

DYSON TO START MAKING HOUSEHOLD ROBOTS

Pre-listening task: vocabulary focus

Part A: Match the words with the correct definitions.

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| 1. claim (v) | a. find new people to join a company or organisation |
| 2. household (n) | b. the money that an organisation receives from its business |
| 3. struggle (v) | c. a person who starts an organisation, business, institution etc. |
| 4. headquarters (n) | d. the quality of being exact, accurate and careful |
| 5. revenue (n) | e. state that you have done, gained or achieved something |
| 6. precision (n) | f. a group of people, often a family, who live together |
| 7. founder (n) | g. try very hard to do something when it is difficult or when there are lots of problems |
| 8. recruit (v) | h. a place where an organisation or military operation is controlled |

Part B: Complete the sentences with the missing words from Part A. You may need to change the form of the word.

1. My brother is the _____ of the company, but everyone thinks I started the business.
2. To fix a mobile phone you'll need to use a _____ tool.
3. The company _____ to have invented a new type of computer that you can use underwater.
4. Our _____ have risen by a large amount this year.
5. She _____ to get a job after spending time in prison but found one eventually.
6. We need to _____ more staff to deal with the increase in customers.
7. Many _____ items have become more expensive in recent months.
8. My company moved their _____ to a different country after Brexit.

Listening for specific information

Listen to the report about the recent developments at the Dyson company.
Match the numbers and dates mentioned with the things they relate to.

1991	2019	2030	23 billion
250	2.75 billion	6 billion	700

- a. _____ The year in which Dyson was founded.
- b. _____ The number of robot engineers who will work at the new centre.
- c. _____ The year by which Dyson hopes to have developed household robots.
- d. _____ The amount (in pounds) that James Dyson is worth.
- e. _____ The year in which Dyson's headquarters were moved to Singapore.
- f. _____ The revenues reported by Dyson in 2021.
- g. _____ The amount (in pounds) that Dyson intends to spend in a five-year period on new products and research.
- h. _____ The number of new robotics engineers Dyson intends to recruit over the next 5 years.

Listen to the report again. Answer the questions true, false or not given.

- 1. Dyson has recently begun developing vacuum cleaners. _____
- 2. The company's planned robotics centre will, according to Dyson, be the largest in the world. _____
- 3. Dyson is named after a man called James Dyson. _____
- 4. Robots have found it difficult to pick up objects such as teddy bears and dishes in the past. _____
- 5. James Dyson, who backed Brexit, had previously stated his support for the EU. _____
- 6. The company has had success with electric cars in the past. _____
- 7. Dyson has been involved with the production of medical equipment during the pandemic. _____