

## What we will and won't do in the next 50 years

The job of a futurist is to guess what life will be like in the future. Here are some ideas about how our lives will change in the next 50 years.



We will use 3D printing in our everyday lives. It could become a new way to make clothes, furniture, and other things we need. It will also help doctors treat patients.



We will talk more with digital people and robots. Today you can talk to Alex and Siri, but in the future, they will also be our assistants, managers, or just our twins in the virtual world.



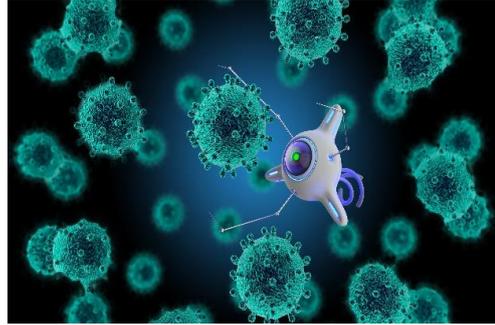
We will need technology more. Now we have smart phones – in the future, we will have smart houses, which will do a lot of our work, such as cleaning, shopping, and paying bills.



We will eat different food. There will be more people, so we will have to find new ways to feed the growing population. The most popular ideas focus on algae and meat from laboratories.



We won't drive our cars any more. Even today we have self-driving cars. In the future, you will tell your car where you want to go and it will take you there. Hopefully, traffic will become safer.



We won't use so many antibiotics. Many bacteria will become stronger, so we will have to think of new types of medicine. Some futurists think nanotechnology will help us stay healthy.



We won't pay with bills and coins. Money will become completely electronic and we will pay with cards, smart phones, or chips.



We won't go to school. We will still have to learn, but it will probably be at home or in libraries. Universities are now very expensive, but they will be cheaper when we begin studying online more.

### Answer the questions.

- 1 Which of these predictions do you like, and which don't you like?
- 2 What do you think will probably happen in your lifetime?
- 3 What do you think won't happen?
- 4 Which predictions focus on people's lives, and which on technology?
- 5 How will people be still important? What will technology not be able to do?
- 6 Can you make your own predictions about the future?