

098

STEM

### Cynthia Rudin (1976-)

RECIPIENT OF SQUIRREL AI AWARD FOR PIONEERING SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE AI

Born in America, Cynthia Rudin is a computer scientist specialising in machine learning and new technologies. She became world-famous for her projects and research work on interpretable machine learning, which is a way to make the predictions made by computers easily understandable. In 2022 she was awarded the Squirrel AI Award for Artificial Intelligence for the Benefit of Humanity thanks to her research in making AI systems more transparent in high-risk conditions.



#### 1 READING Read the text above and say if the following statements are True (T) or False (F).

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 Cynthia Rudin's main research field is computer science and AI.         | <input type="checkbox"/> T <input type="checkbox"/> F |
| 2 One of her major areas of interest is machine learning.                 | <input type="checkbox"/> T <input type="checkbox"/> F |
| 3 She was awarded an important prize for her research in the field of AI. | <input type="checkbox"/> T <input type="checkbox"/> F |

#### 2 LISTENING 099 Listen to a podcaster talking about her meeting with Cynthia Rudin. Then choose the correct option.

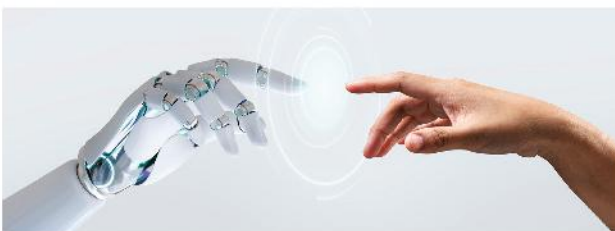
- Cynthia highlighted two key problem areas for humanity: safety and **equality / inequity**.
- Machine Learning Tools could help doctors to **make difficult decisions / identify medical specialists**.
- Machine Learning could reduce crime in society because it could help us to **identify criminal patterns / find relations between criminals**.
- She hopes that AI might help to track down **organised criminals / criminal bank accounts** and so have access to money that could be spent on solving serious problems in society.

#### 3 YouTube Watch the video *Cynthia Rudin Wins \$1 Million Artificial Intelligence Prize* and complete the following statements with the given words.

Nobel prize • real world • future generations • puzzle

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 Cynthia accepted her job at Duke University because she wanted to see how Machine Learning works in the ..... | 3 She believes that ..... will have to work on real problems.                               |
| 2 Cynthia believes understanding a data set is like cracking a .....  | 4 The award Cynthia received is like the ..... for Artificial Intelligence to help society. |

#### 4 WRITING Focus on the following statement by the American mathematician Claude Shannon: "I visualise a time when we will be to robots what dogs are to humans". Write a short paragraph (max. 200 words) illustrating what you think about the future of humanity in a world dominated by technology.



#### 5 #BETHECHANGE Life Skills

Use the Internet to find some examples to demonstrate that technology and education can go hand in hand. Then create a multimedia presentation to share with your classmates.