

Uncanny Valley Analysis

When are robots (or images) so realistic they become creepy?

Reflect on your work with NAO in the course, the theory of robotics we have studied, and complete your thinking about the future of robotics with this assignment:

1. Read the three items about The Uncanny Valley at the course web:

<http://people.cs.luc.edu/whonig/comp-388-488-robotics/course-materials/course-reading-materials/>

They include the original short essay by Japanese roboticist Masahiro Mori that introduced the term.

2. Answer these three questions in an essay of about 2 to 3 pages, single spaced.

Do you believe the Uncanny Valley exists? Why?

Is it possible for a robot with characteristics (size, motion, capabilities) similar to NAO to be scary or creepy or make people uncomfortable? Please take a position and defend it.

Finally, define the future of robotics: what will robots be doing in the next 50 years?

You are welcome to do additional research and reading (if so, cite the sources you find interesting), but it is not required.

Whatever you do, DO NOT COPY MATERIALS from any other source. The essay is to be your own, original, created for this assignment, work.

Thank you for your work and learning in the course. Let's see what robots do next!