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## Level 3

### Scientists say there could be life on TRAPPIST-1

7th March, 2017

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1703/170307-trappist-1.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170307-trappist-1.html>

Ever since the discovery of a new solar system several weeks ago, scientists have been discussing whether planets in the system could contain life. Scientists called the system "TRAPPIST-1". It contains a small sun and seven Earth-sized planets. It is very similar to our own solar system. NASA scientist Michael Gillon said three of the seven TRAPPIST-1 planets receive as much heat from its sun as Venus, Earth and Mars receive from our Sun. He said this provides the right environment for life to exist. TRAPPIST-1 is in a star system called Aquarius. It is nearly 40 light-years away from the Earth. Its sun is smaller than our Sun and has just 1/1000th of its brightness, but that could be enough to support life.

Michael Gillon explained that you could see the other six planets in the sky if you were on one of the TRAPPIST-1 planets. A neighbouring planet could look bigger than our view of our Moon. Mr Gillon said: "If you were on the surface of one of these planets, you would have a wonderful view of the other planets. You wouldn't see them like we see Venus or Mars, like dots of light. You would see them really as we see the Moon. You would see the structures on these worlds." Astronomer Dr Jessie Christiansen said life exists everywhere, "such as bacteria that survives in 130-degree caves, or things at the bottom of the ocean where there's no light". She said it could be possible for life to exist on some of these planets.

Sources: <http://sciexaminer.com/news/space/earth-2-0-trappist-1-host-another-earth-2357.html>  
<http://www.csmonitor.com/Science/2017/0227/Could-the-TRAPPIST-1-worlds-harbor-alien-life>  
<http://www.space.com/35811-life-on-trappist-1-earth-like-exoplanets.html>

# WARM-UPS

**1. PLANETS:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about planets. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

discovery / scientists / planets / solar system / heat / environment / light years / life / sky / neighbouring / the Moon / wonderful view / Mars / bacteria / caves / the ocean

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. ALIEN LIFE:** Students A **strongly** believe finding alien life would be good for us on Earth; Students B **strongly** believe it would be terrible, a nightmare, very bad... Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. ALIENS:** What would we do if we found aliens on other planets? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What?	Why?
First contact		
Disease		
Bringing them to Earth		
Communication		
Sharing knowledge		
Dangers		

**5. SOLAR:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "solar". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

**6. SPACE:** Rank these with your partner. Put the most interesting things at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Earth
- the Moon
- comets
- black holes
- the Northern Lights
- Mars
- asteroids
- galaxies far, far away

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170307-trappist-1.html>

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. The TRAPPIST-1 solar system was first discovered in 2012. **T / F**
- b. There are 7 planets in the TRAPPIST-1 solar system. **T / F**
- c. Three of the planets get as much heat as the Earth. **T / F**
- d. Our Sun is 1,000 times brighter than the TRAPPIST-1 sun. **T / F**
- e. A scientist said you can see the TRAPPIST-1 planets from Earth. **T / F**
- f. The scientist said you can see Mars from the TRAPPIST-1 planets. **T / F**
- g. From one TRAPPIST-1 planet, you can see structures on the others. **T / F**
- h. Nothing lives at the bottom of the ocean where there's no light. **T / F**

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- |                        |                  |
|------------------------|------------------|
| <b>1. discovery</b>    | a. get           |
| <b>2. discussing</b>   | b. spots         |
| <b>3. receive</b>      | c. sufficient    |
| <b>4. right</b>        | d. marvellous    |
| <b>5. enough</b>       | e. finding       |
| <b>6. neighbouring</b> | f. remains alive |
| <b>7. wonderful</b>    | g. correct       |
| <b>8. dots</b>         | h. talking about |
| <b>9. survives</b>     | i. be alive      |
| <b>10. exist</b>       | j. adjacent      |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1. Ever since the discovery of a new solar    | a. as Venus                |
| 2. It contains a small sun and seven          | b. some of these planets   |
| 3. planets receive as much heat from its sun  | c. of its brightness       |
| 4. It is nearly 40 light-years                | d. of light                |
| 5. just 1/1000th                              | e. in the sky              |
| 6. you could see the other six planets        | f. away from the Earth     |
| 7. If you were on the surface                 | g. system                  |
| 8. like dots                                  | h. of the ocean            |
| 9. things at the bottom                       | i. Earth-sized planets     |
| 10. it could be possible for life to exist on | j. of one of these planets |

# GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170307-trappist-1.html>

Ever since the (1) \_\_\_\_\_ of a new solar system several weeks ago, scientists have been discussing (2) \_\_\_\_\_ planets in the system could contain life. Scientists called the system "TRAPPIST-1". It contains a small sun and seven Earth-(3) \_\_\_\_\_ planets. It is very similar to our own solar system. NASA scientist Michael Gillon said three of the seven TRAPPIST-1 planets (4) \_\_\_\_\_ as much heat from its sun as Venus, Earth and Mars receive from our Sun. He said this provides the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ environment for life to exist. TRAPPIST-1 is in a (6) \_\_\_\_\_ system called Aquarius. It is nearly 40 light-(7) \_\_\_\_\_ away from the Earth. Its sun is smaller than our Sun and has just 1/1000th of its (8) \_\_\_\_\_, but that could be enough to support life.

*receive*  
*discovery*  
*years*  
*right*  
*brightness*  
*sized*  
*whether*  
*star*

Michael Gillon explained that you could see the other six planets in the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ if you were on one of the TRAPPIST-1 planets. A neighbouring planet could look bigger than our (10) \_\_\_\_\_ of our Moon. Mr Gillon said: "If you were on the (11) \_\_\_\_\_ of one of these planets, you would have a (12) \_\_\_\_\_ view of the other planets. You wouldn't see them like we see Venus or Mars, like (13) \_\_\_\_\_ of light. You would see them really as we see the Moon. You would see the structures on these worlds." Astronomer Dr Jessie Christiansen said life exists (14) \_\_\_\_\_, "such as bacteria that survives in 130-degree caves, or things at the bottom of the (15) \_\_\_\_\_ where there's no light". She said it could be possible for life to (16) \_\_\_\_\_ on some of these planets.

*wonderful*  
*view*  
*everywhere*  
*sky*  
*exist*  
*dots*  
*ocean*  
*surface*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170307-trappist-1.html>

- 1) Ever since the discovery of a new solar system \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. several weeks age
  - b. seven weeks ago
  - c. severe week ago
  - d. several weeks ago
- 2) discussing whether planets in the system could \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. contain life
  - b. contain lives
  - c. contain live
  - d. contain lively
- 3) It is very similar to our own \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. polar systems
  - b. solar systemic
  - c. polar system
  - d. solar system
- 4) He said this provides the right environment for \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. life to exists
  - b. life to existed
  - c. life to exist
  - d. life to existing
- 5) Its sun is smaller than our Sun and has just 1/1000th \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. for its brightness
  - b. of its bright nest
  - c. of its brightness
  - d. from its bright knees
- 6) Michael Gillon explained that you could see the other six \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. planets in the sky
  - b. planet in the sky
  - c. planets in a sky
  - d. planets in the skies
- 7) A neighbouring planet could look bigger than our view \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. off our Moon
  - b. of your Moon
  - c. of our Moon
  - d. of our Moons
- 8) You wouldn't see them like we see Venus or Mars, like \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. dots off light
  - b. dots of light
  - c. dots for light
  - d. dots from light
- 9) Dr Jessie Christiansen said life exists everywhere, \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. such has bacteria
  - b. such was bacteria
  - c. such is bacteria
  - d. such as bacteria
- 10) or things at the bottom of the ocean where \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. there's no light
  - b. there's no lights
  - c. there's no lighter
  - d. there's no lighten

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170307-trappist-1.html>

Ever since the discovery (1) \_\_\_\_\_ system several weeks ago, scientists have been discussing whether (2) \_\_\_\_\_ system could contain life. Scientists called the system "TRAPPIST-1". It (3) \_\_\_\_\_ sun and seven Earth-sized planets. It is very similar to our own solar system. NASA scientist Michael Gillon said three of the seven TRAPPIST-1 planets (4) \_\_\_\_\_ heat from its sun as Venus, Earth and Mars receive from our Sun. He said this provides the right environment (5) \_\_\_\_\_. TRAPPIST-1 is in a star system called Aquarius. It is nearly 40 light-years away from the Earth. Its sun is smaller than our Sun and has just (6) \_\_\_\_\_ its brightness, but that could be enough to support life.

Michael Gillon explained that you could (7) \_\_\_\_\_ six planets in the sky if you were on one of the TRAPPIST-1 planets. A neighbouring planet could look bigger (8) \_\_\_\_\_ our Moon. Mr Gillon said: "If you were on the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ these planets, you would have a wonderful view of the other planets. You wouldn't see them like we see Venus or Mars, like (10) \_\_\_\_\_. You would see them really as we see the Moon. You would see the structures on these worlds." Astronomer Dr Jessie Christiansen said (11) \_\_\_\_\_, "such as bacteria that survives in 130-degree caves, or things at the bottom of the ocean where there's no light". She said it could be possible for (12) \_\_\_\_\_ some of these planets.

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170307-trappist-1.html>

1. How many weeks ago did the article say the solar system was found?
2. How many planets does the new solar system contain?
3. What did the article say TRAPPIST-1 was similar to?
4. How far away is TRAPPIST-1 from the Earth?
5. How much brighter is our Sun than the TRAPPIST-1 sun?
6. What might the TRAPPIST-1 planets look bigger than from each planet?
7. What kind of view did the scientist say there might be from the planets?
8. What did the scientist say you could see on the planets?
9. What did an astronomer say could live in 130-degree heat in caves?
10. What did the astronomer say was not at the bottom of the ocean?



# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170307-trappist-1.html>

- 1) How many weeks ago did the article say the solar system was found?
  - a) two
  - b) several
  - c) a few
  - d) numerous
- 2) How many planets does the new solar system contain?
  - a) 5
  - b) 8
  - c) 6
  - d) 7
- 3) What did the article say TRAPPIST-1 was similar to?
  - a) our solar system
  - b) Jupiter
  - c) the Milky Way
  - d) Aquarius
- 4) How far away is TRAPPIST-1 from the Earth?
  - a) nearly 4 years
  - b) nearly 400 billion km
  - c) nearly 40 light-years
  - d) nearly 40 light months
- 5) How much brighter is our Sun than the TRAPPIST-1 sun?
  - a) 1,000,000 times
  - b) 1,000 times
  - c) 10,000 times
  - d) 100,000 times
- 6) What might the TRAPPIST-1 planets look bigger than from each planet?
  - a) Mount Everest
  - b) the Sun
  - c) our Moon
  - d) an airplane
- 7) What kind of view did the scientist say there might be from the planets?
  - a) a scary one
  - b) a dark one
  - c) a colourful one
  - d) a wonderful view
- 8) What did the scientist say you could see on the planets?
  - a) structures
  - b) aliens
  - c) cheese
  - d) water
- 9) What did an astronomer say could live in 130-degree heat in caves?
  - a) bacteria
  - b) aliens
  - c) worms
  - d) dragons
- 10) What did the astronomer say was not at the bottom of the ocean?
  - a) treasure
  - b) light
  - c) bacteria
  - d) fish

# ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170307-trappist-1.html>

## **Role A – The Earth**

You think the Earth is the most interesting thing in space. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things are boring. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): Mars, black holes or galaxies far, far away.

## **Role B – Mars**

You think Mars is the most interesting thing in space. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things are boring. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): the Earth, black holes or galaxies far, far away.

## **Role C – Black Holes**

You think black holes are the most interesting things in space. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things are boring. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): Mars, the Earth or galaxies far, far away.

## **Role D – Galaxies Far, Far Away**

You think galaxies far, far away are the most interesting things in space. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things are boring. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): Mars, black holes or the Earth.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170307-trappist-1.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'solar' and 'system'.

<b>solar</b>	<b>system</b>
--------------	---------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• since</li><li>• similar</li><li>• heat</li><li>• 40</li><li>• smaller</li><li>• support</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• six</li><li>• bigger</li><li>• wonderful</li><li>• dots</li><li>• 130</li><li>• possible</li></ul>
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# PLANETS SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170307-trappist-1.html>

Write five GOOD questions about planets in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.  
When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

# PLANETS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'planet'?
3. What do you know about TRAPPIST-1
4. What do you think of our planet Earth?
5. How would you feel if scientists discovered life on other planets?
6. What would you say to an alien if you met one?
7. What is the right environment to support life?
8. What do you think alien life might look like?
9. How exciting would it be to travel in space?
10. What do scientists do all day?

*Scientists say there could be life on TRAPPIST-1 – 7th March, 2017*  
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# PLANETS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'solar'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you know about our solar system?
15. How beautiful is our solar system?
16. What is your favourite space movie?
17. What do you know about the Moon?
18. Should we study astronomy more at school?
19. What is your favourite planet, and why?
20. What questions would you like to ask the scientists?

## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170307-trappist-1.html>

Ever since the discovery of a new solar system (1) \_\_\_\_\_ weeks ago, scientists have been discussing whether planets in the system could (2) \_\_\_\_\_ life. Scientists called the system "TRAPPIST-1". It contains a small sun and seven Earth-(3) \_\_\_\_\_ planets. It is very similar to our own solar system. NASA scientist Michael Gillon said three of the seven TRAPPIST-1 planets receive as much heat from (4) \_\_\_\_\_ sun as Venus, Earth and Mars receive from our Sun. He said this provides the right environment for life to exist. TRAPPIST-1 is in a star system called Aquarius. It is nearly 40 (5) \_\_\_\_\_-years away from the Earth. Its sun is smaller than our Sun and has just 1/1000th of its brightness, but that could (6) \_\_\_\_\_ enough to support life.

Michael Gillon explained that you could see the (7) \_\_\_\_\_ six planets in the sky if you were on one of the TRAPPIST-1 planets. A neighbouring planet could look bigger than our view (8) \_\_\_\_\_ our Moon. Mr Gillon said: "If you were on the surface of one of (9) \_\_\_\_\_ planets, you would have a wonderful view of the other planets. You wouldn't see them like we see Venus or Mars, like (10) \_\_\_\_\_ of light. You would see them really (11) \_\_\_\_\_ we see the Moon. You would see the structures on these worlds." Astronomer Dr Jessie Christiansen said life exists everywhere, "such as bacteria that survives in 130-degree caves, or things at the bottom of the ocean where there's (12) \_\_\_\_\_ light". She said it could be possible for life to exist on some of these planets.

## Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- |     |                |               |             |               |
|-----|----------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| 1.  | (a) severe     | (b) several   | (c) seven   | (d) service   |
| 2.  | (a) contract   | (b) constrain | (c) content | (d) contain   |
| 3.  | (a) size       | (b) sized     | (c) sizing  | (d) seized    |
| 4.  | (a) hot        | (b) them      | (c) its     | (d) solar     |
| 5.  | (a) light      | (b) bright    | (c) flash   | (d) sparkling |
| 6.  | (a) be         | (b) live      | (c) once    | (d) so        |
| 7.  | (a) the others | (b) another   | (c) others  | (d) other     |
| 8.  | (a) of         | (b) for       | (c) from    | (d) off       |
| 9.  | (a) that       | (b) these     | (c) their   | (d) them      |
| 10. | (a) craters    | (b) mounds    | (c) dots    | (d) marks     |
| 11. | (a) was        | (b) has       | (c) as      | (d) is        |
| 12. | (a) non        | (b) no        | (c) not     | (d) nom       |

# SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170307-trappist-1.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. Ever since the srcovidey
2. a new aslro system
3. It sotnican a small sun
4. It is very ilsarmi to our own
5. provides the right vnemoinentr
6. could be enough to sutorpp life

## Paragraph 2

7. Michael Gillon leaipdnxe that
8. If you were on the cfrusae
9. have a ldeonfuwr view
10. see the tursecrtsu on these worlds
11. at the bottom of the noeca
12. it could be possible for life to xstei



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170307-trappist-1.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) planets in the system could contain life. Scientists called the system "TRAPPIST-1". It contains a small sun
- ( ) and seven Earth-sized planets. It is very similar to our own solar system. NASA scientist Michael Gillon said three
- ( ) Michael Gillon explained that you could see the other six planets in the sky if you were
- ( ) "If you were on the surface of one of these planets, you would have a wonderful view of the
- ( ) ocean where there's no light". She said it could be possible for life to exist on some of these planets.
- ( ) our Sun. He said this provides the right environment for life to exist. TRAPPIST-1 is in a star system called
- ( ) Aquarius. It is nearly 40 light-years away from the Earth. Its sun is smaller than our Sun and has just
- ( ) exists everywhere, "such as bacteria that survives in 130-degree caves, or things at the bottom of the
- ( ) on one of the TRAPPIST-1 planets. A neighbouring planet could look bigger than our view of our Moon. Mr Gillon said:
- ( **1** ) Ever since the discovery of a new solar system several weeks ago, scientists have been discussing whether
- ( ) other planets. You wouldn't see them like we see Venus or Mars, like dots of light. You would see them really as we
- ( ) see the Moon. You would see the structures on these worlds." Astronomer Dr Jessie Christiansen said life
- ( ) of the seven TRAPPIST-1 planets receive as much heat from its sun as Venus, Earth and Mars receive from
- ( ) 1/1000th of its brightness, but that could be enough to support life.

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170307-trappist-1.html>

1. a system ago of solar weeks discovery new several The .
2. the Discussing system whether could planets contain in life .
3. similar system to It our is own very solar .
4. life the to right exist environment This for provides .
5. - years away from the Earth It is nearly 40 light .
6. other in You the planets sky see six the could .
7. of planets have view other would wonderful the You a .
8. see wouldn't You Venus see we like them .
9. the ocean where there's no light Things at the bottom of .
10. to possible It of exist for could these on life be planets some .

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170307-trappist-1.html>

Ever since the *discovery / discover* of a new solar system several *week / weeks* ago, scientists have been discussing *whether / weather* planets in the system could contain *life / live*. Scientists called the system "TRAPPIST-1". It contains a small sun and seven Earth-sized planets. It is very *same / similar* to our own solar system. NASA scientist Michael Gillon said three of the seven TRAPPIST-1 planets receive *as / has* much heat from its sun as Venus, Earth and Mars receive from *your / our* Sun. He said this provides the right environment for life to *exits / exist*. TRAPPIST-1 is in a star system called Aquarius. It is nearly 40 light-years *away / far* from the Earth. Its sun is smaller than our Sun and has just 1/1000th of its *brightly / brightness*, but that could be enough to support life.

Michael Gillon explained that you could see the *another / other* six planets in the sky if you were on *one / once* of the TRAPPIST-1 planets. A neighbouring planet could look bigger than our view of our Moon. Mr Gillon said: "If you were on the *surface / surfaced* of one of these planets, you would have a wonderful view *for / of* the other planets. You wouldn't see *it / them* like we see Venus or Mars, like *dots / dot* of light. You would see them really as we see the Moon. You would see the *structural / structures* on these worlds." Astronomer Dr Jessie Christiansen said life exists everywhere, "*such / so* as bacteria that survives in 130-degree caves, or *things / thinks* at the bottom of the ocean where there's *any / no* light". She said it could be possible for life to exist on some of these planets.

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170307-trappist-1.html>

\_v\_r s\_nc\_ th\_ d\_sc\_v\_ry \_f \_ n\_w s\_l\_r syst\_m  
s\_v\_r\_l w\_\_ks \_g\_, sc\_\_nt\_sts h\_v\_ b\_\_n d\_sc\_ss\_ng  
wh\_th\_r pl\_n\_ts \_n th\_ syst\_m c\_\_ld c\_\_nt\_\_n l\_f\_.  
Sc\_\_nt\_sts c\_ll\_d th\_ syst\_m "TR\_PP\_ST-1". \_t  
c\_\_nt\_\_ns \_sm\_ll\_s\_n \_nd s\_v\_n \_\_rth-s\_z\_d pl\_n\_ts. \_t  
\_s v\_ry s\_m\_l\_r t\_ \_\_r \_wn s\_l\_r syst\_m. N\_S\_  
sc\_\_nt\_st M\_ch\_\_l G\_ll\_n s\_\_d thr\_\_ \_f th\_ s\_v\_n  
TR\_PP\_ST-1 pl\_n\_ts r\_c\_\_v\_\_s m\_ch h\_\_t fr\_m ts\_s\_n  
\_s V\_n\_s, \_\_rth \_nd M\_rs r\_c\_\_v\_ fr\_m \_\_r S\_n. H\_  
s\_\_d th\_s pr\_v\_d\_s th\_ r\_gh\_t \_nv\_r\_nm\_nt f\_r l\_f\_t\_  
\_x\_st. TR\_PP\_ST-1 \_s \_n \_st\_r syst\_m c\_ll\_d  
\_q\_\_r\_\_s. \_t\_s n\_\_rly 40 l\_gh\_t-y\_\_rs \_w\_y fr\_m th\_  
\_\_rth. \_ts s\_n \_s sm\_ll\_r th\_n \_\_r S\_n \_nd h\_s j\_st  
1/1000th \_f ts br\_gh\_tn\_ss, b\_t th\_t c\_\_ld b\_\_n\_gh  
t\_s pp\_rt l\_f\_.

M\_ch\_\_l G\_ll\_n \_xpl\_\_n\_d th\_t y\_\_ c\_\_ld s\_\_ th\_ \_th\_r  
s\_x pl\_n\_ts \_n th\_ sky \_f y\_\_ w\_r\_ \_n \_n\_ \_f th\_  
TR\_PP\_ST-1 pl\_n\_ts. \_n\_ghb\_\_r\_ng pl\_n\_t c\_\_ld l\_\_k  
b\_gg\_r th\_n \_\_r v\_\_w \_f \_\_r M\_\_n. Mr G\_ll\_n s\_\_d: "\_f  
y\_\_ w\_r\_ \_n th\_ s\_rf\_c\_\_f\_n\_ \_f th\_s pl\_n\_ts, y\_\_  
w\_\_ld h\_v\_\_ w\_nd\_rf\_l\_v\_\_w \_f th\_ \_th\_r pl\_n\_ts. Y\_\_  
w\_\_ldn't s\_\_ th\_m l\_k\_ w\_ s\_\_ V\_n\_s \_r M\_rs, l\_k\_  
d\_ts \_f l\_gh\_t. Y\_\_ w\_\_ld s\_\_ th\_m r\_\_lly \_s w\_ s\_\_ th\_  
M\_\_n. Y\_\_ w\_\_ld s\_\_ th\_ str\_ct\_r\_s \_n th\_s w\_rlds."  
\_str\_n\_m\_r Dr J\_ss\_\_ Chr\_st\_\_ns\_n s\_\_d l\_f\_ \_x\_sts  
\_v\_rywh\_r\_, "s\_ch\_\_s b\_ct\_r\_\_ th\_t s\_rv\_v\_s \_n 130-  
d\_gr\_\_c\_v\_s, \_r th\_ngs \_t th\_ b\_tt\_m \_f th\_ \_c\_\_n  
wh\_r th\_r 's n\_l\_gh\_t". Sh\_ s\_\_d \_t c\_\_ld b\_ p\_ss\_bl\_  
f\_r l\_f\_t \_x\_st \_n s\_m\_ \_f th\_s pl\_n\_ts.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170307-trappist-1.html>

ever since the discovery of a new solar system several weeks ago scientists have been discussing whether planets in the system could contain life scientists called the system "trappist-1" it contains a small sun and seven earth-sized planets it is very similar to our own solar system nasa scientist michael gillon said three of the seven trappist-1 planets receive as much heat from its sun as venus earth and mars receive from our sun he said this provides the right environment for life to exist trappist-1 is in a star system called aquarius it is nearly 40 light-years away from the earth its sun is smaller than our sun and has just 1/1000th of its brightness but that could be enough to support life

michael gillon explained that you could see the other six planets in the sky if you were on one of the trappist-1 planets a neighbouring planet could look bigger than our view of our moon mr gillon said "if you were on the surface of one of these planets you would have a wonderful view of the other planets you wouldn't see them like we see venus or mars like dots of light you would see them really as we see the moon you would see the structures on these worlds" astronomer dr jessie christiansen said life exists everywhere "such as bacteria that survives in 130-degree caves or things at the bottom of the ocean where there's no light" she said it could be possible for life to exist on some of these planets

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170307-trappist-1.html>

Eversincethediscoveryofanewsolarsystemseveralweeksago,scienti  
stshavebeendiscussingwhetherplanetsinthecosystemcouldcontainlife  
.Scientistscalledthesystem"TRAPPIST-1".Itcontainsasmallsunan  
dsevenEarth-sizedplanets.Itisverysimilartoourownsolarsyste  
m.NASAscientistMichaelGillonsaidthreeofthesesevenTRAPPIST-1pl  
anetsreceiveasmuchheatfromitssunasVenus,EarthandMarsreceivef  
romourSun.Hesaidthisprovidestherightenvironmentforlifetoexist.T  
RAPPIST-1isinastarsystemcalledAquarius.Itisnearly40light-yea  
rsawayfromtheEarth.ItssunissmallerthanourSunandhasjust1/1000  
thofitsbrightness,butthatcouldbeenoughtosupportlife.MichaelGillon  
explainedthatyoucouldseetheothersixplanetsintheskyifyouwereono  
neoftheTRAPPIST-1planets.Aneighbouringplanetcouldlookbiggerth  
anourviewofourMoon.MrGillonsaid:"Ifyouwereonthesurfaceofoneof  
theseplanets,youwouldhaveawonderfulviewoftheotherplanets.You  
wouldn'tseethemlikeweseVenusorMars,likedotsoflight.Youwoulds  
eethemreallyasweseetheMoon.Youwouldseethestructuresonthese  
worlds."AstronomerDrJessieChristiansensaidlifeexistsseverywhere,  
"suchasbacteriathatsurvivesin130-degreecaves,orthingsatthebot  
tomoftheoceanwherethere'snolight".Shesaiditcouldbepossibleforlif  
etoexistonsomeoftheseplanets.







# HOMEWORK

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about TRAPPIST-1. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. PLANETS:** Make a poster about planets. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. ALIEN LIFE:** Write a magazine article about how finding alien life could change things for us on Earth. What would change? Include imaginary interviews with people who think finding alien life would be bad for us, and with people who think finding alien life would be good for us.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on planets. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on why finding alien life would be good for us on Earth. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F    b T    c T    d T    e F    f F    g T    h F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. discovery    | a. finding       |
| 2. discussing   | b. talking about |
| 3. receive      | c. get           |
| 4. right        | d. correct       |
| 5. enough       | e. sufficient    |
| 6. neighbouring | f. adjacent      |
| 7. wonderful    | g. marvellous    |
| 8. dots         | h. spots         |
| 9. survives     | i. remains alive |
| 10. exist       | j. be alive      |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Several
2. Seven
3. Our solar system
4. Nearly 40 light-years
5. 1,000 times
6. Our Moon
7. A wonderful view
8. Structures
9. Bacteria
10. Light

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. b    2. d    3. a    4. c    5. b    6. c    7. d    8. a    9. a    10. b

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)