

Unit 12: A Social Robot

Narrator: Sophia is a social robot. The word Sophia comes from the Greek word for “wisdom.” Sophia was created by a company called Hanson Robotics. She was activated on February 14, 2016.

Sophia can make around 50 different facial expressions. She can also recognize human faces and can understand a person’s emotions through their expressions. She can even have conversations with people.

In January 2018, Sophia was given legs and the ability to walk. In the future, social robots like Sophia could have many uses. For example, some robots could become friends for elderly people.

Robots could also help manage crowds in busy places. Some airports already have simple robots that can give directions.

Social robots could also provide help to doctors. For small health problems like the flu, they could talk to patients and suggest treatment. This would give doctors more time to treat serious illnesses.

Social robots could also help teachers in classrooms. They could answer students’ questions and monitor their progress.

Today’s social robots are not perfect. But as technology improves and social robots become more advanced, it’s likely they will, one day, play a big part in all of our lives.