

## **A look at modern technological progress and future development by Doraemon**

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Do you know Doraemon? Of course you do! Doraemon is the popular robot character from the 22nd century. He has been living with a wimpy boy named Nobita. Doraemon lends future tools from his "fourth dimension pocket", to help his friend. Among these future tools, there are some things which in reality have already been invented. For example, Doraemon has an Itonashi-Itodenwa, a thread telephone without the thread. It is just like our mobile telephones. Also he has a Kamekake-Terebi, hang-on-the-wall type television in his pocket. Just like the type we can buy today. The futuristic tools of Doraemon are becoming a reality of today.

Does that mean that If I look at Doraemon's tools, can I get a preview of what future technological progress I can expect?

At first, let me give the example of Oishasan-Kaban, a doctor's bag as one thing which should be a reality. It contains a stethoscope which can diagnose a patient's problem by only touching it to them, and then treats the patient. Presently in Japan, there is a serious regional medical gap problem. Doctors are concentrated in the urban regions, but there are few doctors in the rural areas. Therefore, people who live in these areas can not always receive proper medical care. To solve this problem, we should disperse doctors equally over all areas, but that would be difficult to do in reality. If there is a doctor bag, even though there is no doctor, someone can cure a light disease. If it is a serious disease, one can call a doctor right away by using the bag.

When I think about how practical it would be to make, I imagine it is possible, because it can diagnose the disease very quickly. In fact there is already an "AED" in the world, so progress in the medical field may come soon.

Next, let's look at the Kuuki-Pisutoru, an air pistol which I think will be realized soon. This can be attached to the forefinger and can fire compressed air by just saying "bang". As a safety measure, carrying a security buzzer is encouraged. But I think it is not enough, to only do that. I think we must have the means for self-defense from now on. Carrying an air pistol and operating it are simple, and the power is enough to ward-off threats. It could be a useful security device.

Again, when I think about making it practically, I am optimistic, because the mechanisms of an air pistol, in itself, are simple. It needs just 2 things: A micro-miniature compressor to make compressed air and a device to fire it.

Finally, I want to think about the time machine which is one of the most popular tools of Doraemon. I guess many people would like invent it, but, I think it must not be invented.

If there is a time machine, how will using it change the world? I imagine our negative history would be revised and bettered, and our past would become a

manipulated history. Is there really meaning in such a history? I think humans can grow into better people if they experience failure from time to time.

Based on my previous points, I believe that if new technology matches our needs, then fictional tools can become real tools in our world. However, if there is no technology nor need, the tools can not become reality.

There are a lot of convenient tools that belong to Doraemon. However, there are many things which we must not invent. Various new products have been produced by wonderful advances in technology today. Therefore, these advances may lead to innovations which must not be invented. Reading a Doraemon comic during a break or at home, and discussing the future, is not a bad thing for engineers to do. I hope many engineers have that same desire, and I want to become one-such engineer.