While you listen

The *Britain is Great* series tells you about some of the things that make Britain so great. There's a lot of fun facts – and lots of good language, too. See if you can answer the questions while you watch the video.

Comprehension Task 1 - Which of these things does Richard do in the video? Choose all the right answers.

1. He visits a high-tech science facility.
2. He watches a robot in action.
3. He plays a video game.
4. He controls a robot.
5. He drives a racing car.
6. He meets the British Prime Minister.
7. He visits an assembly line.
8. He drives a Rolls Royce.

Comprehension Task 2 - Listening for detail. Fill in the missing information from the video. Each space represents a missing word or number.

1. The snake-arm robot was created by OC Robotics. It's being used in the Aerospace, medicine, security and (a) _____ industries. The company is talking to NASA about its use in the maintenance of space (b) _____ .
There are two (c) _____. One shows the on-board (d) _____ and the other shows a (e) _____ _____ . A few (f) _____ control the system and there is also a (g) _____ _____ controller.

2. McLaren have taken their Formula 1 technologies and put them into a new high performance, (a) _____ _____ sports car called the (b) _____. The chassis is a (c) _____ _____composite - an innovation that could pass down to more affordable (d) _____ _____ .

3. Rolls Royce has its headquarters at the historic (a) _____ _____ . The latest car in the Rolls Royce family is the (b) _____. It takes a minimum of (c) _____days and (d) _____ people to make each car. It has a 6.6 litre V12 (e) _____ _____ engine. It has new suspension, night vision and sound systems, active (f) _____ _____ and a lane departure system too.

Language Task 1 - Match the two parts to make phrases from the video.

a) craftsmanship   e) luxury

b) drive (a car)   f) profile

c) edge   g) up

d) feedback   h) world

1. cutting _____
2. lead the _____
3. brought _____
4. high _____
5. traditional _____
6. to test _____
7. customer _____
8. the height of _____

Language Task 2 - Richard says "So are you looking forward to helping design the next big car?" We use 'helping' - the 'ing' form - because 'to' is a preposition in this sentence. Decide if 'to' is a preposition in these sentences, and choose the appropriate verb form.

1. When I was younger I never used to _____ about the future, but now I worry a lot more.
a) think
b) thinking

2. When it comes to _____ new gadgets, James Dyson is your man.
a) invent
b) inventing

3. When I went to Britain, I found it hard to get used to _____ on the left-hand side of the road.
a) drive
b) driving

4. 'Eat your Way to Health: a Beginner's Guide to _____ Weight'
a) lose
b) losing

5. 'Just Put it Out! - The Easy Way to _____ Smoking'
a) stop
b) stopping

6. It's very hard to overcome the addiction to _____.
a) smoke
b) smoking

7. After three hours of interrogation, the suspect finally confessed to _____ the police officer.
a) shoot
b) shooting

8. She devotes all of her time to _____ the poor and needy.
a) help
b) helping

9. Since we had the baby we never seem to have any time to _____.
a) relax
b) relaxing

10. I am looking forward to _____ from you soon.
Yours sincerely,
John Holden
a) hear
b) hearing

Comprehension Task 1: a; d; e; h; f) computers, g) games console; 2. a) low emissions, b) MP4 12C, c) carbon fibre, d) road cars; 3. a) Goodwood Estate, b) Ghost, c) 20/twenty, d) 60/sixty, e) twin turbo, f) cruise control

Language Task 1: 1.c; 2.h; 3.g; 4.f; 5.a; 6.b; 7.d; 8.e;

Comprehension Task 2: 1. a) nuclear, b) satellites, c) monitors, d) camera, e) virtual environment,

Language Task 2: 1.a; 2.b; 3.b; 4.b; 5.a; 6.b; 7.b; 8.b; 9.a; 10.b