

Chapter 1

Use with Section 2

ENRICHMENT**● Using Science to Explore****Human or robot, what's the difference?**

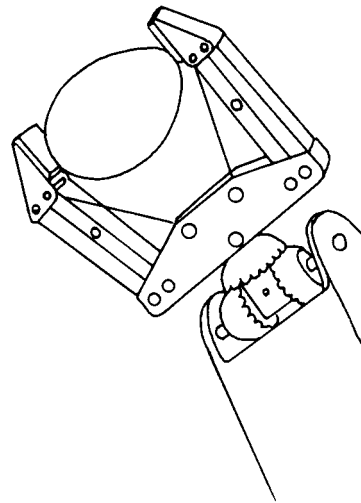
Robots have become commonplace devices in today's society. They are used to carry things and to explore places where humans cannot go. Robots have taken the place of humans in doing many dangerous things. For example, robots are commonly used to defuse bombs. They are also used to detect poisonous gases and to carry cameras into areas that would otherwise be too dangerous to investigate. However, robots aren't able to do everything humans can.

The fear that robots would replace all human workers that some people had when robots were first invented no longer exists, for the most part. Even today, with the advances in technology that have taken place, we are far from replacing all human workers with automated ones.

In the picture a robotic hand is holding an egg. As you know, eggs are very fragile objects. Does this mean that there are now robots that will be able to do things requiring a great deal of sensitivity? Maybe, it is true that robots are being built that can do highly complex and intricate tasks.

What do you think?

1. Compare and contrast the robotic arm in the picture with your own arm. What kinds of things can the robotic arm do that yours can't, and vice versa?



2. As you have read in this section, many scientists use robots to help them with their research. Do you think a time will come when robots are able to do the research without the scientists? Explain your answer.
