Driverless Cars

Three Sources (two articles; one video)

Source 1 “Why don’t we have self-driving cars yet?” Video by Business Insider

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SE3gXRKBNHc>

Source 2 “Domino’s will deliver pizza using autonomous vehicles this year” article by delish.com

<https://www.delish.com/food-news/a28101004/dominos-autonomous-cars-delivery/>

Source 3 “ ‘Walking car’ could aid people with disabilities and during emergencies” Washington Post, adapted by Newsela staff

<https://newsela.com/read/hyundai-car-with-legs/id/48636/>

(See video of this walking car at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hQ5Xib6sFp4>)

Key Points

* Driverless cars serve a variety of purposes.
	+ Some day we will be able to get a lot of other things done instead of driving – sleeping, having a meeting, reading a book
	+ Deliver fast food like Domino’s pizza and groceries
	+ Help with labor shortages
	+ Help first responders rescue people when disasters like earthquakes occur
	+ Help people drive over rough ground that a car can’t drive over
* Driverless cars have several special features in addition to not needing a human driver.
	+ Wireless technology that helps them know where to go and communicate with other cars where they are and where they’re going
	+ Can walk, climb over rough terrain
	+ Has room for lots of goods like pizzas and groceries
	+ Has a special key pad for people to use to get into the car
	+ May have features like legs can bend at the knee as well as wheels
	+ Designed to move the way animals move so it can move in any direction
	+ Could climb over a five feet wall or jump across a gap
	+ Can switch from wheels that move to wheels that are locked and legs that move
* There are still obstacles we have to overcome before driverless cars become widely available.
	+ Many roads have poor signs and lane markings that vehicles can clearly make out
	+ Potholes are a problem
	+ Need to be wirelessly connected to work
	+ Can be disrupted by rain and snow (bad weather)
	+ Need to be able to navigate around cars that have human drivers
	+ People are scared of driverless cars
	+ Technological challenges