

국제학부 영어 ESSAY

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Consider the following passage and the assignment below it. Then write a formal English essay on the given assignment that expresses your ideas as persuasively as possible.

In the classic science-fiction film “2001,” the ship’s computer, HAL, faces a dilemma. His instructions require him both to fulfil the ship’s mission (investigating an artifact near Jupiter) and to keep the mission’s true purpose secret from the ship’s crew. To resolve the contradiction, he tries to kill the crew. As robots become more autonomous, the notion of computer-controlled machines facing ethical decisions is moving out of the realm of science fiction and into the real world. Society needs to find ways to ensure that they are better equipped to make moral judgments.

Military technology, unsurprisingly, is at the forefront of the march toward self-determining machines. Its evolution is producing an extraordinary variety of species. The Sand Flea can leap through a window or onto a roof, filming all the while. It then rolls along on wheels until it needs to jump again. RISE, a six-legged robo-cockroach, can climb walls. LS3, a dog-like robot, trots behind a human over rough terrain, carrying up to 180kg of supplies. SUGV, a briefcase-sized robot, can identify a man in a crowd and follow him. There is a flying surveillance drone the weight of a wedding ring, and one that carries 2.7 tons of bombs.

Robots are spreading in the civilian world, too, from the flight deck to the operating theater. Passenger aircraft have long been able to land themselves. Driverless trains are commonplace. Volvo’s new V40 hatchback essentially drives itself in heavy traffic. It can brake when it senses an imminent collision, as can Ford’s B-Max minivan. Fully self-driving vehicles are being tested around the world. Google’s driverless cars have clocked up more than 250,000 miles in America, and Nevada has become the first state to regulate such trials on public roads. In Barcelona a few days ago, Volvo demonstrated a platoon of autonomous cars on a motorway.

As they become smarter and more widespread, autonomous machines are bound to end up making life-or-death decisions in unpredictable situations, thus assuming — or at least appearing to assume — moral agency. Weapons systems currently have human operators “in the loop,” but as they grow more sophisticated, it will be possible to shift to “on the loop” operation, with machines carrying out orders autonomously.

As that happens, they will be presented with ethical dilemmas. Should a drone, an unmanned aircraft, fire on a house where a target is known to be hiding, which may also be sheltering civilians? Should a driverless car swerve to avoid pedestrians if that means hitting other vehicles or endangering its occupants? Should a robot involved in disaster recovery tell people the truth about what is happening if that risks causing a panic? Such questions have led to the emergence of the field of “machine ethics,” which aims to give machines the ability to make such choices appropriately — in other words, to tell right from wrong.

The best-known set of guidelines for robo-ethics are the “three laws of robotics” coined by Isaac Asimov, a science-fiction writer, in 1942. The laws require robots to protect humans, obey orders, and preserve themselves, in that order. Unfortunately the laws are of little use in the real world. Battlefield robots would be required to violate the first law. Asimov’s robot stories are fun precisely because they highlight the unexpected complications that arise when robots try to follow his apparently sensible rules. Regulating the development and use of autonomous robots will require a rather more elaborate framework than the rules that currently exist.

Tasks for the Essay

Examine the ethical dilemmas created by the use of self-determining machines (robots) in today’s world and propose a potential solution to resolve these dilemmas.

General Directions

1. Write in English with a black pen or black pencil. You can use an eraser or cross out with a black pen and rewrite.
2. Complete your writing within 60 minutes.
3. The length should be within the range of 400–450 words, approximately 36 lines.
4. Go directly into writing without giving any title to your writing.
5. DO NOT mention personal information such as your school, the names of your family members, etc.