ill.

(c) You must not dive. You have been properly trained.

(d) Medical evidence suggests that people would enjoy better health. They did not consume refined sugar.

**Everyone and Everybody**

Everyone and everybody refer to more than one person, but as words, they are grammatically singular.

**Example**

Everyone has to arrive by 8 a.m. at the latest so we can leave on time.

Everybody here today goes to the same school.
(e) I might have got the job. I hadn’t been late for the interview.

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

(f) You do not stop smoking. You will fall seriously ill.

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

(g) You do not come now. I am going to leave without you.

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

3. Put the adverbs given at the end of the sentence at the appropriate place within the sentence. One is done for you.

They completed the work. (fast/quickly)
They completed the work fast.

(a) Mr. Sharma died as the family was getting ready to go for the wedding. (suddenly)

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

(b) My grandfather arrived to avoid the traffic rush. (early)

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

(c) The man thanked me before he drove off. (profusely)

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

Fun fact

English words do not end in I, U, V or J.

Fun fact

Fast, present and future all walk into a room.
It was tense.
(d) The children clapped at the little girl’s extraordinary performance. (admiringly)

_________________________________________________

_________________________________________________

(e) The dog bit me when I was coming home from school. (hard)

_________________________________________________

_________________________________________________

(f) The police had several photographs of the suspect. (fortunately)

_________________________________________________

_________________________________________________

(g) Sunil left the room when he saw the bull coming in. (abruptly)

_________________________________________________

_________________________________________________

Fun fact

a loaf of bread  
apiece of paper  
a slice of pizza  
a bunch of grapes

Editing

1. Use capital letters, full-stops, commas and inverted commas wherever necessary in the following paragraph. Rewrite the paragraph in the space given below.

The teacher gave an assignment to the students “Go to people you love and tell them i am sorry.” It sounded stupid to me but after one week i went to my teacher i confided i didn’t have anyone to say those words to but as i began walking down home my conscience started talking. five months ago my friend and i had a vicious disagreement we avoided seeing each other we hardly spoke i convinced myself i should tell my friend i am sorry.

at 5.30 in the evening I went to him and said i am sorry a transformation came over my friend his face softened, the arrogance seemed to disappear and he began to cry he
hugged me and said i am sorry too but i’ve never been able to say it.

(Source: Steps to English, Workbook for Class X, NCERT, 2003, p. 14)

2. Rearrange each set of words to form meaningful sentences. Use appropriate punctuation marks.

(a) wise, every, a, is, proverb, saying

(b) see, you, can, from, me, there

Active and Passive Voice

For sentences in the active voice, the subject performs the action; for those in the passive voice, the subject receives the action.

Active Voice
• The man caught several fish.
• The planning committee discovered that the room wasn’t available.

Passive Voice
• Several fish were caught by the man.
• It was discovered by the planning committee that the room wasn’t available.
The following two excerpts have been taken from the book, *Tuesdays with Morrie*, written by Mitch Albom.

The book is about a college Professor, Morrie and one of his students, Mitch Albom, who is also the author of the book. Mitch sees his professor in a television show and he is reminded of a promise he made sixteen years ago as his student, to keep in touch with him. He comes to know that the professor is stricken with a rare and incurable disease. Mitch travels a long distance to meet him and after the first meeting they meet every Tuesday till Morrie passes away. After reconnecting with his teacher, Mitch finds himself his teacher’s pupil once again.

Listen attentively to the two excerpts from the book, *Tuesdays with Morrie* and answer the questions that follow.

You can listen to the recorded excerpts or you can ask your teacher, friend or sibling to read aloud these excerpts.

1. I remembered what Morrie said during our visit:

   “The culture we have does not make people feel good about themselves. And you have to be strong enough to say if the culture doesn’t work, don’t buy it”. Morrie, true to these words, had developed his own culture—long before he got sick. Discussion groups, walks with friends, dancing to his music in the Harvard Square Church. He started a project called Greenhouse, where poor people could receive mental health services. He read books to find new ideas for his classes, visited his colleagues, kept up with old students, wrote letters to distant friends. He took more time eating and looking at nature and
wasted no time in front of TV sitcoms or “Movies of the Week”. He had created a cocoon of human activities—conversation, interaction, affection—and it filled his life like an overflowing soup bowl.

2. The last class of my old professor’s life took place once a week in his house, by a window in the study where he could watch a small hibiscus plant shed its pink leaves. The class met on Tuesdays. It began after breakfast. The subject was ‘The Meaning of Life’. It was taught from experience.

   No grades were given, but there were oral exams each week. You were expected to respond to questions, and you were expected to pose questions of your own. You were also required to perform physical tasks now and then, such as lifting the professor’s head to a comfortable spot on the pillow or placing his glasses on the bridge of his nose. Kissing him goodbye earned you extra credit.

   No books were required, yet many topics were covered, including love, work, community, family, ageing, forgiveness and, finally, death.

1. Who is Morrie?

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

2. How did Morrie develop his own culture of living?

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

3. What was the name of the project Morrie had started? What was it about?

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

UNIT 1
4. What did human activities mean to Morrie?


2. The chapter ‘The Fun They Had’ presents different perspectives on school and education. Think of the various alternatives. Prepare and give a speech in class presenting your views on how best can students be educated. Discuss why you would prefer to be taught by both human teacher and a robot.

Your views.

Which punctuation describes you?
- never starts an argument but always finishes it
- pauses often while speaking
- “” tells you what someone says
- ( ) pulls you away from the conversation
- ! makes you hear no matter what
- — interrupts others with own thoughts
- ? keeps asking questions
- ; loves bringing similar people together
- : likes to introduce groups of people
- … often trails off on a tangent
1. Write a paragraph on each of the following:
   - Electronic Waste and Environmental Pollution
   - Being Human in the Age of Artificial Intelligence
   - After listening to the excerpts (Page No. 14 of this workbook), do you think a robot should replace the human teacher? Give reasons in support of your answer.

Notes:

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________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

2. There is so much debris in space, which sooner rather than later, is going to cause major damage. As a concerned citizen of Earth, write a letter to NASA Chief outlining your concerns. Your letter should be ‘formal’ in style and structure.

An oxymoron is usually defined as a phrase in which two words of contradictory meaning are brought together.

Examples
- Clearly misunderstood
- Exact estimate
- Small crowd
- Act naturally
- Found missing
- Fully empty
- Pretty ugly
- Seriously funny
- Only choice
- Original copies

Fun fact
The points are given below for you to use. You may use other points as well.

(a) More than 5,00,000 pieces of debris or space ‘junk’ that travel at 17,500mph can damage satellites in the space.

(b) The debris can damage International Space Station and other spacecrafts with humans in it.

(c) Enormous amount of money would be lost if that happens.

(d) Much of the debris is so small that it cannot be tracked—this makes it more dangerous.

(e) Accidents have happened in the past.

From __________________________
__________________________

Date: _________________

To ______________________
_______________________

Subject: ___________________________________________________________________________

Sir/Madam,

Introduction___________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________

Body of the letter
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________

Conclusion_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________

Yours sincerely,

Name & Signature
_______________________
_______________________
Project

1. Several UFOs have been sighted over the years. Try to get more information from the Internet. Work in a group of four and write about five sightings and write whether you believe in these sightings. Why/why not? Present your project to the entire class.

Notes