

Do the preparation task first to help you with the difficult vocabulary. Then read the article and do the exercises to check your understanding.

Preparation: matching

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–h next to the numbers 1–8.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1..... Terminator | a. to mend or repair |
| 2..... an issue | b. tall structures located in the sea that turn wind energy into electricity |
| 3..... to emphasise or draw people's attention to something | c. The robot killer from the 1984 film with the same name. |
| 4..... composite materials | d. the body of an aeroplane |
| 5..... to heal | e. strong, light materials in which fibres of more than one kind of material are used |
| 6..... off-shore wind turbines | f. to make or become well again, especially after a cut or injury |
| 7..... fuselage | g. a question or problem |
| 8..... to fix | h. to highlight |

1. Check your understanding: true or false

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

- | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. Professor Wass and his team have developed a material that could result in aeroplanes being able to repair themselves. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 2. The idea for the project came from an official meeting between chemists and engineers. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 3. Composite materials have become very important in aircraft building because they help to save money and help the environment. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 4. The self-healing functions of this material mean that all types of damage and holes can easily be repaired. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 5. The technology can be used on planes as soon as Professor Wass and his team feel it is ready. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 6. Professor Wass says that he has developed self-repairing nail polish. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |

2. Check your grammar: gap fill

Complete the second sentence so that it has the same meaning as the first, using the word given. Use a maximum of six words.

Example: There is a lot of media interest in the research being done by Professor Wass.

INTERESTED

The media are very interested in the research being done by Professor Wass.

1. The ability of non-human things to repair themselves surprises many people.

FIND

Many people _____ non-human things can repair themselves.

2. Engineers find it very difficult to detect damage to an aeroplane and repair it.

GREAT

Engineers _____ detecting damage to an aeroplane and repairing it.

3. The energy industry also uses composite materials in constructing wind turbines.

ALSO

Composite materials _____ by the energy industry in constructing wind turbines.

4. The team found inspiration in the processes of the human body.

BY

The team _____ the processes of the human body.

5. 'Can we put self-healing processes in an airplane wing?' asked Professor Wass.

THEY

Professor Wass _____ put self-healing processes in an airplane wing.

6. Wass explains, 'It's taken us three years to do this'.

IT

Wass explained that _____ three years to do that.

7. Aeroplanes are the most challenging application of the technology.

AS

No other application of the technology _____
aeroplanes.

8. The press are inventing stories.

UP

Stories are being _____ by the press.

Discussion

What would you most like self-repair technology to be used for?

Vocabulary Box

Write any new words you have learned in this lesson.