**1. Read and translate the text:**

**ROBOTS IN MODERN TECHNOLOGY**

 In modern life science is exercising great influence on technology, creating new problems for it and guiding its development. Scientific research became a profession, this job attracting an ever greater number of specialists.

 One of important tasks of scientific research is automation of manufacturing processes. Automation presents a machine system, operating with maximum efficiency by means of adequate measurements, observation and control of its behaviour.

 Robots play an important role in this system. Though robotics is a young science, robots have many advantages already. They never get tired, do not make mistakes, they can operate in conditions where people can't work. But for robots, it would be impossible to do work in the atmosphere of poisonous gas, in radioactive areas, under very high or low temperatures. Now robots are performing such tasks as welding, painting, lifting, assembling and testing finished products. Even more complicated jobs are seen in years ahead. Some day they will handle cleaning and laundry, help hospital nurses and aid in the care of invalids. But this is a future. In American terminology, these devices are not classified as robots but as automated-machines. Whatever these devices are called, their performances are amazing.

 What makes a robot different from an ordinary machine? It is its electronic brain - a microcomputer that can be programmed to do an assigned task repeatedly, at the same speed and accuracy. Once programmed, a robot needs little or no human supervision. Industrial robots, are expected to be able to change their own parts in future.

 In one Japanese plant during day-time 100 workers operate the machines that produce robot components and numerical-control devices. At night the factory is operated by only one control-room supervision. The use of robots is spreading. Here is an example of what future robots may be able to do. If you visited the Tokyo's National

Science Museum you could see a 59-inch-tall robot capable of walking to the right or left singing a song and telling a story. It acts in response to voice commands.

 Yet, scientists point out that, there is a limit to robot's capabilities. Anything requiring creative thinking or emotion cannot be expected of robots. They are to be programmed by people. People make them, repair them and control them. Many spheres of life will remain the exclusive spheres of humans.

1. **Read and translate statements from the text. Say whether they are true or false**

1. Scientific research plays a very important role in modern technology.

2. Each engineer understands that automation presents a very complex machine acting separately.

3. Robots саn work under hard conditions.

4. Robot's capabilities are practically unlimited.

5. Electronic brain makes a robot different from an ordinary machine.

**3. Answer the questions**

1. How can you explain the term "automation"?

2. What devices play an important role in automation process?

3. What are the advantages of robots?

4. What operations do robots perform?

5. What makes a robot different from an ordinary machine?

6. Do you know any limits to robots' capabilities? What are they?

7. What functions will robots perform in future?