Korrekturhinweise

Can computers replace humans in assessment?

	7	F	First four words
0	X		Pearson, the American-based parent
1	X		All three exam boards
2		X	Academics and leaders in
3		X	It includes essay questions
4		X	You won't pick up
5	X		A Pearsons spokesman told
6		X	Other exam boards said
7	\boxtimes		An Edexcel spokesperson said

Justifications

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The text says: "Pearson, the <u>American-based</u> parent company of Edexcel, <u>is to use computers to 'read' and assess essays</u> for international English tests in a move that has fuelled speculation that GCSEs and A-levels will be next." This sentence confirms that a US enterprise is planning to make use of electronic software to mark written performances.

1

The text says: "All three exam boards are now <u>investing heavily in e-assessment</u> but none has yet perfected a form of marking essays using computers – or 'robots' – that it is willing to use in mainstream exams." This sentence confirms that a lot of money is being put into the development of automated assessment tools.

2

The text says: "Academics and leaders in the teaching profession said that using machines to mark papers would create a 'disaster waiting to happen'." This sentence confirms that University professors are not convinced that electronic assessment will prove to be successful.

3

The text says: "It includes essay questions and <u>will be used in 20 countries</u>, including the UK, to rate applicants' English skills before they are admitted to university." This sentence confirms that the Pearson English language test will not be limited to colleges in Britain.

4

The text says: "John Bangs, head of education at the National Union of Teachers, said that computers could be useful in many areas of assessment but cautioned against their use in English exams: 'I'm very concerned that it would constrain the nature of the questions being asked. You won't pick up nuances by machine and it will trigger a trend to answering narrower questions'." This sentence confirms that a teaching union spokesperson does not believe computers are able to recognize minor differences in responses.

5

The text says: "A Pearson spokesman told the TES that its system <u>produced the accuracy of human markers while eliminating human elements</u> such as tiredness and subjectivity." This sentence confirms that the programme is described as precise and without human weaknesses.

6

The text says: "Other exam boards said the adoption of computers <u>to mark beyond</u> their current use in <u>multiple choice tests</u> was inevitable." This sentence confirms that electronic rating will not only ever be for tests where you select the correct answer.

7

The text says: "An Edexcel spokesperson said that the board <u>was not planning to use automated</u> <u>marking in mainstream exams</u> such as A-levels and GCSEs." This sentence confirms that the new technology will not be applied in standard school exams in the near future.