

6.836 Embodied Intelligence—Research Assignment 6

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Due: Friday, May 10, 2002

Choose one of the following topics and write a two page essay (longer if you wish, but there are no points for extra length). Of course there are no correct answers, but we will be looking for creativity and a well thought out and intelligent discussion of the question.

1. What would it take for people to accept a robot as living?
2. What would it take for people to accept a humanoid robot as deserving rights?
3. Comment on any moral or philosophical issues you see in building humanoid robots.
4. Describe the shortest route you see to achieving truly humanoid robots. What technical obstacles need to be overcome?