

BREVET DE TECHNICIEN SUPERIEUR

Groupement 15

session 2007

ANGLAIS

Durée : 2 h

- SUJET -

Dès la remise du sujet, assurez-vous qu'il est complet.

L'usage du dictionnaire bilingue est autorisé.

Spécialités :

Agencement de l'environnement
architectural
Aménagement - finition
Bâtiment
Charpente - couverture
Constructions métalliques
Enveloppe du bâtiment
Études et économie de la construction
Géomètre topographe
Systèmes constructifs bois et habitat
Travaux publics

Imagining homes of the future

The aim is to help house builders predict how we will want to use our homes 10 or 20 years from now. But what will the homes of the future be like? Experts Christopher Sanderson, of The Future Laboratory and Richard Brindley, of the Royal Institute of British Architects, outline their visions of what might be to come.

One of the major factors affecting home design in the future will be our changing climate, with hotter summers, colder winters and floods predicted for the UK. Mr Brindley says houses will be built with better insulation and old houses will have to have it installed. They will also need ways of keeping cool in hot weather, whether that's air conditioning or more shading of windows. "Things like blinds, shades and canopies¹ are going to become much more important," he adds.

Mr Brindley predicts overcrowding will get worse in areas such as south-east England, forcing more people into small homes and flats. With space at a premium, he says homes will have to be adaptable, with the same rooms used for many purposes. The technology already exists to build houses with moveable walls which run on tracks to enable the same space to be arranged in different ways for different functions. Glass technology is also changing, so you will have glass which is clear but turns opaque when you run an electrical current through it, which could be used to close areas off. Small homes will need more adaptable furniture, such as convertible sofa-beds and furniture which can be neatly stacked away when not in use.

Both experts predict ever-more elaborate home entertainment systems, or "hometainment" as Mr Sanderson calls it, making staying in as fun as going out. These too will double up to perform several functions. Mr Brindley says: "A flat screen on your wall could double up as your front door intercom, your computer and be used to watch films." You will also be able to do things like switch machinery in the home on and off from on holiday and that sort of thing." [...]

Mr Sanderson says robots look likely to start appearing in our homes quiet soon, with models ranging from Sony's childlike Qrio and robot pet dog to robotic vacuum cleaners already in development. But Mr Brindley expects most robots to be more functional than lifelike. "They will mostly be small, inbuilt silent little robots sorting out your fridge or opening and closing your blinds than the butler-like robots wandering around with dusters." There will be micro-robots designed to carry out specific tasks such as cleaning toilets or drains." He also foresees new materials for buildings and appliances which can repair and regenerate themselves, or which change shape when an electrical current is passed through them.

BBC.CO.UK., 1 June, 2005.

¹ Canopy: *auvent*

TRAVAIL DEMANDÉ

I - COMPRÉHENSION (10 pts)

Rédigez en français un résumé du texte en environ 200 mots (plus ou moins 10%).

II - EXPRESSION EN ANGLAIS (10 pts)

Répondez en anglais aux deux questions suivantes :

1. What are the pros and the cons of such a house of the future? (environ 100 mots, plus ou moins 10%, 5 pts)
2. Describe your ideal house of the future. (environ 100 mots, plus ou moins 10%, 5 pts)