Groom & Nass Questions: Can robots be teammates?

This is a well-written, but dense paper. It is in fact convincingly written, and is a good example of highly authoritative rhetoric. Your job is to read it and, rather than accepting all the in-built assumptions, question is carefully and form your own opinion. Some questions to answer before we discuss in class:

1. Why, does Nass say, Ants are not members of a team? Explain whether or not you agree or disagree with this analysis, and why.

2. Nass suggests that trust is not possible to have towards a machine that cannot trust, feel guilt, or betrayal. I would counter by saying that I trust for instance my very reliable electric car; and I trust my four wheel drive car in snowy conditions very highly. What do you think of my examples? Why am I misappropriating Nass’s meaning, or why are these simple answers contradicting Nass so easily?