Robots to the Rescue

Reading Checkpoint
Robots to the Rescue

Robots come in many shapes and sizes. But most of them are built for one reason—to make life easier for people. Some of the latest robots even help keep people safe. Meet three new robots that some people are calling real heroes.

1. What is the main idea of this article?
Highlight a sentence that states it.
Robots to the Rescue

Robots come in many shapes and sizes. But most of them are built for one reason—to make life easier for people. Some of the latest robots even help keep people safe. Meet three new robots that some people are calling real heroes.

2. Do all robots look the same? Highlight the sentence that tells you.
A Hot Job

Fighting fires can be dangerous, especially on a ship. Why? Smoke and flames spread quickly. Tight spaces make it hard for firefighters to move around. That's where SAFFiR comes in. This flexible robot will help fight fires on U.S. Navy ships and submarines.

Like many robots, SAFFiR is a humanoid. That means it is shaped like a human. Its whole body is designed to fight fires. SAFFiR's head will have sensors that help detect fire. Its "eyes" are cameras that see through smoke. Its arms can hold a hose to shoot water at the flames.

3. Why is it hard for humans to fight fires on a ship?
Highlight at least one sentence that describes a reason.
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4. Highlight the sentence that tells how SAFFiR will put out flames.
A Soldier’s Best Friend

AlphaDogs are robots shaped like...you guessed it, dogs! They are being built for the U.S. Marines. These robots will be able to follow troops anywhere. They will even run!

The four-legged robots will be able to carry 400 pounds of equipment for 20 miles. This will keep troops from getting worn out when they travel long distances.

5. What is the problem that AlphaDogs will solve? Underline the sentence that tells you.
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6. How is an AlphaDog like a real dog? Select all that apply.
   A  It has four legs.  B  It barks.  C  It runs.  D  It has hair.
Saved by a Snake

Robot heroes are not just for the military. They can also be used to help find people after natural disasters strike. In Pennsylvania, experts are building a robot that looks and moves like a snake. It can slither into spots that are hard to reach, like the rubble left by an earthquake. It has a camera "eye" to help rescue workers find people who are hurt.

Firefighters, soldiers, and rescue workers have tough jobs. But thanks to new robots, these human heroes will soon get a helping hand.

7. Why is the robot's snakelike shape important?
Highlight the sentence in the main text that tells you.
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A light in the snake robot's head is useful in dark spots.

Snake robots can even climb trees.

8. How does the snake robot keep people safe?

A. It helps the military.
B. It helps people find dangerous snakes.
C. It finds people who are hurt.
9. How are the three robots described in the article alike? Write a sentence or two in the box.
10. Which robot do you think will help people the most? Use evidence from the text in your answer.