

roll call

SKH Kei Hau Secondary School



By the time we grow up and enter the world of work, we will probably find ourselves working alongside intelligent robots.

There are already robots in many workplaces, doing tasks once done by humans - but where does that leave us?

Joseph Sung Jao-yiu, a professor of medicine at Chinese University, came to our school to tell us more about artificial intelligence (AI), and how humans and robots can work together. Sung said that we were living in what he called an "AI era". He talked about the AI robot that famously beat South Korean Go champion Li Shishi in a Go tournament. Go is a board game created more than 2,500 years ago on the mainland. AI robots like this are able to "learn" as they go along.

AI robots are also being used in the medical field. In the near future, doctors will no longer have to perform certain types of surgery with their own hands. Instead, they will control a robot that will be able to perform the surgery much more carefully and precisely.

AI can also help researchers develop new drugs much more quickly, to help fight disease. Recently, a program powered by AI was used to scan already-existing medicines to see if they could be redesigned to fight the Ebola virus.

But Sung asked us a question: does this mean we don't need doctors any more? The truth is, there are still some things that humans can do that

robots simply cannot. Sung taught us the "five Cs": critical thinking, collaborative spirit, communication skills, confidence in oneself, and compassion for others. These are the qualities humans need to have if they want to compete with AI robots.

AI robots may replace some of the work originally done by humans, such as manual or repetitive work. But when it comes to creative roles, humans can't be replaced. So it's up to us to make sure we have the skills to take on these creative roles.

AI can also never replace the essence of humanity. Sung told us about a book - *When Breath Becomes Air* by Paul Kalanithi. Kalanithi was studying to be a neurosurgeon at Stanford University, in the US, when he was diagnosed with lung cancer. This completely changed his life and career. He had to learn how to overcome some very difficult challenges.

Finally, Sung encouraged us to pursue our goals, but to never forget that our life experiences are what make us successful in life, and this is something that can never be replaced by AI.

Chiu Sze-wai, 5A



Students play a brainwave game with their teachers to learn about AI technology



Students show Joseph Sung (left) a robotic tool named the mBot