

# I Robot

**Level:** 3<sup>o</sup> E.S.O.

**Grammar:** *Present Simple / Expressions of time – frequency adverbs / Prepositions: at, in, on / Verbs expressing likes and dislikes: like, hate, love, etc.*

**Functions:** *Habits and routines / Asking and giving personal information / Telling the time.*

**Phonetics:** *Pronunciation of -s/-es endings.*

This unit is based on various fictional characters, the robot Robert Bott, and some of his customers at the marriage bureau where he works. The students are told about these characters, their personal information, preferences, habits and hobbies. We can also revise here functions such as telling the time and talking about likes and dislikes.

The story takes place in a city of the future, so that the settings and icons are attractive. The main character, the robot, has a computer-made voice; perhaps a human voice would have been easier to understand, but we must bear in mind that the student will have a written version of words in every moment and, above all, that a synthetic voice is a surprise that can make the exercises more appealing.

Owing to the facts that the exercises are connected through the characters and related to each other, we strongly recommend to use this unit in a linear way, though some of the exercises might be used separately.

There are four parts in this unit: parts one and two are focused on functions and grammar; part three deals with listening and pronunciation; and part four includes revision exercises on what they have learned previously, through a writing exercise and a multiple choice.

The menu screen allows you to move into any part of the unit easily. It includes access to a grammar menu where you can revise the grammar and phonetic points you are teaching.

Please remind your students to always read the task button before they start any exercises. Also remind them to read the section "Icon explanation", since they will not normally do it and it is essential if they want to make good use of the material.

This is the structure of the unit:

## INTRODUCTION

From this screen you can access the menu, the credits screen, this document and the explanation of the use of the icons (don't forget to have a look at this before you start the unit).

## PART 1

**1. Reading:** Robert Bott introduces himself, gives some personal information and then talks about his daily routine.

**2. Telling the time:** We see Robbie's old clocks and watches. Students must tell the times.

**Grammar help:** Telling the time.

**3. Present Simple – 3<sup>rd</sup> person singular:** In this exercise we can see some pictures of Robbie. Under them there is a quotation from Robbie's words. Students have to put them in the third person.

**Grammar help:** Affirmative sentences, 3<sup>rd</sup> person singular.

**4. Crosswords - Spelling:** In this crossword we can find both definitions and sentences with gaps. The gaps are the verb forms. Students must write the correct verb forms in the crosswords. All the infinitives used are given in a square.

**Grammar help:** Spelling of the 3<sup>rd</sup> person singular.

**5. Present Simple - Negative sentences:** Robbie shows some false sentences and the students must write them in the negative form.

Example: *Robert is a human being.* → *Robert is not a human being.*

**Grammar help:** Use of the auxiliaries **do/does** for negative and interrogative sentences. Verb **to be**. Contractions.

## PART 2

**1. Dialogue:** Robbie is at work. He interviews a customer. He asks her some questions to fill in a form on a computer. The customer talks about herself, her preferences, etc.

**2. Talking about preferences:** In the first part they must match some pictograms with their meanings and then, in the second part, they must translate some combinations of pictograms into sentences (these combinations appear in a slot machine).

**Grammar help:** Verbs expressing likes and dislikes with nouns and gerunds.

**3. Questions:** Robbie asks another customer some questions. Students can see the answers and they must provide the questions.

**Grammar help:** Questions: Yes/no questions - Information questions in Present Simple.

**4. Role play:** Robbie asks another customer (the student) for some personal information to fill the form. The student must record the answers with his/her own information. Then the whole dialogue can be played ("Run all dialogue" button).

**5. Sentence Order:** Students must put some words in the correct order to make a sentence.

**Grammar help:** Sentence order (position of time expressions and frequency adverbs).

**6. Expressions of time:** Students are given sentences with gaps and some expressions to fill them. They must choose the only correct option.

**Grammar help:** Present Simple for routines, time expressions, frequency adverbs.

**7. Prepositions of time - at, in, on:** Students have to write the correct preposition before a time expression.

**Grammar help:** Prepositions of time: *at, in, on*.

### **PART 3**

**1. Listening:** Help Robert find a match for these people. Listen to four boys' preferences and choose the right girl for them.

**2. Phonetics:** Students must drag the words into the correct column according to their pronunciation.

**Phonetics help:** Pronunciation of the 3<sup>rd</sup> person endings *-s / -es*.

**3. Pronunciation:** Students must listen to and then record some sentences (positive and negative statements and questions).

### **PART 4**

**1. Writing:** Write a short composition about the daily routine of one of Robbie's customers, Irma Pixel. Cues are given in a square. When their task is done they can send it to the teacher by e-mail with the button "Send", or they can right-click on the text to print it.

**2. Final Test:** This test is a multiple choice exercise with 15 questions about grammar, pronunciation, the characters in the unit, etc. When they click a right answer, a piece of Robbie is placed. The aim is to complete the robot. To do that, they must give ten correct answers.

### **ENDING**

Robbie's farewell.

# I Robot - Answer key

## PART 1

### 2. Telling the time: (From left to right, top to bottom)

- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. It's (a) quarter to two.      | 6. It's (a) quarter to twelve.                 |
| 2. It's ten past twelve.         | 7. It's five to eight.                         |
| 3. It's nine o'clock.            | 8. It's twelve o'clock.                        |
| 4. It's (a) quarter past eleven. | 9. It's twenty-five to three (two thirty-five) |
| 5. It's (a) half past eight.     | 10. It's twenty past seven.                    |

### 3. Present Simple – 3<sup>rd</sup> person singular:

- |                          |                                     |                               |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. He is 93 years old.   | 2. He lives in a floating building. | 3. He collects old clocks.    |
| 4. He has an oil shower. | 5. He goes to work by taxi.         | 6. He works from ten to five. |

### 4. Crosswords - Spelling:

**Across:** 2. watches 4. takes 8. robots 11. force 12. are  
13. air 14. the 17. speaks 18. explains

**Down:** 1. has 2. we 3. sees 5. go 6. for 7. tries 8. reads  
9. bar 10. tea 11. future 15. says 16. asks

### 5. Present Simple - Negative sentences:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Robbie isn't 35 years old.          | 4. Robbie doesn't collect stamps.            |
| 2. Robots don't go to work on foot.    | 5. Robbie and his friends don't get up late. |
| 3. Robbie doesn't live in a big house. |  |

## PART 2

### 2. Talking about preferences: (Part 2)

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Robbie likes sunny days.               | 5. Robbie loves clocks.             |
| 2. Irma loves getting up early.           | 6. Irma likes sweets.               |
| 3. Robbie and Irma don't like travelling. | 7. Robbie and Irma hate rainy days. |
| 4. I hate cleaning.                       | 8. Irma doesn't like shopping.      |

### 3. Questions:

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. What / is / your / name / ?           | 4. Do / you / live / in / Newtown / ? |
| 2. How / do / spell / your / surname / ? | 5. Where / do / you / work / ?        |
| 3. How / old / are / you / ?             |                                       |

### 5. Sentence Order:

- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. Robbie visits antique shops every day. | 3. Oscar doesn't like shopping. |
| 2. Irma always gets up early.             | 4. Where does Robbie live?      |

### 6. Expressions of time:

- |            |               |              |          |              |           |                |
|------------|---------------|--------------|----------|--------------|-----------|----------------|
| 1. usually | 2. on Fridays | 3. sometimes | 4. never | 5. in summer | 6. seldom | 7. once a year |
|------------|---------------|--------------|----------|--------------|-----------|----------------|

### 7. Prepositions of time - at, in, on:

- |                            |                 |
|----------------------------|-----------------|
| at Christmas               | in winter       |
| at ten o'clock             | on his birthday |
| in 2063                    | at the weekends |
| on March, 20 <sup>th</sup> | in the morning  |
| at night                   | on Thursdays    |

## PART 3

### 2. Phonetics:

/s/ /z/	/iz/
goes	changes
likes	closes
lives	fixes
plays	kisses
works	watches

## PART 4

### 2. Final Test:

1. c 2. c 3. b 4. a 5. b 6. b 7. b 8. a 9. c 10. b 11. a 12. c 13. a 14. b 15. c

# I Robot - Audio scripts

## PART 1

### 1. Reading:

Hello. My name's Bott, Robert Bott. Some people call me Rob Bott, but my friends call me Robbie. I'll tell you some things about me...

I was born (er... built) in Newtown in 2060; it is now 2153, so I am 93 years old. I live in a flat in a floating building, not far away from my office. I work as a counsellor at a marriage bureau. I like my job a lot; making matches and combinations is fun for a robot (er ... a humanoid).

This is a normal day in my life...

I usually get up at half past six. Then I have an oil bath and polish my metal body. This takes me almost an hour.

After that I go to work by taxi. I work from nine in the morning until five in the afternoon, but I have an hour's break for lunch (er... to reload my solar batteries).

I have a very interesting hobby: I collect old clocks and watches, so after work I go for a walk and sometimes visit antique shops. I usually get home by quarter to seven. I spend around two hours every day repairing and cleaning my clocks and watches.

Then I have a shake made of lubricants for dinner. Finally I go to bed (well... I switch myself off to prevent a short-circuit).

## PART 2

### 1. Dialogue:

At the Marriage bureau

**Robbie:** Good morning, madam, welcome to "Love Co". We are always working to make your life less lonely. I am Robert Bott, your personal computerised counsellor. Can I help you?

**Ms Pixel:** I hope so.

**Robbie:** Well, then I have to ask you some questions. First of all, what is your name and surname?

**Ms Pixel:** I'm Pixel, Irma Pixel.

**Robbie:** How do you spell your surname?

**Ms Pixel:** P-I-X-E-L.

**Robbie:** What do you do?

**Ms Pixel:** I'm a writer.

**Robbie:** And what kind of a person are you looking for, Ms Pixel?

**Ms Pixel:** I'd like to find a man with a strong sensibility, someone who likes reading and appreciates art.

**Robbie:** How old are you, Ms Pixel?

**Ms Pixel:** I'm 42

**Robbie:** What are your hobbies?

**Ms Pixel:** I like making model houses and space ships; that helps me concentrate on my novels.

**Robbie:** What kind of men do you like, physically?

**Ms Pixel:** I wouldn't like a very tall man, you see, I'm not very tall. And I like dark men with big, dark eyes.

**Robbie:** What would be his job?

**Ms Pixel:** I think I could be happy with another artist, a painter, a musician, or another writer, perhaps.

**Robbie:** Well, Ms. Pixel, now we have a lot of information about you. Will you please put your hand on this scanner?

**Ms Pixel:** What is it for?

**Robbie:** It will help me process all your information. I can probably find a good match for you in a few days.

**Ms Pixel:** I am happy to hear that. I am really looking forward to my first meeting.

**Robbie:** See you.

**Ms Pixel:** Goodbye.

## PART 3

### 1. Listening:

Boy # 1

I like sweet women with blond hair and green or blue eyes. I prefer home-loving girls, somebody who doesn't get bored easily and who likes to stay at home. I don't like adventure or big changes, I have quiet hobbies such as cooking or reading. I think I am very romantic.

Boy # 2

I know exactly the woman of my dreams. She is tall and dark, with brown eyes, and she has to share my love for action and adventure and, above all, she cannot be afraid of space travel. I am a rocket pilot and I travel a lot, I go to places as far as Jupiter or old Earth a lot, so she must like that way of life.

Boy # 3

I'm a musician. Physical appearance is not important for me, but I need someone who loves art, and a woman who likes my job, because I have to play the piano at home sometimes and that can be noisy. Oh! I have a cat, so I must find someone who likes animals.

Boy # 4

I like people who are different. I am different, so I must find someone like me. I prefer dark women, and I like them more if they are exotic. I am very interested in other cultures and ways of life.