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**Assignment 4**

**Error Analysis in L2 Writing**

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**The Machine vs. the Human Being**

The transcript video called “Will robots take our jobs?” is a conversation between two men who are discussing about automation. This is briefly explained as the use of machines to do the work that was previously done by people. Some basic concepts are mentioned for introducing the topic so that listeners can easily understand what has been going on with these devices. Some of these concepts are manual dexterity, artificial intelligence and cognitive labour. Moreover, two interviews are played in order to show what people have to say about this topic.

In first place, according to Michael Osborne, from University of Oxford, computers are able to learn and that nowadays, there is a much wider range of tasks that these machines can successfully perform. I think that despite of the fact that computers are, indeed, able to do much more things than in the past, they are not capable of “learning”, nor are they capable of imitating the labour of mind, as Mr. Osborne says. Machines do not have a real brain, and they do not have the same functions that the human being has; therefore, it would actually be impossible to a computer to imitate the job of a person.

Secondly, Matthew Whallet, from a city law firm, says that there are some tasks that are better done by machines. To support this idea, he uses the example of lawyers, who have to read and classify many files and it takes them days to finish. Nevertheless, computers make this task much faster than humans. I agree with him when he says computers make the job easier for people, but I completely disagree when he says that this job is “incredibly reliable” because machines can make mistakes and make the job in the wrong way. Hence, I think it is important to keep in mind that only human beings can do the job properly, or maybe it would be a good idea to always supervise the computers’ performance.

Finally, it is necessary to remember that a machine will never be able to replace some skills that only human beings have, such as the capability of negotiation, persuasion, caring for other and some social and emotional skills, as it is mentioned in the video. Maybe robots could replace some logical and manual processes, but they will never be able to replace a person in all his/her dimensions.