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Level 6 – 4th January, 2021

2021 to be huge for space exploration

FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration.html>

Cosmologists, astronomers and space engineers are predicting that 2021 will be a great year for space exploration. An increasing number of countries and commercial companies are investing in technology to venture into the heavens. Entrepreneurs like SpaceX's Elon Musk and Virgin Galactic's Richard Branson are setting their sights on space tourism and sending astronauts to Mars. What once seemed like science fiction is quickly becoming space fact. Such are the advances in technology, we might no longer be surprised at news of asteroids being mined, Mars being colonised, or of new forms of holidays, such as getaway weekend breaks to the Moon.

The year will start with an exciting project that will help scientists better understand the universe. NASA will launch its Q-PACE probe on January the 15th. This will study the collision of small particles in space to provide an insight into how planets originally formed. A month later, NASA's Perseverance rover will land on Mars. This mission will test for signs of possible past microbial life. NASA said: "Returning samples of Mars to Earth has been a goal of planetary scientists since the early days of the space age." In October, the James Webb Space Telescope, the successor to the Hubble Telescope, will launch into space. Its mission is to observe the first galaxies that formed in the early universe.

Sources: <https://www.salon.com/2020/12/29/all-the-space-missions-to-look-forward-to-in-2021/>
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2020/12/30/2021-space-events-plan/>
<https://newatlas.com/space/year-space-2020-retrospective/>

WARM-UPS

1. SPACE EXPLORATION: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about space exploration. 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?

cosmologist / astronomer / a great year / the heavens / space tourism / asteroids / project / the universe / collision / an insight / mission / microbial life / space / galaxy

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

3. THE HEAVENS: Students A **strongly** believe it is essential for humans to explore the heavens; Students B **strongly** believe it isn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. EXPLORATION: How important is it to explore these things? Why? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

| | How Important? | Why? |
|-------------------------|----------------|------|
| The Moon | | |
| Mars | | |
| The deep oceans | | |
| The human brain | | |
| Deep space | | |
| Artificial intelligence | | |

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

6. SCIENCE FICTION: Rank these with your partner. Put the best futuristic things at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Jetpacks
- Robot police
- Drone cars
- Moon holidays
- Reverse-ageing machine
- Teletransportation
- Computer-assisted brains
- 100% sustainability

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. astronomer | a. Saying or estimating that a specified thing will happen in the future. |
| 2. predicting | b. A person who organizes and operates a business or businesses, taking on greater than normal financial risks to do that. |
| 3. venture | c. The sky, especially where the sun, moon, stars, and planets are situated. |
| 4. the heavens | d. Dare to do something or go somewhere that may be dangerous. |
| 5. entrepreneur | e. An expert of student the branch of science which deals with space, and the physical universe. |
| 6. asteroid | f. Sent a group of settlers to a place and establish political control over it. |
| 7. colonised | g. A small rocky object orbiting the sun. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 8. launch | h. A person or thing that takes over from another. |
| 9. probe | i. Sent a missile, satellite, or spacecraft on its course or into orbit. |
| 10. collision | j. Relating to or characteristic of a micro-organism. |
| 11. insight | k. A system of millions or billions of stars. |
| 12. microbial | l. An instance of one moving object or person striking violently against another. |
| 13. successor | m. A deep understanding of a person or thing. |
| 14. galaxy | n. An unmanned exploratory spacecraft designed to transmit information about its environment. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration.html>

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

- a. Cosmologists doubt that 2021 will be great for space exploration. **T / F**
- b. Companies are investing in technology to get us to heaven. **T / F**
- c. The article says science fiction is turning out to be real life. **T / F**
- d. The article says we will not be surprised by our colonising Mars. **T / F**
- e. A NASA probe called Q-PACE will study the collision of small particles. **T / F**
- f. Another NASA probe will look for microbial life on the Moon. **T / F**
- g. NASA said scientists have wanted samples of Mars for a long time. **T / F**
- h. The Hubble Telescope will re-launch in October. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

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

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. predicting | a. impact |
| 2. commercial | b. journey |
| 3. venture | c. enterprise |
| 4. advances | d. vacations |
| 5. breaks | e. cosmos |
| 6. project | f. forecasting |
| 7. collision | g. specimens |
| 8. samples | h. next-in-line |
| 9. successor | i. private enterprise |
| 10. universe | j. breakthroughs |

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

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. investing in technology to venture | a. microbial life |
| 2. setting their sights | b. being mined |
| 3. science fiction is quickly becoming | c. in the early universe |
| 4. surprised at news of asteroids | d. into the heavens |
| 5. getaway weekend | e. space fact |
| 6. the collision of small | f. scientists |
| 7. an insight into how planets | g. particles in space |
| 8. test for signs of possible past | h. breaks to the Moon |
| 9. planetary | i. originally formed |
| 10. observe the first galaxies that formed | j. on space tourism |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration.html>

Cosmologists, astronomers and space engineers are (1) _____ that 2021 will be a great year for space exploration. An increasing (2) _____ of countries and commercial companies are investing in technology to (3) _____ into the heavens. Entrepreneurs like SpaceX's Elon Musk and Virgin Galactic's Richard Branson are setting their (4) _____ on space tourism and sending astronauts to Mars. What (5) _____ seemed like science fiction is quickly becoming space (6) _____. Such are the advances in technology, we might no longer be surprised at news of asteroids being (7) _____, Mars being colonised, or of new forms of holidays, such as (8) _____ weekend breaks to the Moon.

The year will start with an exciting (9) _____ that will help scientists better understand the universe. NASA will launch its Q-PACE (10) _____ on January the 15th. This will study the collision of small particles in space to provide an (11) _____ into how planets originally formed. A month later, NASA's Perseverance rover will (12) _____ on Mars. This mission will test for signs of possible past (13) _____ life. NASA said: "Returning samples of Mars to Earth has been a (14) _____ of planetary scientists since the early days of the space age." In October, the James Webb Space Telescope, the (15) _____ to the Hubble Telescope, will launch into space. Its mission is to observe the first (16) _____ that formed in the early universe.

venture
mined
once
predicting
getaway
number
fact
sights

land
project
successor
insight
goal
probe
galaxies
microbial

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration.html>

- 1) commercial companies are investing in technology to _____ heavens
 - a. adventure into the
 - b. vent your into the
 - c. venture into the
 - d. vent tour into the
- 2) and Virgin Galactic's Richard Branson are setting their _____
 - a. sights son space
 - b. sights Sun space
 - c. sighs on space
 - d. sights on space
- 3) What once seemed like science fiction is quickly _____
 - a. becoming space fact
 - b. becoming space farce
 - c. becoming space factual
 - d. becoming space fat
- 4) the advances in technology, we might no longer be surprised at news of _____
 - a. asteroids be in mined
 - b. asteroids being mined
 - c. asteroids been mined
 - d. asteroids bin mined
- 5) or of new forms of holidays, such as _____
 - a. get the way weekend breaks
 - b. getaway weekend breaks
 - c. get a way weekend breaks
 - d. gets away weekend breaks
- 6) This will study the collision of small _____
 - a. particles Sun space
 - b. particles on space
 - c. particles in space
 - d. particle sin space
- 7) rover will land on Mars. This mission will test for signs of possible _____
 - a. past microbe be all life
 - b. past micro vial life
 - c. past micro bile life
 - d. past microbial life
- 8) Returning samples of Mars to Earth has been a goal _____
 - a. of plant a tree scientists
 - b. of plan a tree scientists
 - c. of planet tree scientists
 - d. of planetary scientists
- 9) In October, the James Webb Space Telescope, the _____ Hubble Telescope
 - a. successor to the
 - b. successive to the
 - c. succession to the
 - d. success or to the
- 10) Its mission is to observe the first galaxies that formed in _____
 - a. the yearning universe
 - b. the earthly universe
 - c. the early universe
 - d. the twirly universe

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration.html>

Cosmologists, astronomers and space engineers (1) _____
2021 will be a great year for space exploration. An increasing number of
countries and commercial companies (2) _____ technology
to venture into the heavens. Entrepreneurs like SpaceX's Elon Musk and
Virgin Galactic's Richard Branson are (3) _____ on space
tourism and sending astronauts to Mars. What once seemed like science
(4) _____ becoming space fact. Such are the advances in
technology, we might no longer be surprised at (5) _____
being mined, Mars being colonised, or of new forms of holidays,
(6) _____ weekend breaks to the Moon.

The year will start with (7) _____ that will help scientists
better understand the universe. NASA will launch its Q-PACE probe on
January the 15th. This will study (8) _____ small particles
in space to provide an insight into how planets originally formed. A month
later, NASA's Perseverance (9) _____ on Mars. This
mission will test for signs of possible past microbial life. NASA said:
"Returning samples of Mars to Earth has been a (10) _____
scientists since the early days of the space age." In October, the James
Webb Space Telescope, (11) _____ the Hubble Telescope,
will launch into space. Its mission is to observe the first galaxies
(12) _____ the early universe.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration.html>

1. Who is predicting a great 2021 besides cosmologists and astronomers?
2. Where do commercial companies want to venture into?
3. Where do entrepreneurs want to send astronauts?
4. What does the article say science fiction is becoming?
5. Where might we be going for weekend breaks?
6. What will NASA launch on January the 15th?
7. In what month will NASA launch its rover?
8. What will NASA's Perseverance rover test for signs of?
9. When will the James Webb Space Telescope launch into space?
10. What is the mission of the James Webb Space Telescope?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration.html>

- 1) Who is predicting a great 2021 besides cosmologists and astronomers?
 - a) coders
 - b) enthusiasts
 - c) space engineers
 - d) astrologers
- 2) Where do commercial companies want to venture into?
 - a) the heavens
 - b) new markets
 - c) time travel
 - d) the past
- 3) Where do entrepreneurs want to send astronauts?
 - a) Neptune
 - b) another galaxy
 - c) Mercury
 - d) Mars
- 4) What does the article say science fiction is becoming?
 - a) illogical
 - b) space fact
 - c) fantasy
 - d) difficult to understand
- 5) Where might we be going for weekend breaks?
 - a) Mount Everest
 - b) Mars
 - c) the Moon
 - d) Saturn
- 6) What will NASA launch on January the 15th?
 - a) a new website
 - b) its Q-PACE probe
 - c) the Perseverance rover
 - d) a telescope
- 7) In what month will NASA launch its rover?
 - a) October
 - b) July
 - c) March
 - d) February
- 8) What will NASA's Perseverance rover test for signs of?
 - a) water
 - b) possible past microbial life
 - c) human existence
 - d) gas
- 9) When will the James Webb Space Telescope launch into space?
 - a) October
 - b) September
 - c) August
 - d) July
- 10) What is the mission of the James Webb Space telescope?
 - a) to look at Earth
 - b) to find new galaxies
 - c) to find new light
 - d) to observe the earliest galaxies

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration.html>

Role A – Jetpacks

You think jetpacks are the most desirable things to have in the future. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which are the least desirable of these (and why): Moon holidays, drone cars or robot police.

Role B – Drone Cars

You think drone cars are the most desirable things to have in the future. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which are the least desirable of these (and why): jetpacks, Moon holidays or robot police.

Role C – Moon Holidays

You think Moon holidays are the most desirable things to have in the future. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which are the least desirable of these (and why): drone cars, jetpacks or robot police.

Role D – Robot Police

You think robot police are the most desirable things to have in the future. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which are the least desirable of these (and why): Moon holidays, drone cars or jetpacks.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration.html>

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

| | |
|--------------|--------------------|
| space | exploration |
|--------------|--------------------|

- 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">• predicting• investing• sights• seemed• surprised• breaks | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• start• small• later• goal• launch• first |
|---|---|

SPACE EXPLORATION SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration.html>

Write five GOOD questions about space exploration 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.

SPACE EXPLORATION 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 'space'?
3. What do you know about space?
4. What do you want to know about space?
5. How important is space exploration?
6. How good is the job of an astronomer?
7. How have commercial companies changed space exploration?
8. What motivates space entrepreneurs?
9. Does science fiction always become space fact?
10. What do you think of getaway weekend breaks to the Moon?

2021 to be huge for space exploration – 4th January, 2021
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SPACE EXPLORATION 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 'exploration'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. How excited are you about space exploration?
15. How do you think the early universe started?
16. Why is space exploration important?
17. What would happen if alien life came to Earth?
18. What do you know about the Hubble Telescope?
19. What do you think space exploration will be like in 100 years?
20. What questions would you like to ask the astronomers?

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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration.html>

Cosmologists, astronomers and space engineers are (1) _____ that 2021 will be a great year for space exploration. An (2) _____ number of countries and commercial companies are investing in technology to (3) _____ into the heavens. Entrepreneurs like SpaceX's Elon Musk and Virgin Galactic's Richard Branson are (4) _____ their sights on space tourism and sending astronauts to Mars. What once seemed like science fiction is quickly becoming space fact. Such are the advances (5) _____ technology, we might no longer be surprised at news of asteroids being mined, Mars being colonised, or of new forms of holidays, such (6) _____ getaway weekend breaks to the Moon.

The year will start with an exciting project that will help scientists better understand the universe. NASA will launch its Q-PACE (7) _____ on January the 15th. This will study the collision of small (8) _____ in space to provide an insight into how planets originally formed. A month later, NASA's Perseverance rover will land on Mars. This mission will test for signs of possible past (9) _____ life. NASA said: "Returning samples of Mars to Earth has been a goal of (10) _____ scientists since the early days of the space age." In October, the James Webb Space Telescope, the successor (11) _____ the Hubble Telescope, will launch into space. Its mission is to observe the first galaxies that formed in the (12) _____ universe.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) predicts | (b) predictive | (c) prediction | (d) predicting |
| 2. | (a) increasable | (b) increase | (c) increases | (d) increasing |
| 3. | (a) vulture | (b) venture | (c) votive | (d) vacuous |
| 4. | (a) letting | (b) betting | (c) setting | (d) wetting |
| 5. | (a) at | (b) in | (c) on | (d) as |
| 6. | (a) as | (b) is | (c) was | (d) has |
| 7. | (a) prove | (b) probe | (c) prose | (d) prone |
| 8. | (a) particles | (b) sights | (c) sighting | (d) sightseer |
| 9. | (a) macro | (b) microbial | (c) macro | (d) mic |
| 10. | (a) planter | (b) planting | (c) planetary | (d) plants |
| 11. | (a) at | (b) of | (c) to | (d) on |
| 12. | (a) slow | (b) late | (c) fast | (d) early |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration.html>

Paragraph 1

1. Cosmologists, rsroaenmots and space engineers
2. micalomrec companies
3. enevutr into the heavens
4. nrrpereeensnut like SpaceX's Elon Musk
5. adascven in technology
6. news of odsaretsi being mined

Paragraph 2

7. study the oliislnc of small particles
8. provide an tiinghs into
9. signs of possible past acomrbiil life
10. a goal of laaetrnyp scientists
11. the ousserccs to the Hubble Telescope
12. the first axagslei that formed

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () advances in technology, we might no longer be surprised at news of asteroids being mined, Mars being
- () into space. Its mission is to observe the first galaxies that formed in the early universe.
- () colonised, or of new forms of holidays, such as getaway weekend breaks to the Moon.
- () in technology to venture into the heavens. Entrepreneurs like SpaceX's Elon Musk and
- (**1**) Cosmologists, astronomers and space engineers are predicting that 2021 will be a great year
- () in space to provide an insight into how planets originally formed. A month later, NASA's Perseverance rover will land
- () The year will start with an exciting project that will help scientists better understand the
- () for space exploration. An increasing number of countries and commercial companies are investing
- () Mars. What once seemed like science fiction is quickly becoming space fact. Such are the
- () universe. NASA will launch its Q-PACE probe on January the 15th. This will study the collision of small particles
- () on Mars. This mission will test for signs of possible past microbial life. NASA said: "Returning samples of Mars
- () age." In October, the James Webb Space Telescope, the successor to the Hubble Telescope, will launch
- () to Earth has been a goal of planetary scientists since the early days of the space
- () Virgin Galactic's Richard Branson are setting their sights on space tourism and sending astronauts to

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration.html>

1. great that year . 2021 a will Predicting be
2. technology in into to venture Investing the heavens .
3. becoming space quickly fiction Science is fact .
4. surprised We no be news . at longer might
5. to Such the Moon . as breaks getaway weekend
6. exciting project . The with an will start year
7. originally into insight formed . planets an Provide how
8. of signs life . microbial for Test possible past
9. Since early space of the age . days the
10. early the Galaxies that universe . formed in

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration.html>

Cosmologists, astronomers and space engineers are *predictive / predicting* that 2021 will be a great year for space exploration. An increasing *numeral / number* of countries and commercial companies are investing *on / in* technology to venture into the heavens. Entrepreneurs like SpaceX's Elon Musk and Virgin Galactic's Richard Branson are setting their *sights / sounds* on space tourism and sending astronauts *to / at* Mars. What once seemed like science fiction *be / is* quickly becoming space *fact / farce*. Such are the advances *on / in* technology, we might no longer be *surprise / surprised* at news of asteroids being mined, Mars being colonised, or of new forms of holidays, such as getaway weekend *broken / breaks* to the Moon.

The year will start with an *exciting / excitement* project that will help scientists better understand the universe. NASA will launch its Q-PACE *prove / probe* on January the 15th. This will study the *collide / collision* of small particles in space to provide an *insight / inside* into how planets originally formed. A month later, NASA's Perseverance *driver / rover* will land on Mars. This mission will test for signs of possible *post / past* microbial life. NASA said: "Returning samples of Mars to Earth has been a goal of *plant / planetary* scientists since the early days of the space *age / year*." In October, the James Webb Space Telescope, the *success / successor* to the Hubble Telescope, will launch into space. Its mission is to observe the first galaxies that formed in the *early / fast* universe.

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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration.html>

C_s_m_l_g_sts, _str_n_m_rs _nd sp_c_ _ng_n__rs _r_ pr_d_ct_ng th_t 2021 w_ll b_ _ gr__t y__r f_r sp_c_ _xpl_r_t__n. _n _ncr__s_ng n_mb_r _f c__ntr__s _nd c_mm_rc__l c_m_p_n__s _r_ _nv_st_ng _n t_chn_l_gy t_v_nt_r_ _nt_ th_ h__v_ns. _ntr_pr_n__rs l_k_ Sp_c_X's _l_n M_sk _nd V_rg_n G_l_ct_c's R_ch_rd Br_ns_n _r_ s_tt_ng th__r s_ghts _n sp_c_ t__r_sm _nd s_nd_ng _str_n__ts t_ M_rs. Wh_t _nc_ s__m_d l_k_ sc__nc_ f_ct__n _s q__ckly b_c_m_ng sp_c_ f_ct. S_ch _r_ th_ _dv_nc_s _n t_chn_l_gy, w_ m_ght n_ l_ng_r b_ s_rpr_s_d _t n_ws _f _str__ds b__ng m_n_d, M_rs b__ng c_l_n_s_d, _r _f n_w f_rms _f h_l_d_ys, s_ch _s g_t_w_y w__k_nd br__ks t_ th_ M__n.

Th_ y__r w_ll st_rt w_th _n _xc_t_ng pr_j_ct th_t w_ll h_lp sc__nt_sts b_tt_r _nd_rst_nd th_ _n_v_rs_. N_S_ w_ll l__nch _ts Q-P_C_ pr_b_ _n J_n__ry th_ 15th. Th_s w_ll st_dy th_ c_ll_s__n _f sm_ll p_rt_cl_s _n sp_c_ t_ pr_v_d_ _n _ns_ght _nt_ h_w pl_n_ts _r_g_n_lly f_rm_d. _ m_nth l_t_r, N_S_'s P_rs_v_r_nc_ r_v_r w_ll l_nd _n M_rs. Th_s m_ss__n w_ll t_st f_r s_gns _f p_ss_bl_ p_st m_cr_b__l l_f_. N_S_ s__d: "R_t_rn_ng s_mpl_s _f M_rs t_ __rth h_s b__n _ g__l _f pl_n_t_ry sc__nt_sts s_nc_ th_ __rly d_ys _f th_ sp_c_ _g_." _n _ct_b_r, th_ J_m_s W_bb Sp_c_ T_l_sc_p_, th_ s_cc_ss_r t_ th_ H_bbl_ T_l_sc_p_, w_ll l__nch _nt_ sp_c_. _ts m_ss__n _s t_ _bs_rv_ th_ f_rst g_l_x__s th_t f_rm_d _n th_ __rly _n_v_rs_.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration.html>

cosmologists astronomers and space engineers are predicting that 2021 will be a great year for space exploration an increasing number of countries and commercial companies are investing in technology to venture into the heavens entrepreneurs like spacexs elon musk and virgin galactics richard branson are setting their sights on space tourism and sending astronauts to mars what once seemed like science fiction is quickly becoming space fact such are the advances in technology we might no longer be surprised at news of asteroids being mined mars being colonised or of new forms of holidays such as getaway weekend breaks to the moon

the year will start with an exciting project that will help scientists better understand the universe nasa will launch its space probe on january the 15th this will study the collision of small particles in space to provide an insight into how planets originally formed a month later nasas perseverance rover will land on mars this mission will test for signs of possible past microbial life nasa said returning samples of mars to earth has been a goal of planetary scientists since the early days of the space age in october the james webb space telescope the successor to the hubble telescope will launch into space its mission is to observe the first galaxies that formed in the early universe

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration.html>

Cosmologists, astronomers and space engineers are predicting that 2021 will be a great year for space exploration. An increasing number of countries and commercial companies are investing in technology to venture into the heavens. Entrepreneurs like SpaceX's Elon Musk and Virgin Galactic's Richard Branson are setting their sights on space tourism and sending astronauts to Mars. What once seemed like science fiction is quickly becoming space fact. Such are the advances in technology, we might no longer be surprised at news of asteroids being mined, Mars being colonised, or new forms of holidays, such as get away weekend breaks to the Moon. The year will start with an exciting project that will help scientists better understand the universe. NASA will launch its OSIRIS-REx probe on January the 15th. This will study the collision of small particles in space to provide a new insight into how planets originally formed. A month later, NASA's Perseverance rover will land on Mars. This mission will test for signs of possible past microbial life. NASA said: "Returning samples of Mars to Earth has been a goal of planetary scientists since the early days of the space age." In October, the James Webb Space Telescope, the successor to the Hubble Telescope, will launch into space. Its mission is to observe the first galaxies that formed in the early universe.

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 this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. SPACE EXPLORATION: Make a poster about space exploration. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. MONEY: Write a magazine article about spending more money on space exploration. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

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 space exploration. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on what to explore. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. e 2. a 3. d 4. c 5. b 6. g 7. f
8. i 9. n 10. l 11. m 12. j 13. h 14. k

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

| | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. f | 2. i | 3. b | 4. j | 5. d |
| 6. c | 7. a | 8. g | 9. h | 10. e |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Space engineers
- The heavens
- Mars
- Space fact
- The Moon
- The Perseverance rover
- October
- Possible past microbial life
- October
- Observe the earliest galaxies

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

- Predicting that 2021 will be a great year.
- Investing in technology to venture into the heavens.
- Science fiction is quickly becoming space fact.
- We might no longer be surprised at news.
- Such as getaway weekend breaks to the Moon.
- The year will start with an exciting project.
- Provide an insight into how planets originally formed.
- Test for signs of possible past microbial life.
- Since the early days of the space age.
- Galaxies that formed in the early universe.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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