



# A better world?

## Communication

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In the near future, we may be able to communicate in any language we choose. A number of companies are working on translating machines that use the voice frequencies of the speaker. This makes it sound as though the user is speaking the foreign language. We already have translating machines, but they are slow and inaccurate and sound like robots. In only a year or two, this new machine, which will be a headset, could come onto the market and allow us to speak every language under the sun.

## Health

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The future of health is going to be a tale of big and small. Tiny nano monitors will be placed inside our bodies, and these will produce big data—enormous amounts of information—that allow us to check our health and help us predict illnesses. Another big development probably won't be ready in the short term, but, in the long term, there is hope that 3D printers will make copies of body parts, such as hearts, livers and kidneys. If it happens, it is likely to save millions of lives. Using 3D printers, we can already make copies of plastic and metal objects. The next step is to copy living tissue.

## Entertainment

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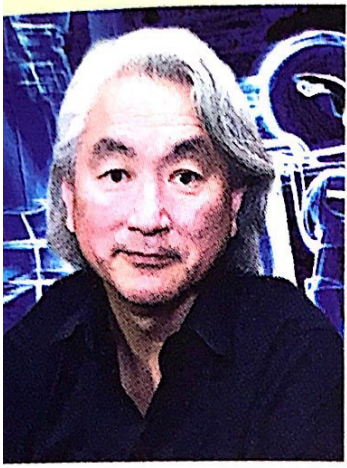
Full immersion virtual reality will be with us in perhaps ten to twenty years' time. We will be able to plant tiny microchips in the brain, allowing a person to experience games, movies and virtual life as if they were real. As computers interact with the brain, we will have the sensation of touching, seeing, hearing and smelling virtual objects in virtual worlds. Instead of just watching heroes in movies, signals to the brain will let us feel what our heroes feel and see what they see. Fortunately, if things get too terrifying, we will be able to switch it off with the push of a button!

## Global Problems

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In the next thirty years, climate change is going to seriously affect traditional farming. Floods and droughts will disrupt farming patterns that have existed for thousands of years. Because of this, cities will have to start producing food, and vertical farming will become common. Apartment buildings and skyscrapers will have gardens built into them. Each floor will grow different plants, fruits and vegetables, and the water will be recycled. Instead of stretching out for miles across the landscape, farmland will now rise hundreds of







Dr. Michio Kaku is a physicist who makes TV programs about the future. He believes we <sup>1</sup>*will be design/will design* new worlds that look like our own, and that virtual reality is <sup>2</sup>*become/going to*

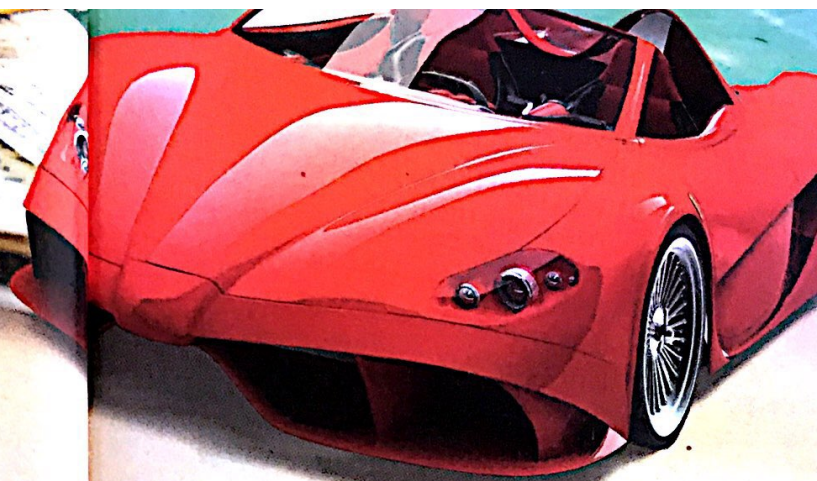
*become* more like our reality. In one program, Kaku jumps into a remote-controlled car and tells us the car is so intelligent that the words "traffic jam" and "traffic accident" <sup>3</sup>*are going to disappear/going to disappear* from the language. He also says that, in a few years' time, microchips will be so cheap they <sup>4</sup>*are could be built/could be built* into every product we buy—our walls, our furniture, even our clothes. And they <sup>5</sup>*likely/are likely* to be so small we <sup>6</sup>*won't know/won't to know* they exist. Kaku also believes our sunglasses <sup>7</sup>*may become/may becoming* our future home entertainment centers. He then does a virtual dance using 3D technology (his dance partner is hundreds of miles away) and explains that, one day in the near future, 3D technology <sup>8</sup>*is could replace/could replace* the telephone and <sup>9</sup>*reduce might/might reduce* air travel. Finally, he investigates robots and concludes that, in the long term, some of our closest friends <sup>10</sup>*might not be/might be not* people.







# "You don't have to be born rich to be a millionaire."

-  1 So you want to be a millionaire, but have you got what it takes? To find out what millionaires are really like and what motivates them, the program *Mind of a Millionaire* did a survey. Psychologists looked at self-made millionaires to try and understand what qualities are needed to make a million. So, what is really important to a millionaire?
-  2 The answer, not surprisingly, is money, money and more money. Money is more important than love or marriage. And if you give a millionaire money, they won't spend it, they'll invest it to make more money. But you don't have to be born rich to be a millionaire. Most millionaires come from relatively poor backgrounds. And you don't have to work hard at school either. A lot of successful entrepreneurs were lazy at school and didn't get good grades. However, you have to have a clear idea of what you want to do (get rich), and you really should start early. A lot of millionaires left school early to start their own businesses.



-  3 If you want to be a millionaire, not only do you have to work hard, but you should enjoy your work. And you shouldn't take too many vacations. Most millionaires work more than sixty hours a week. Half stay in contact with the office while they're on vacation, and fourteen percent of them refuse to switch off. Having a good work-life balance is fine for people who only want to be moderately successful, but if you're really ambitious, you have to put in the hours.

-  4 What are millionaires like as people? The survey found that they are competitive, they like taking risks, and they are aggressive and self-confident. They'll do anything they can to get what they want.



-  5 Millionaires can break all sorts of rules. The only thing they must not do is break the law. Surprisingly, most millionaires are careful spenders. They prefer Gap to Gucci. Many of them choose not to spend money on expensive designer clothes—they would rather find a bargain on Main Street. And they don't spend lots of money on expensive meals in restaurants either. They prefer to eat at home. However, they do like to drive Mercedes and go on at least three expensive vacations a year. One last thing: millionaires don't care what other people think of them. So, if you want to be a millionaire, you shouldn't worry about what other people think of you. Just do your own thing.



Why is it that people seem to think that the newest technology is always the best? From high-speed trains to high-speed Internet, you could be forgiven for thinking that faster is always better (not to mention, more efficient and more economical). We decided to investigate a few simpler, more low-tech solutions to the world's problems.

### Meet the Slow Theater

Much of our popular entertainment these days is action-packed, expensive and based in cities. So, the Rural Academy decided they wanted to offer an alternative. Touring the United States, they take a horse-drawn theater and a bicycle-powered silent movie on the road with them. They want to celebrate and call attention to

life in more rural locations, in opposition to what they see as the global urbanization of our culture, economy, media and art. By using a carriage pulled by horses, rather than a vehicle that runs on gas, they offer less expensive, low-tech alternative entertainment, which they hope will include more people and move at a slightly slower pace.



### The Carousel Water Pump

Access to a clean water supply is still one of the biggest problems for people living in rural villages in Asia and Africa. To try to solve the problem, a company in South Africa has invented a way to use

children's high energy levels to help pump water from underground. The PlayPump is a water pump that is powered when the children use the carousel. As they play, the water is pumped from below the ground into a storage tank. Before the pumps were installed, many young girls had to spend hours of their day walking to collect water, rather than going to school. With the new pumps, however, the girls don't need to miss school, so they get a much better education.

### Bus Stop Libraries in Bogotá

The invention of the ebook has meant that books are now slightly cheaper and a lot lighter to carry. But in Bogotá, Colombia, they had a far better idea for helping people to read on the go. The city wanted to improve the access that young people had to books, but not by buying new tablets. They decided to install colorful book libraries around the city, in the parks and at bus stops. What could be better than to sit in the sunshine and read a book while waiting for your bus?







## Questions Daddy Can't Answer

It all began with a question asked by Dean, a four-year-old boy: "Why do ships have round windows?" His father didn't know. And when his sister started behaving badly, Dean asked another question: "Why can't we just cook her?" On a long drive, the boy wondered why the road was so loud. His father replied, "Because the people who live next to the road have their vacuum cleaners on." The boy's questions kept coming: "Why is the sky blue? Are rainbows hot or cold? What was it like living in the 1940s? What would hurt more—getting run over by a car or getting stung by a jellyfish? Why do police officers like donuts?"

Eventually, Jamieson decided to write down the questions. He thought it might be fun one day to show them to his son. Then he had a better idea: he'd research the answers. Some people might do their investigations on the Internet. Not Mr. Jamieson. He contacted experts ranging from astronomers to Buddhist monks, to scientists, to magicians, and asked lots of questions. He later turned these—and the experts' responses—into a book: *Father Knows Less*.

