

Worksheet 2: Dream Maker Intelligent Machines

"Young man, my name is Ludwig. Professor Ludwig. I'm a specialist in artificial intelligence and alternative realities at the university of Cornell. My particular research is into the ways to create a virtual world."

Artificial Intelligence or **AI** is a branch of computer science that aims to create intelligent machines that demonstrate human-like capacities. It is a highly technical and specialised field of study which focuses on the creation of machines that may communicate, move around and manipulate objects. AI technology has been used to create machines that can play chess, drive cars and even win quiz shows! AI research has also helped develop computer and video game technology (such as the Xbox Kinect) and create an illusion of intelligent behaviour in non-player characters.

Task 1: Create an artificial intelligence inspired intelligent machine. Write an overview about it including:

- » the name of the machine and the reason it has this name
- » a physical description of its appearance
- » a description of its humanlike qualities

Task 2: Use your newly created machine as the main character in an imaginative narrative text. Use the following planning structure to help consolidate your ideas:

- a) *Orientation:* When and where is your story set? Who will be the secondary characters?
- b) *Complication:* What will the problem in the story be? What caused the problem?
- c) *Series of Events:* Sequence the main events of the story. Include plenty of descriptive words and action sequences.
- d) *Resolution:* How will the problem be solved?
- e) *Coda:* Is there a lesson that can be learnt?

Extension Activities:

- *"I am Galatea,"* she said. *"I came to find you."* Research the name *Galatea*. How does this character's name relate to a Greek myth involving an early concept of Artificial Intelligence?
- Create a persuasive text in response to the topic: *The creation of human-like machines could present disastrous effects in the world as we know it.*