

**Warmer**

Can machines read your emotions?

If so, how? If not, why not?

Discuss your answers with a partner.

**Before you watch**

The following terms are all used in the video you are about to watch. Use them to complete the sentences below. You may need to change the form of the verbs.

surpass      figure out      unprecedented      cue      input      complexion      flag  
disorder

1. The errors were \_\_\_\_\_ in the margin.
2. Bipolar \_\_\_\_\_ is a mental illness in which someone experiences extreme changes in mood.
3. This student \_\_\_\_\_ all the others in his class.
4. The program accepts \_\_\_\_\_ from a variety of sources.
5. The flood waters have risen to \_\_\_\_\_ levels. I have never seen them so high!
6. How did you \_\_\_\_\_ that maths problem?
7. I took her tired face as my \_\_\_\_\_ to leave.
8. The farmer had a brown, rough \_\_\_\_\_ from having spent so many years outdoors.

**Now watch the video.**

<https://ed.ted.com/lessons/can-machines-read-your-emotions-kostas-karpouzis#watch>

**Comprehension check**

Discuss the questions below with a partner. Then watch the video again to check your answers.

1. Who was Paul Ekman?
2. What do anger, disgust, fear, joy, sadness and surprise have in common?
3. Using these words, explain how machines can recognise emotions: nodes, neurons, exchange, samples, network, classify, features.
4. Apart from the recognition of facial expressions, what other cues can machines use to read our emotions?
5. How can machines collect data about our emotions?

6. What beneficial uses can be made of this data?

7. What are the potential drawbacks?

### **After you watch**

Discuss these questions with your classmates.

- a) Do you think that machines will eventually be better than humans at figuring out what people are feeling? Why (not)?
- b) Do you think that the “beneficial uses” of emotional recognition mentioned in the video are realistic? Would they really be beneficial?
- c) What about the negative implications? Are the potential drawbacks described in the video likely to happen? Why (not)?
- d) Can you think of any other ways in which machines could either assist or manipulate us by reading our emotions?

### **Vocabulary development: Emotions**

1. Look at the nouns referring to emotions in question 2 of the **Comprehension check**. Think of more nouns for emotions.
2. For each noun, think of as many related words from different word classes as you can. For example, sadness (noun), sad (adj), sadly (adv), to sadden (verb).
3. Complete the sentences below with appropriate emotion words.
  - a) He slammed the door \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b) The news of his death \_\_\_\_\_ them.
  - c) It's not \_\_\_\_\_ you failed the test, as you hadn't done any revision at all.
  - d) You have bread and camembert with hot chocolate for breakfast? That's \_\_\_\_\_!
  - e) Many people are \_\_\_\_\_ of speaking in public.
  - f) The employees were \_\_\_\_\_ when they learned of their employer's bankruptcy.
4. Now try to use other emotion words in sentences of your own.