

Write the right tense under the correct answer (/6)

1- The car (be) delivered as soon as the buyer (pay) the bill.

- a) will be future b) is c) had paid d) would pay e) pays present

2- You (fail) the test unless you (read) the questions carefully.

- a) have failed read b) will fail future c) are failing d) have read e) read present f) could

3- While she (prefer) bagels, she always (eat) pizza after working out at the gym.

- a) had preferred past perfect b) would prefer c) prefers d) is eating e) has eaten
f) eats present

4- The manager has recommended not to order too much printer ink, lest it (expire).

- a) has expired b) expiring c) expire d) expired preterit

Exercise 4 :

Read the two following texts then compare Kawada and SoftBank in 250 words (+/- 10%), by using linking words for comparison and contradiction. (/8.5)

Kawada Robotics : the Next Stage

Kawada Robotics Corporation is a Japanese company that develops, designs, manufactures, sells and maintains machines, equipment, systems and software. In 1987, this company was well-known for its aviation department that developed, manufactured and distributed domestic personal helicopters.

In 1999, under a commission from the University of Tokyo, Kawada designed and manufactured its first humanoid robot H6. Two years later, the company released its first self-developed humanoid ISAMU. After having developed HIRO, the upper-body humanoid robot platform for research, Kawada released NEXTAGE robot, which is the fruit of ten-year accumulation of technology and expertise.

To show its skills, NEXTAGE cut the ribbon at the opening ceremony for the International Robot Expo 2009. Four years later, NEXTAGE OPEN PLATFORM was released in order to

conduct advanced research with a highly functional hardware of NEXTAGE and a highly flexible open source software environment.

In 2010 Kawada's Robotics and Mechatronics Division was rewarded, the "Division Technical Achievement Award" by the « Japan Society of Mechanical Engineers (JSME) for developing NEXTAGE, which is currently Kawada's main product used in factories throughout Japan. NEXTAGE projet was also awarded in 2013 the "Good Design Gold Award" for its efficiency and for the humanoid robot approach on optimizing variant production at manufacturing plants.

Committed to face new challenges, Kawada developed a project in 2010, which gave birth to HRP-4 humanoid robot incorporating the design concept of the « slim athlet ».

In 2013, the business and technology development departments spun off from the Robotics Division of Kawada Industries, Inc. Since then, the reborn Kawada Robotics Corporation has been engaged in the robotics business from product development to production and sales, and was selected in 2017 a "Driving Company for the Regional Future" by the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry.

From now on, Kawada's main objective is to liberate humans from menial tasks in order to focus on meaningful work and develop robotics technologies according to customers' future hopes.

SoftBank Robotics : the French Humanoid Factory

SoftBank Robotics was founded in 2005, under the name of Aldebran. This company designs and manufactures interactive and friendly robots. The motto of SoftBank Robotics is “The Power of Robotics to Benefit Humanity”, since its main objective is to make robots accessible in order to become daily companions.

In less than a decade, SoftBank Robotics has become the leader of the humanoid robot market. The firm has manufactured more than 25,000 used in more than 70 countries, in various sectors, such as tourism, health and education. Moreover, SoftBank Robotics employs more than 500 people in Tokyo, Paris, San Francisco, Boston and Shanghai.

SoftBank robots are interactive, engaging and upgradeable. They are in humanoid form as they are designed to assist people and to help social interaction.

NAO is the first SoftBank's robot. It is mainly used in academic and healthcare institutions. This humanoid was later developed in many versions (ex : ASK NAO and NAO⁶).

PEPPER, is the first humanoid robot in the world to be able to identify faces and the main human emotions. It is used by more than 2000 companies to help them welcome, inform and guide visitors in an innovative way. In 2015, PEPPER became the first humanoid robot available for japanese homes. In July 2020, a free application called « AI Face Mask Detection » was developed for PEPPER, in order to help during the Covid-19 crisis.

SoftBank's last release is the food delivery robot SERVI launched in September 2020. This new-developed robot is available only in Japan for the time being.

If you visit Paris in the next few months, you can discover SoftBank's humanoid at the *Cité des sciences et de l'industrie*, as part of the permanent exhibition *Robots*, which opened its doors for the public in April 2019 for a five-year period. And if you are a business owner, why won't you get WHIZ, a smart vacuum sweeper robot, released in 2019 to clean your workplace ?

Kawada Vs SoftBank

We're going to compare two companies of Robotics: The Japanese company, Kawada; and the French one, SoftBank.

First of all, we notice that Kawada was created at least 18 years before SoftBank, in 1987, they were already well-known but at the beginning, Kawada developed aviation tools and personal helicopters.

SoftBank, were founded in 2005 with the direct objective of manufacturing robots, and by the way the first name of the company was Aldebran (like the star but without the 'a'). The watchword of both companies are quite the same: being able to create robots that help humans being from doing difficult and repetitive tasks; Softbank add that they want to make robots accessible for everyone, while Kawada seems to work for the "futures hopes" of their customers, meaning that they want to create the most modern robot that can carry the most tasks possible.

Now focusing on the robots themselves, first of all we need to thanks Kawada because their latest robot, NEXTAGE, is open source! Meaning that everybody can see the code of it, it's a great thing for the data collection. This robot also won many prices for its efficiency in multiple manufacturing factories. On their side, SoftBank also developed multiple robots, but the newest is PEPPER, which is available in 2000+ companies to help visitors. The main difference between PEPPER and NEXTAGE is that PEPPER is used for its interaction with people, while NEXTAGE is used for automated tasks. And that resume pretty well the two companies: SoftBank for smart robots, and Kawada for fast and optimized robots.