
Today's Headlines

- **Global climate event**
- **Artificial intelligence versus humans**
- **Being disabled in Rio**

Transcript

Planet Earth – the most complex thing in the universe. Warmed and cooled by natural trends, heated by greenhouse gases from humans. Scientists are **striving** to work it all out. In the Pacific for instance, the warming El Nino current is likely to bring floods where there is normally drought and drought where there's normally rain. Corals were bleached by the last big El Nino in 1998. The new El Nino will heat the world, so will a separate climate event in the Pacific. But these will be **offset** somewhat by a cooling event in the Atlantic. Three big shifts at once.

You're watching what doctors describe as one of the most **revolutionary advances** in the history of surgery. Here at the Royal Marsden Hospital in London consultant surgeon Declan Cahill seems to sit within the robot – a blend of man and machine. He remains, though, very much in control. It's a tool just like his scalpel or forceps, albeit far more sophisticated.

These are *embaixadores da alegria* – or happy **ambassadors** – made up of dancers of all disabilities. They're rehearsing for the 'Paralympics – one year to go' celebrations. Every year they perform at the Rio Carnival. But it wasn't until 2013 that they were allowed to parade with everyone else.

Words and phrases and definitions:

striving

trying hard to achieve something

offset

balancing one influence against an opposite one so no great change happens

revolutionary advances

completely new developments that change the way things are done or made

ambassadors

people who are chosen to represent a group or organisation

Watch the video online: <http://bbc.in/1YrjBq3>

Exercise:

Use one of the words or phrases from Lingohack to complete each of these sentences.

Note that you may have to change the form of a word to complete the sentence correctly.

striving / offset / revolutionary advances / ambassadors

1. Poor food sales in the supermarket were _____ by an increase in the sale of clothing and household goods.
2. He became an _____ for his sport after winning five gold medals at the Olympics.
3. Because of the poor economic conditions, many people are _____ to keep hold of their jobs.
4. Due to _____ in medicine, more people with cancer are able to survive and go on to lead a healthy life.

Answers:

1. Poor food sales in the supermarket were **offset** by an increase in the sale of clothing and household goods.
2. He became an **ambassador** for his sport after winning five gold medals at the Olympics.
3. Because of the poor economic conditions, many people are **striving** to keep hold of their jobs.
4. Due to **revolutionary advances** in medicine, more people with cancer are able to survive and go on to lead a healthy life.