

Field Observation Report – Incidental Human–Robot Encounters

الوثيقة هي نموذج لتوثيق الملاحظات السريعة أثناء أو بعد تفاعل الناس مع الروبوت في موقع عام، مثل المعارض أو المننديات، لدراسة سلوكهم وردود أفعالهم. كلمة incidental تعني عرضي، أي أن التفاعل يحدث بالصدفة وليس بتخطيط مسبق.

Observer and Session Information

Observer name: Hadeel

Event / Location: 3d Saudi 4IR

Date: 30/10/2025

Observation time block: from ___10.30___ to ___3___

Robot mode: ☐ Autonomous ☐ Scripted (check both if applicable and explain what skills or scripts were used)

Greeting skill, serving visitors skill, runes to follow us, pick the basket

Crowd level: ☐ Low ☐ Medium ☐ High

Noise level: ☐ Low ☐ Medium ☐ High

Notable Incidents

Record 4–6 specific, memorable encounters (time, what happened, why notable). Example:

“3:05 pm — two visitors joked with the robot and took selfies.”

1. Minister of Industry and Mineral Resources ignore the robot while touring
2. Some visitors needed explicit invitation to interact with the robot.
3. A visitor tested the robot's ability to express different emotions.
4. A child from Mawhibah (gifted program) was particularly impressed by the high-five interaction “when robot wave” he expected it’s hi five.
5. Many people were impressed and enjoyed talking with the robot.
6. Several visitors asked if the robot could speak Arabic.
7. Someone asked about information regarding Riyadh, such as some quarters of Riyadh “Alhafal” then when the robot didn’t respond right way, she tried asked general information about Al Faisaliah tour.
8. Dr. Mariam asked the robot to provide information about KACST, the robot did well.
9. Confusion about handshaking continued - visitors expected the robot to know which hand to shake.

10. A visitor shared her niece who was fascinated by the robot through video streaming and she like it, also she has another sister who has autism disorder. She asked if the robot could help with autism support.
11. A visitor asked specific questions about Megan robot movie and what is the robot's opinion about the movie, the reason for AI, and the stacks of AI development.

Typical Behaviors Observed

Describe 4–6 common behavior patterns you noticed:

1. Needing encouragement to begin interaction
2. Testing emotional recognition capabilities
3. Frequent asking with physical interactions (high-fives)
4. Language capability inquiries (Arabic support)
5. Seeking local knowledge (Riyadh information, KACST)
6. Persistent confusion about physical interaction mechanics (handshaking)
7. Exploring specialized applications (autism support)
8. Technical questioning about AI development

Environmental or Accessibility Observations

Any barriers, confusion, or issues with space, visibility, or noise.

- Need for explicit invitation to interact
- Continued physical interaction positioning challenges (handshaking)
- Focus on specialized knowledge queries (local information)
- Continued physical interaction positioning challenges (Hi five)

Reflections / Suggestions

- Did anything about the robot's behavior seem to help or hinder engagement?

Positive engagement factors:

- Personalized responses (knowing about its purpose and information about it self)
- Interest from high-profile visitors (Dr. Mariam)
- Physical interactions when successful
- Emotional responsiveness
- Local knowledge demonstrations
- Potential for specialized applications (autism)
- Technical knowledge demonstrations

- Improvement suggestions:

- Enhance Arabic language capabilities

- Expand local information database
- Create clearer interaction initiation cues
- Improve handshaking mechanics
- Develop specialized interaction modes for different audiences (children, technical visitors)
- Research potential therapeutic applications

Summary Counts

Please give rough estimatee

Category	Count
Total people observed	40-50
Looked at robot	40
Stopped (no talk)	~15
Talked briefly (1-2 turns)	~25
Deep conversation (≥ 3 turns)	~4-6
Avoided / negative reactions	~10

Attachments

- ☐ Observation sheet (coded data)
- ☐ Photos or map of booth (if approved)
- ☐ Other notes