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## **Level 2**

# **New gym opens to train robots**

**1st May, 2016**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1605/160501-robot-gym-2.html>

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**Please try Levels 0 and 1 (easier) and the 26–page Level 3 (harder).**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1605/160501-robot-gym-2.html>

A group headed by Elon Musk has opened a kind of gym for robots, called OpenAI Gym. Mr Musk is the boss of the electric car company Tesla Motors and the space travel company, SpaceX. He also founded the online payments website PayPal. His latest project is an open platform for code writers to test their latest work. People are free to test their ideas for artificial intelligence (A.I.) on it. Researchers can test and share their algorithms for A.I. Algorithms are special sets of rules in a computer program that can solve problems and deal with lots of information.

Mr Musk wrote about why his team decided to make the OpenAI Gym free. He said: "Our goal is to advance digital intelligence in the way that is most likely to benefit humanity as a whole, [without the] need to generate [money]." The OpenAI Gym follows the idea of giving rewards for learning – like giving a dog a treat when it learns something new. If an algorithm does well in the gym, it gets a reward. If it fails, it gets no reward. The aim of the gym is to develop an algorithm that can multi-task; to do many things at the same time, rather than just one thing.

Sources: <http://thescienceexplorer.com/technology/elon-musk-launches-ai-gym-make-robot-brains-versatile-our-own>  
<http://www.computerworld.com/article/3063674/emerging-technology/elon-musk-opens-virtual-gym-to-train-your-robots.html>  
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-3564752/>

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1605/160501-robot-gym-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                      |                         |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. the boss of the                   | a. of rules             |
| 2. space                             | b. writers              |
| 3. an open                           | c. problems             |
| 4. code                              | d. travel               |
| 5. artificial                        | e. electric car company |
| 6. Algorithms are special sets       | f. of information       |
| 7. a computer program that can solve | g. platform             |
| 8. deal with lots                    | h. intelligence         |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                  |                         |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. why his team decided to make  | a. money                |
| 2. benefit humanity              | b. the same time        |
| 3. generate                      | c. learns something new |
| 4. giving rewards                | d. just one thing       |
| 5. giving a dog a treat when it  | e. the OpenAI Gym free  |
| 6. develop an algorithm that can | f. as a whole           |
| 7. do many things at             | g. multi-task           |
| 8. rather than                   | h. for learning         |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1605/160501-robot-gym-2.html>

A group headed by Elon Musk (1) \_\_\_\_\_ kind of gym for robots, called OpenAI Gym. Mr Musk (2) \_\_\_\_\_ electric car company Tesla Motors and the space travel company, SpaceX. He (3) \_\_\_\_\_ online payments website PayPal. His latest project is an open platform for code writers (4) \_\_\_\_\_ latest work. People are free to test their ideas for artificial intelligence (A.I.) on it. Researchers can test (5) \_\_\_\_\_ algorithms for A.I. Algorithms are special sets of rules in a computer program that can solve problems and (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of information.

Mr Musk wrote (7) \_\_\_\_\_ team decided to make the OpenAI Gym free. He said: "Our goal (8) \_\_\_\_\_ digital intelligence in the way that is most likely to benefit humanity as a whole, [without the] (9) \_\_\_\_\_ [money]."

The OpenAI Gym follows the idea of giving rewards for learning – like giving a dog (10) \_\_\_\_\_ it learns something new. If an algorithm does (11) \_\_\_\_\_, it gets a reward. If it fails, it gets no reward. The aim of the gym is to develop an algorithm that can multi-task; to do many things at the same time, (12) \_\_\_\_\_ one thing.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1605/160501-robot-gym-2.html>

A group headed by Elon Musk has opened a kind of gym for robots, called OpenAI Gym. Mr Musk is the boss of the electric car company Tesla Motors and the space travel company, SpaceX. He also founded the online payments website PayPal. His latest project is an open platform for codewriters to test their latest work. People are free to test their ideas for artificial intelligence (A.I.) on it. Researchers can test and share their algorithms for A.I. Algorithms are a special set of rules in a computer program that can solve problems and deal with lots of information. Mr Musk wrote about why his team decided to make the OpenAI Gym free. He said: "Our goal is to advance digital intelligence in the way that is most likely to benefit humanity as a whole, [without the] need to generate [money]." The OpenAI Gym follows the idea of giving rewards for learning – like giving a dog a treat when it learns something new. If an algorithm does well in the gym, it gets a reward. If it fails, it gets no reward. The aim of the gym is to develop an algorithm that can multi-task; to do many things at the same time, rather than just one thing.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

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b)

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c)

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d)

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e)

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f)

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g)

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h)

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*New gym opens to train robots – 1st May, 2016*  
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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

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b)

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c)

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d)

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e)

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f)

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g)

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h)

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# WRITING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1605/160501-robot-gym-2.html>

Write about **robots** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner’s paper.

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