

1.

When in Paris, never miss the Eiffel Tower!

In 1887 when the construction of the Eiffel Tower started, more than 300 celebrities including famous writer Maupassant were against the building of this ugly tower. But two years later, the Eiffel Tower became the most classic architecture in the exhibition that year. And now after over 100 years since its building, the tower can bring more than 1.5 billion Euros to Paris annually. Almost every visitor to Paris will come to Eiffel to have a bird's eye view for the city. Maybe, such an astonishing change is also beyond the expectation of its designer, Gustave Eiffel.

Below is some information about visiting the Tower.

Address: Champ de Mars, 5 av Anatole France, 7e

Tel: 0892701239

Tickets: To take the lift to the top, the price for adults and children are 15 and 10.50 euros each; to take the lift to the 2nd floor, the price for adults and children are 9 and 4.50 euros each; to take the stairs to the 2nd floor, the price for adults and children are 5 and 3 euros each; and to take the lift to the top from the 2nd floor costs 6 euros.

Opening Hours: The Eiffel Tower is open every single day of the year. From 17 June to 28 August, the lifts and stairs open from 9: 00 to midnight. During the rest of the year, the lifts open from 9: 30-23: 00 and the stairs open from 9: 30-18: 30.

Website: www. tour-eiffel. fr

1. What do we know about the Eiffel Tower?

- A. The tower was completed in 1887.
- B. The designer was quite sure of its success.
- C. The tower brings great profits to Paris.
- D. Its design was popular from the beginning.

2. To get to the top of the Eiffel Tower, how much does an adult pay AT LEAST?

- A. 6 euros.      B. 9 euros.      C. 11 euros.      D. 15 euros.

3. If you want to overlook Paris at night on October 1st, you can \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. take lifts to the top      B. take stairs first and then lifts
- C. take stairs to the top      D. take lifts first and then stairs

2.

Although most hitchhikers (搭便车的人) are people, passers-by tend to ignore them because they are cautious about giving rides to strangers. But what will they do if they come across a hitchhiking robot? Will they take it to its destination or will they just leave the helpless machine by the wayside?

That is the answer Canadian professors, David Harris Smith and Frauke Zeller, who study the relationship between humans and technology, are seeking for after they came up with the idea of building a hitchhiking robot.

HitchBOT is built with cheap household items. Thanks to a PC tablet, GPS tracker and camera, hitchBOT not only can send its thoughts and pictures to the general public, but also can answer general questions and keep drivers entertained with small talks. The smart robot is even able to quote interesting facts about the areas it has passed through.

Not surprisingly, many people are doubtful about hitchBOT's ability. Most people think the cute robot will be damaged by someone. Actually, they are all wrong. The robot hitchhiked all the way from Halifax, Nova Scotia, to Victoria, British Columbia, a distance of 3,700 miles. It was first picked up on July 27th by an elderly couple. It not only reached its destination on August 21st, but also had some amazing adventures along the way. It visited national parks, went fishing, went camping, and even attended a wedding where it experienced its first dance and interrupted the bride's speech.

In addition to helping it get to its destination, its Canadian fans have gone out to ensure its safety from covering the robot with a plastic cape (披肩) to help keep it dry to ensuring that it stays healthy with motor oil.

4. Why is the hitchhiking robot built?

- A. To help passers-by reach their destinations.
- B. To find out how people might react to it.
- C. To see if it will give rides to strangers.
- D. To entertain drivers on their way.

5. The hitchBOT can do all of the following except \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. talking with the driver      B. dancing with people