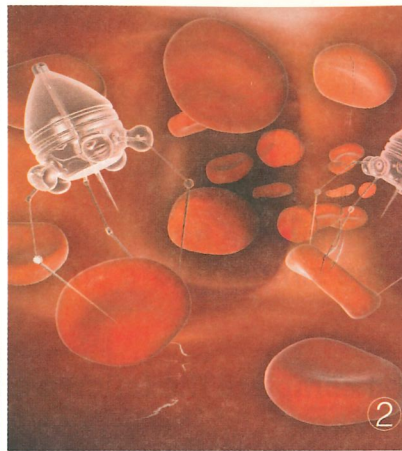


## Make predictions about future changes

1 What do these pictures show? Match the words with the pictures.



- \_\_\_\_\_ automation
- \_\_\_\_\_ nanobots
- \_\_\_\_\_ global warming
- \_\_\_\_\_ artificial intelligence (AI)
- \_\_\_\_\_ cloning



2 Discuss these questions in groups.

- 1 How do you think these events or such technology might develop in the future?
- 2 What challenges might they bring?
- 3 What opportunities might they bring?



### Listen for predictions

When listening for predictions, you should listen for the use of the future tense, in particular the future tense with *will* or *will be doing*. Words such as **predict**, **prediction**, and **forecast**, are also used quite often when making predictions.

- 3 Listen to a radio interview with Dr Han and Vincent Black giving their predictions about the future, and then fill in the table below.

Name	Occupation	Prediction
Dr Han		
Vincent Black		

- 4 Work in pairs. Discuss whether you think Dr Han and Vincent Black's predictions are possible. Why or why not?
- 5 In groups, brainstorm about the future. Discuss these points.
- future events or problems the world might face
  - future technologies
  - how these things will change the way we live
  - the challenges and opportunities these things might bring
- 6 Imagine that you have a job that makes you an expert in the future. In pairs, interview each other about your jobs and predictions. Use the expressions in the box to help you.

### Making predictions

I think/believe/predict that in the future ...  
 By 2030, we will ...  
 I can imagine/forecast ...  
 One challenge will be ...  
 We will be doing ...

My prediction is that ...  
 In the (distant) future there will ...  
 I doubt/don't think that ...  
 We will have the opportunity to ...  
 We are going to ...



## Understand body language

- 1 Choose five sentences and act them out without speaking. Can your partner guess what you are trying to communicate?

Hello!	Goodbye!	Come here!	Go away!	Too expensive!
I'm surprised!	I'm tired.	I'm confused.	OK!	Good luck!
I'm happy!	I'm upset!	I'm sad!	I forgot!	You're great!

- 2 Read the text and fill in the table on page 39.

## LISTENING TO HOW BODIES TALK


We use both words and body language to express our thoughts and opinions in our **interactions** with other people. We can learn a lot about what people are thinking by watching their body language. Words are important, but the way people stand, hold their arms, and move their hands can also give us information about their feelings.

Just like spoken language, body language **varies** from culture to culture. The crucial thing is using body language in a way that is **appropriate** to the culture you are in. For example, making eye contact—looking into someone's eyes—in some countries is a way to display interest. In other countries, by contrast, eye contact is not always **approved** of. For example, in many Middle Eastern countries, men and women are not socially permitted to make eye contact. In Japan, it may **demonstrate** respect to look down when talking to an older person.



The gesture for “OK” has different meanings in different cultures. In Japan, someone who **witnesses** another person **employing** the gesture might think it means money. In France, a person encountering an **identical** gesture may **interpret** it as meaning zero. However, you should avoid making this gesture in Brazil and Germany, as it is not considered polite.

Even the gestures we use for “yes” and “no” **differ** around the world. In many countries, shaking one's head means “no”, and nodding means “yes”. By comparison, in Bulgaria and southern Albania, the gestures have the opposite meaning. There are also differences in how we touch each other, how close we stand to someone we are talking to, and how we act when we meet or part. In countries like France and Russia, people may kiss their friends on the **cheek** when they meet. Elsewhere, people **favour** shaking hands, **bowing** from the **waist**, or nodding the head when they meet someone else.

 **Make inferences**

Sometimes a passage does not say something directly. However, you can figure it out by looking at the clues in the passage.

Some gestures seem to have the same meaning everywhere. Placing your hands together and resting them on the side of your head while closing your eyes means "sleep". A good way of saying "I am full" is moving your hand in circles over your stomach after a meal.

Some body language has many different uses. Perhaps the best example is smiling. A smile can help us get through difficult situations and find friends in a world of strangers. A smile can break down **barriers**. We can use a smile to apologise, to greet someone, to ask for help, or to start a conversation. Experts suggest smiling at yourself in the mirror to make yourself feel happier and stronger. And if we are feeling down or lonely, there is nothing better than seeing the smiling face of a good friend.

Body language/Gesture	Meaning	Country/Region
Eye contact between men and women	Not polite	Middle East
Looking down when talking to someone		
OK sign		
Kissing on the cheek		
Placing your hands together and resting them on the side of your head while closing your eyes		
Moving your hand in circles over your stomach after a meal		

### 3 Read the text again, and then discuss these questions.

- 1 How is the body language mentioned in the text interpreted in China?
- 2 Can you think of an example of body language that is appropriate in China but might be misunderstood in another culture?
- 3 What advice on body language can you give a foreign friend on his/her first trip to China?



### 4 Watch the video *Smile Trial*, and then discuss the questions in groups.

- 1 Smiles can be used to hide feelings like **anger**, fear, or worry. Can you describe a situation where you might smile when you don't mean it?
- 2 Apart from fake smiles, is there any other kind of body language that can sometimes be fake?
- 3 Which is a more **reliable** guide for understanding someone's feelings, their body language or the words they speak?

## Get to know an agricultural scientist

1 Before you read, look at the photo and the title of the text. Discuss these questions in groups.

- 1 Who is the man in the photo? What crop is he holding in his hands?
- 2 What do you know about the man? What else do you want to know about him?

2 Read the text. Match the main idea with each paragraph.

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| Paragraph 1 | A Yuan conducted research and developed hybrid rice. |
| Paragraph 2 | B Yuan worked hard to fulfil his dreams.             |
| Paragraph 3 | C Yuan considered himself a farmer.                  |
| Paragraph 4 | D Yuan decided to study agriculture.                 |
| Paragraph 5 | E Yuan's innovation has helped to feed more people.  |
| Paragraph 6 | F Yuan cared little for fame or wealth.              |

## A PIONEER FOR ALL PEOPLE

Yuan Longping, known as the “father of hybrid rice”, was one of China's most famous scientists. Yet, he considered himself a farmer because he continually worked the land in his research. Indeed, his slim but strong body was just like that of millions of Chinese farmers, to whom he had **devoted** his life.

Yuan Longping was born in 1930 in Beijing. His parents wanted him to pursue a career in science or medicine. However, what concerned him most was that farmers often had poor harvests and sometimes even had a serious **shortage** of food to eat. To **tackle** this **crisis**, he chose to study agriculture and received an education at Southwest Agricultural College in Chongqing.

After graduating in 1953, he worked as a researcher. Yuan Longping realised that larger fields were not the solution. Instead, farmers needed to **boost** yields in the fields they had. How this could be done was a challenging question at the time. Yuan was **convinced** that the answer could be found in the creation of hybrid rice. A hybrid is a cross between two or more varieties of a species. One

**characteristic** of hybrids is that they usually **attain** a higher yield than **conventional** crops. However, whether it was possible to develop a hybrid of self-pollinating plants such as rice was a matter of great debate. The common **assumption** then was that it could not be done. Through **intense** effort, Yuan **overcame** enormous technical difficulties to develop the first hybrid rice that could be used for farming in 1974. This hybrid enabled farmers to **expand** their **output** greatly.

Today, it is **estimated** that about 60 percent of **domestic** rice **consumption** in China is



**comprised** of crops **generated** from Yuan's hybrid strains, and his strains have allowed China's farmers to produce around 200 million tons of rice per year. Yuan's innovation has helped feed not just China, but many other countries that depend on rice as well, such as India and Vietnam. Because of his invaluable contributions, Yuan Longping received numerous awards both in China and abroad.

Given that Yuan's hybrids made him quite wealthy, one might think he would have retired to a life of **leisure**. However, this is far from the case. Deep down, Yuan was still very much a farmer at heart. As a man of the **soil**, he cared little for **celebrity** or money. Instead, he made large donations to support agricultural research.

What impressed people most about Yuan Longping was his ongoing ability to fulfil his dreams. Long ago, he envisioned rice plants as tall as sorghum, with each ear of rice as big as a broom, and each **grain** of rice as huge as a peanut. He succeeded in producing a kind of rice that could feed more people at home and abroad. His later **vision** for "seawater rice" also became a **reality**, and potentially opened up nearly one million square kilometres of **salty** land in China for rice production. Even in his later years, Yuan Longping was still young at heart and full of vision, and everyone was always excited to see what he would dream up next.

### 3 Read the text again and answer the questions.

- 1 Why did Yuan Longping consider himself a farmer?
- 2 Why did Yuan decide to study agriculture?
- 3 What is the main advantage of hybrid crops?
- 4 How has Yuan's work helped China and other countries?
- 5 What was Yuan's later vision?

### 4 Complete the sentences with the correct forms of the words in the box.

create      estimation      education  
generation      graduate



#### Use word formation to guess the meaning

Often, new words are not really "new" — they are just different forms of words that you may already know. For instance, a word ending with *-ate* is often a verb, while a word ending in *-tion* is often a noun. Thus, we have *communicate* (verb) and *communication* (noun). English has many word patterns like this.

- 1 This school has \_\_\_\_\_ thousands of bright young students over the years.
- 2 Most students look for jobs after university \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 Because of the \_\_\_\_\_ of new strains of hybrid crops, people in many parts of the world now have more food to eat.
- 4 Last year, this new electric power plant \_\_\_\_\_ enough energy to power the whole city.
- 5 It was difficult to calculate exactly how many trees had been cut down. However, a general \_\_\_\_\_ was possible.

### 5 Discuss these questions in groups.

- 1 Apart from rice, what are some other important crops in China? What do you know about them?
- 2 Other than hybrid rice, what other hybrid products do you know? Can you think of new hybrid ideas?