

Robot Fighting Entertainment

Warmup: Do you think fighting is good entertainment? Do you like playing games or watching sports that include fighting (boxing, UFC, WWE, Taekwondo, Starcraft, Street Fighter, Mortal Combat, Mech-Warrior, Halo, etc)?

Vocabulary

Gigantic/giant	Sports league	Humanoids
Killer	Stadium	Piloted
Prototype	Versions	Cockpit
Entertainment	Armor Panels	Separate
Long-term vision	Limbs	Steer

Video Clip from Adam Savage's Tested - “Megabots’ Giant Fighting Robot!”:



JAMIE & ADAM
TESTED (0:00 – 1:48) <https://youtu.be/1maD5WzsEs8>



Listening Comprehension

1. What is the Megabot and who made it?



MECH-WARRIOR®

2. Where did these engineers get the idea for making this kind of robot?

3. What is the long-term vision for this robot? Why did they build it?

4. What kind of things will the audience see if they go to the stadium?

5. Why are there two people in the cockpit? Why did they divide the roles and what role does each person do?



Discussion

1. Would you be interested in joining a Megabot sports league? Would you be willing to pay for a ticket to watch these robots fight?

2. Do you think this is a good use of money and resources? Would you invest in this company if you had an opportunity? Will the world need giant fighting robots to fight wars in the future?

3. Are there any other video games or Science Fiction technology that you would like to see become reality? What would you do with this technology? Consider:

Flying Cars	Bat Mobile	Matrix Mind Control
Space Ships	Teleportation	Light Sabers
Submarines	Transformers	Service Robots
Iron Man Suit	Avatars	Terminator

4. What type of robots do you think will be possible in the near future? Which ones would you be interested in owning?

House cleaning robot	Search and Rescue Robot
Child care robot	Sports playing robot
Robot husband/wife	Teacher robot
Dog or Cat Robot	Doctor Robot
War Robot	Singing & Dancing Robot
Car driving robot	Pilot Robot



5. Do you think people should be worried about Robot technology and AI becoming dangerous (like Terminator)?



Expressions & Grammar

1. “The Megabot? A Megabot? Just Megabot?”

“The Megabot” – means the specific robot behind them

“A Megabot” – means any Megabot that exists

Just “Megabot” – means the robot which has the name “Megabot”



* **Grammar Exercises** - See this website to practice using articles:

https://owl.purdue.edu/owl_exercises/grammar_exercises/articles/articles_exercise_1.html

2. “So you played a lot of Mech Warrior **growing up**.”

growing up (can be a shortened form of “while you were growing up”)

Example: I ate a lot of candy **growing up**, so I have bad teeth now.

Question: What are some things that you did **growing up** that you still do now?

What are some things that you don't do anymore?

- Playing a video game?
- Watching a TV program?
- Studying something?
- Going somewhere?
- Wearing a certain fashion?



3. “This is a **dream** I can get behind.”

A dream/idea/plan [that] someone **can get behind** (means something someone can agree with and support)

Example: Driverless cars are **an idea that I can get behind**.

Example: Colonizing planet Mars is **a plan I cannot get behind**.

Question: What are some **ideas that you can/cannot get behind**? Consider politics, laws, technology, business, education, family.

Megabot: Giant Fighting Robot!

Will: Hey gang! It's Will from tested. I'm here at Maker Fair 2015, with the guys who made, well, the **gigantic**, killer, death robot behind me. Um, could you guys tell me a little bit about **The Megabot? A Megabot? Just Megabot?**

Matt: Sure, the Megabot is the first **prototype** that the company named Megabots has created so this is **actually** a company. We are creating giant fighting robots. And this is the, kind of the world **premier** of our first full-scale, mobile, double-weapon, two-people-sits-inside of it, Megabot.

Will: *So you played a lot of Mech Warrior growing up.*

Gui: That's correct. Mech Warrior 2 onwards all the way through Mech Warrior online.

Will: What's the goal with Megabots? Are you trying to make killer death robots or are you making **entertainment** death robots.

Gui: So both. Ah, basically, the idea is the **long-term vision** is we are making a giant robot **sports league**. So we want people to go to **stadiums** and see walking **versions** of these guys playing a giant game of paintball blowing off **armor panels**, like you should see **limbs** falling off. It should look like live-action Mech Warrior on a playing field with walking **humanoids** that are 15 feet tall, **piloted** by two people.

Will: This is *a dream I can get behind*. Are there two people in the **cockpit**?

Matt: The person in the front is the gunner. And the person in the back is the driver. Typically in Mech Warrior you have one person doing both of those roles and we found that like, when you're playing those games a lot of times you turn the torso sideways and then you keep walking and you're not really paying attention to where the Mech is walking and you run into all kinds of buildings and other players and stuff like that. So we want to **separate** those two roles that each person could focus on those specific roles. So that's why we divided it up. The person in the back can't see out that well. So we've attached cameras to the base of the robot so the person in the back is actually looking at these monitors as they **steer** the robot and the person in the front is placing the guns and firing them.

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