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**Level 6 – 25th December 2023**

## Jeff Bezos wants a trillion humans in solar system

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231225-a-trillion-humans.html>

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

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231225-a-trillion-humans.html>

Just when demographers are ringing alarm bells about overpopulation, Amazon founder Jeff Bezos says we need to populate our solar system. Mr Bezos was asked for his thoughts on humanity living in outer space in a thousand years' time. He replied: "I would love to see, you know, a trillion humans living in the solar system. If we had a trillion humans, we would have at any given time 1,000 Mozarts and 1,000 Einsteins....Space would be full of life and intelligence and energy." He added that he wants to help "build heavy infrastructure that will be used by the space entrepreneurs of future generations...so that ingenuity and imagination can really be unleashed".

Mr Bezos' thoughts are echoed by fellow multi-billionaire Elon Musk, owner of X (formerly known as Twitter). In 2021, he said of the human race: "We don't want to be one of those single-planet species; we want to be a multi-planet species." Earlier this year, Mr Musk warned that: "Population collapse due to low birth rates is a much bigger risk to civilization than global warming...mark these words." Mr Bezos conceives of people living in giant space stations. He said most inhabitants of these would visit Earth for vacations. He envisions our planet returning to its pristine environment, as factories would be built in space. He said they would exploit resources on the moon or on asteroids instead of using up Earth's.

Sources: <https://finance.yahoo.com/news/jeff-bezos-elon-musk-human-170119555.html>  
<https://www.sciencealert.com/bezoss-vision-for-1000-einsteins-doesnt-take-into-account-37000-serial-killers>  
<https://futurism.com/the-byte/jeff-bezos-trillion-people-live-cylindrical-space-stations>

# WARM-UPS

**1. COLONIZING SPACE:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about colonizing space. 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?

demographers / alarm bells / overpopulation / solar system / a trillion humans / space billionaire / species / low birth rates / civilization / global warming / space stations

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

**3. LIFE IN SPACE:** Students A **strongly** believe we should live in space to protect Earth; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. A THOUSAND YEARS' TIME:** What will these things be like in a thousand years' time? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

|                 | Good Things | Bad Things |
|-----------------|-------------|------------|
| Space travel    |             |            |
| Climate         |             |            |
| Technology      |             |            |
| Music           |             |            |
| Global politics |             |            |
| Food            |             |            |

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

**6. RISKS TO CIVILIZATION:** Rank these with your partner. Put the biggest risks to civilization at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Overpopulation
- Population collapse
- A.I.
- War
- Climate change
- Viruses
- Migration
- Alien attacks

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| 1. demographer    | a. The basic physical and organizational structures and facilities (e.g. buildings, roads, power supplies, etc.) that society or companies need to operate. |
| 2. populate       | b. An expert in the study of statistics relating to the changing structure of human populations.  |
| 3. outer space    | c. The physical universe beyond the earth's atmosphere.   |
| 4. infrastructure | d. The quality of being clever, original, and inventive.  |
| 5. entrepreneur   | e. Caused a strong or violent force to be released or become unrestrained.  |
| 6. ingenuity      | f. Cause people to settle in a place.   |
| 7. unleashed      | g. A person who sets up a business or businesses, taking on financial risks in the hope of profit.  |

## Paragraph 2

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 8. echoed        | h. A person or animal that lives in or occupies a place.   |
| 9. species       | i. Make full use of and get benefit from a resource.   |
| 10. civilization | j. In its original condition; unspoilt.  |
| 11. inhabitant   | k. The society, culture, and way of life of a particular area.   |
| 12. envisions    | l. Imagines as a future possibility.   |
| 13. pristine     | m. Repeated (someone's words or opinions), typically to express agreement.                                     |
| 14. exploit      | n. A group of living organisms consisting of similar individuals capable of exchanging genes or interbreeding. |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231225-a-trillion-humans.html>

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

1. Bell-ringers are raising the alarm about overpopulation. **T / F**
2. Jeff Bezos gave his thoughts on humans living in inner space. **T / F**
3. Bezos said we could have 1,000 Einsteins if there were a trillion people. **T / F**
4. Bezos said there is too little energy in space to support a trillion people. **T / F**
5. Elon Musk said humans should only live on Earth. **T / F**
6. Mr Musk said too few people was a bigger problem than overpopulation. **T / F**
7. Mr Bezos can see people inhabiting huge space stations. **T / F**
8. Mr Bezos said there was a danger of asteroids destroying Earth. **T / F**

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                         |                    |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. <b>ringing</b>       | a. occupants       |
| 2. <b>populate</b>      | b. reiterated      |
| 3. <b>thoughts</b>      | c. set free        |
| 4. <b>entrepreneurs</b> | d. foresees        |
| 5. <b>unleashed</b>     | e. assessment      |
| 6. <b>echoed</b>        | f. sounding        |
| 7. <b>risk</b>          | g. utilize         |
| 8. <b>inhabitants</b>   | h. business people |
| 9. <b>envisions</b>     | i. threat          |
| 10. <b>exploit</b>      | j. inhabit         |

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

- |   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. demographers are ringing alarm       | a. environment                 |
| 2. at any                               | b. future generations          |
| 3. he wants to help build heavy         | c. multi-billionaire Elon Musk |
| 4. the space entrepreneurs of           | d. be unleashed                |
| 5. ingenuity and imagination can really | e. risk to civilization        |
| 6. Bezos' thoughts are echoed by fellow | f. given time                  |
| 7. Population collapse due to           | g. bells                       |
| 8. a much bigger                        | h. or on asteroids             |
| 9. pristine                             | i. infrastructure              |
| 10. exploit resources on the moon       | j. low birth rates             |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231225-a-trillion-humans.html>

Just when demographers are (1) \_\_\_\_\_ alarm bells about overpopulation, Amazon founder Jeff Bezos says we need to (2) \_\_\_\_\_ our solar system. Mr Bezos was asked for his thoughts on humanity living in (3) \_\_\_\_\_ space in a thousand years' time. He replied: "I would love to see, you know, a trillion humans living in the solar system. If we had a trillion humans, we would have at any (4) \_\_\_\_\_ time 1,000 Mozarts and 1,000 Einsteins....Space would be full of (5) \_\_\_\_\_ and intelligence and energy." He added that he wants to help "build (6) \_\_\_\_\_ infrastructure that will be used by the space entrepreneurs of (7) \_\_\_\_\_ generations...so that ingenuity and imagination can really be (8) \_\_\_\_\_".

*heavy*  
*populate*  
*outer*  
*unleashed*  
*life*  
*ringing*  
*future*  
*given*

Mr Bezos' thoughts are (9) \_\_\_\_\_ by fellow multi-billionaire Elon Musk, owner of X (formerly known as Twitter). In 2021, he said of the human (10) \_\_\_\_\_: "We don't want to be one of those single-planet species; we want to be a (11) \_\_\_\_\_ -planet species." Earlier this year, Mr Musk warned that: "Population (12) \_\_\_\_\_ due to low birth rates is a much bigger risk to civilization than global warming... (13) \_\_\_\_\_ these words." Mr Bezos conceives of people living in giant space stations. He said most (14) \_\_\_\_\_ of these would visit Earth for vacations. He envisions our planet returning to its (15) \_\_\_\_\_ environment, as factories would be built in space. He said they would exploit resources on the moon or on (16) \_\_\_\_\_ instead of using up Earth's.

*multi*  
*mark*  
*asteroids*  
*echoed*  
*pristine*  
*collapse*  
*race*  
*inhabitants*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231225-a-trillion-humans.html>

- 1) Just when demographers are ringing alarm \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. balls about overpopulation
  - b. bills about overpopulation
  - c. bulls about overpopulation
  - d. bells about overpopulation
- 2) Mr Bezos was asked for his thoughts on humanity living \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. in out of space
  - b. in otter space
  - c. in outer space
  - d. in inner space
- 3) If we had a trillion humans, we would have at \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. any giving time
  - b. any given time
  - c. any give in time
  - d. any gives in time
- 4) He added that he wants to help \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. build heavily infrastructure
  - b. build heavy infrastructure
  - c. build heaving infrastructure
  - d. build heavies' infrastructure
- 5) so that ingenuity and imagination can \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. really be on leashed
  - b. really be in leashed
  - c. really be unleashed
  - d. really been leashed
- 6) We don't want to be one of those \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. single-planet specimens
  - b. single-planet spaces
  - c. single-planet specials
  - d. single-planet species
- 7) Earlier this year, Mr Musk warned that: "Population collapse due to \_\_\_\_\_"
  - a. low birth rates
  - b. low berth rates
  - c. low bath rates
  - d. low birthed rates
- 8) a much bigger risk to civilization than global warming...\_\_\_\_\_
  - a. lark these words
  - b. mark these words
  - c. dark these words
  - d. park these words
- 9) our planet returning to its pristine environment, as factories would be \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. built on space
  - b. build in space
  - c. building space
  - d. built in space
- 10) He said they would exploit resources on the moon \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. more on asteroids
  - b. or in asteroids
  - c. or on asteroids
  - d. ore on asteroids

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231225-a-trillion-humans.html>

Just when demographers are (1) \_\_\_\_\_ about overpopulation, Amazon founder Jeff Bezos says we need to (2) \_\_\_\_\_ system. Mr Bezos was asked for his thoughts on humanity living in outer space in a (3) \_\_\_\_\_. He replied: "I would love to see, you know, a trillion humans living in the solar system. If we had a trillion humans, we would have at (4) \_\_\_\_\_ 1,000 Mozarts and 1,000 Einsteins....Space would be full of life and intelligence and energy." He added that he wants to help (5) \_\_\_\_\_ that will be used by the space entrepreneurs of future generations...so that ingenuity and imagination can (6) \_\_\_\_\_".

Mr Bezos' thoughts are (7) \_\_\_\_\_ multi-billionaire Elon Musk, owner of X, (8) \_\_\_\_\_ Twitter. In 2021, he said of the human race: "We don't want to be one of those single-planet species; we want to be a (9) \_\_\_\_\_." Earlier this year, Mr Musk warned that: "Population collapse due to low birth rates is a much bigger risk to civilization than global warming... (10) \_\_\_\_\_." Mr Bezos conceives of people living in giant space stations. He said most (11) \_\_\_\_\_ would visit Earth for vacations. He envisions our planet returning to its pristine environment, as factories would be built in space. He said they would exploit resources on the moon or (12) \_\_\_\_\_ of using up Earth's.



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231225-a-trillion-humans.html>

1. What does the article say demographers are ringing?
2. What does Jeff Bezos want to see populated?
3. What might there be a thousand of if a trillion people lived in space?
4. What does Mr Bezos want to help build in space?
5. What does Mr Bezos hope will be released?
6. What did Elon Musk do to Jeff Bezos' thoughts?
7. What kind of species does Elon Musk want humans to be?
8. What did Mr Musk say was a bigger threat to us than global warming?
9. Where does Mr Bezos think people will visit in the future?
10. Where might people get resources from besides the moon?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231225-a-trillion-humans.html>

- 1) What does the article say demographers are ringing?
  - a) the changes
  - b) ears
  - c) alarm bells
  - d) alarm clocks
- 2) What does Jeff Bezos want to see populated?
  - a) our solar system
  - b) Antarctica
  - c) the deep ocean
  - d) the Amazon
- 3) What might there be a thousand of if a trillion people lived in space?
  - a) deadly viruses
  - b) planets like Earth
  - c) geniuses
  - d) Mozarts and Einsteins
- 4) What does Mr Bezos want to help build in space?
  - a) Amazon delivery centres
  - b) heavy infrastructure
  - c) a new Internet
  - d) a giant space rocket
- 5) What does Mr Bezos hope will be released?
  - a) engineers and machines
  - b) engines and machinations
  - c) ingenuity and imagination
  - d) inventiveness and imagery
- 6) What did Elon Musk do to Jeff Bezos' thoughts?
  - a) ask for them
  - b) echo them
  - c) debate them
  - d) reject them
- 7) What kind of species does Elon Musk want humans to be?
  - a) a special species
  - b) an X species
  - c) an electric species
  - d) a multi-planet species
- 8) What did Mr Musk say was a bigger threat to us than global warming?
  - a) pandemics
  - b) population collapse
  - c) alien diseases
  - d) solar storms
- 9) Where does Mr Bezos think people will visit in the future?
  - a) Earth
  - b) the Amazon
  - c) the next galaxy
  - d) Jupiter
- 10) Where might people get resources from besides the moon?
  - a) Mars
  - b) Amazon.com
  - c) their brains
  - d) asteroids

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231225-a-trillion-humans.html>

## **Role A – Overpopulation**

You think overpopulation is the biggest threat to civilization. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their threats will never materialize. Also, tell the others which is the remotest threat of these (and why): population collapse, A.I. or war.

## **Role B – Population Collapse**

You think population collapse is the biggest threat to civilization. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their threats will never materialize. Also, tell the others which is the remotest threat of these (and why): overpopulation, A.I. or war.

## **Role C – A.I.**

You think A.I. is the biggest threat to civilization. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their threats will never materialize. Also, tell the others which is the remotest threat of these (and why): population collapse, overpopulation or war.

## **Role D – War**

You think war is the biggest threat to civilization. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their threats will never materialize. Also, tell the others which is the remotest threat of these (and why): population collapse, A.I. or overpopulation.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231225-a-trillion-humans.html>

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

|                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| <b>trillion</b> | <b>humans</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>• bells</li><li>• need</li><li>• thoughts</li><li>• given</li><li>• build</li><li>• future</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• echoed</li><li>• race</li><li>• warned</li><li>• mark</li><li>• pristine</li><li>• exploit</li></ul> |
|--|--|

# COLONIZING SPACE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231225-a-trillion-humans.html>

Write five GOOD questions about colonizing space 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<br>_____ | STUDENT 2<br>_____ | STUDENT 3<br>_____ |
|------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 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.

# COLONIZING SPACE 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 'trillion'?
3. What do you know about the solar system?
4. What do you think of overpopulation?
5. What do you think of populating our solar system?
6. What do you think of a trillion people living in space?
7. What would the world be like with 1,000 Mozarts and Einsteins?
8. Would you like to live in space?
9. What will the future be like?
10. How often do you unleash your imagination?

*Jeff Bezos wants a trillion humans in solar system – 25th December 2023*  
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# COLONIZING SPACE 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 system'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What are the advantages of us being a multi-planet species?
15. How worried are you about 'population collapse'?
16. What would life be like on a space station?
17. What might people do on an Earth vacation?
18. Do you think Jeff Bezos' idea would help our planet?
19. What three adjectives best describe this article?
20. What questions would you like to ask Jeff Bezos about his vision?

# 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/2312/231225-a-trillion-humans.html>

Just when demographers are ringing (1) \_\_\_\_\_ bells about overpopulation, Amazon founder Jeff Bezos says we need to populate our solar system. Mr Bezos was asked for his (2) \_\_\_\_\_ on humanity living in (3) \_\_\_\_\_ space in a thousand years' time. He replied: "I would love to see, you know, a trillion humans living in the solar system. If we had a trillion humans, we would have at any (4) \_\_\_\_\_ time 1,000 Mozarts and 1,000 Einsteins....Space would be full of life and intelligence and energy." He added that he wants to help "build (5) \_\_\_\_\_ infrastructure that will be used by the space entrepreneurs of future generations...so that ingenuity and imagination can really be (6) \_\_\_\_\_".

Mr Bezos' thoughts are echoed (7) \_\_\_\_\_ fellow multi-billionaire Elon Musk, owner of X (formerly known as Twitter). In 2021, he said of the human race: "We don't want to be one of those (8) \_\_\_\_\_-planet species; we want to be a multi-planet species." Earlier this year, Mr Musk warned that: "Population collapse due to low birth rates is a much bigger risk to civilization than global warming... (9) \_\_\_\_\_ these words." Mr Bezos conceives of people living in giant space stations. He said most inhabitants of (10) \_\_\_\_\_ would visit Earth for vacations. He envisions our planet (11) \_\_\_\_\_ to its pristine environment, as factories would be built in space. He said they would exploit resources on the moon or on asteroids (12) \_\_\_\_\_ of using up Earth's.

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

- |     |               |                |               |                     |
|-----|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------|
| 1.  | (a) alarm     | (b) alarming   | (c) alarmed   | (d) alarming        |
| 2.  | (a) things    | (b) thoughtful | (c) thoughts  | (d) thoughtlessness |
| 3.  | (a) outing    | (b) outage     | (c) outer     | (d) out             |
| 4.  | (a) presented | (b) taken      | (c) removed   | (d) given           |
| 5.  | (a) heavy     | (b) weighty    | (c) hefty     | (d) dense           |
| 6.  | (a) lashed    | (b) unleashed  | (c) leashed   | (d) slashed         |
| 7.  | (a) in        | (b) at         | (c) of        | (d) by              |
| 8.  | (a) alone     | (b) single     | (c) exclusive | (d) individual      |
| 9.  | (a) hark      | (b) lark       | (c) mark      | (d) dark            |
| 10. | (a) it        | (b) all        | (c) them      | (d) these           |
| 11. | (a) returnee  | (b) returns    | (c) return    | (d) returning       |
| 12. | (a) rather    | (b) instead    | (c) place     | (d) prefer          |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231225-a-trillion-humans.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. eehrgrsmodpa are ringing alarm bells
2. we need to epplauto our solar system
3. his thoughts on imyauthn
4. euterrepnesr of future generations
5. nygeiintu and imagination
6. really be euhandles

## Paragraph 2

7. one of those single-planet cpseie
8. Bezos nseeiccov of people living
9. bnaiitshtan of these would visit Earth
10. returning to its nietpsir environment
11. He said they would extlpio resources
12. on the moon or on stisedaro

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231225-a-trillion-humans.html>

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

- ( ) on humanity living in outer space in a thousand years' time. He replied: "I would love to see, you know, a trillion humans
- ( ) birth rates is a much bigger risk to civilization than global warming...mark these
- ( ) entrepreneurs of future generations...so that ingenuity and imagination can really be unleashed".
- ( ) planet species; we want to be a multi-planet species." Earlier this year, Mr Musk warned that: "Population collapse due to low
- ( ) time 1,000 Mozarts and 1,000 Einsteins....Space would be full of life and intelligence and
- ( ) Mr Bezos' thoughts are echoed by fellow multi-billionaire Elon Musk, owner of X (formerly
- ( ) Jeff Bezos says we need to populate our solar system. Mr Bezos was asked for his thoughts
- ( ) living in the solar system. If we had a trillion humans, we would have at any given
- ( **1** ) Just when demographers are ringing alarm bells about overpopulation, Amazon founder
- ( ) energy." He added that he wants to help "build heavy infrastructure that will be used by the space
- ( ) words." Mr Bezos conceives of people living in giant space stations. He said most
- ( ) known as Twitter). In 2021, he said of the human race: "We don't want to be one of those single-
- ( ) would be built in space. He said they would exploit resources on the moon or on asteroids instead of using up Earth's.
- ( ) inhabitants of these would visit Earth for vacations. He envisions our planet returning to its pristine environment, as factories

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231225-a-trillion-humans.html>

1. demographers about alarm When ringing overpopulation are bells
2. populate we must our system . solar says Bezos
3. humanity living thoughts on His space . outer in
4. He the infrastructure . build wants help heavy to
5. entrepreneurs Used space by the of future generations .
6. are by multi-billionaire . a fellow echoed thoughts Bezos'
7. a don't be species . single-planet want to We
8. due to low rates . Population birth collapse
9. inhabitants vacations . Most for Earth would visit
10. they'd exploit the resources moon . He on said

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231225-a-trillion-humans.html>

Just when demographers are ringing *alarming* / *alarm* bells about overpopulation, Amazon founder Jeff Bezos says we need to populate our *solar* / *sonar* system. Mr Bezos was asked for his thoughts *in* / *on* humanity living in *outer* / *inner* space in a thousand years' time. He replied: "I would love to see, you know, a trillion humans living *in* / *on* the solar system. If we had a trillion humans, we would have at any *taken* / *given* time 1,000 Mozarts and 1,000 Einsteins....Space would be *full* / *filled* of life and intelligence and energy." He added that he wants to help "build *heavily* / *heavy* infrastructure that will be used by the space entrepreneurs of future generations...so *that* / *what* ingenuity and imagination can really be *leashed* / *unleashed*".

Mr Bezos' thoughts are *etched* / *echoed* by *fellow* / *follow* multi-billionaire Elon Musk, owner of X (*formerly* / *firmly* known as Twitter). In 2021, he said of the human race: "We don't want to be one of *them* / *those* single-planet species; we want to be a multi-planet species." Earlier this year, Mr Musk warned that: "Population *collapse* / *clasp* due to low birth rates is a much bigger risk to civilization than global warming...*grade* / *mark* these words." Mr Bezos *concepts* / *conceives* of people living in giant space stations. He said most *inhabitants* / *habitats* of these would visit Earth for vacations. He envisions our planet returning to its pristine environment, *has* / *as* factories would be built in space. He said they would exploit resources on the moon or on asteroids instead of *abusing* / *using* up Earth's.

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

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

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231225-a-trillion-humans.html>

J\_ st wh\_ n d\_ m\_ gr\_ ph\_ rs \_ r\_ r\_ ng\_ ng \_ l\_ rm b\_ lls \_ b\_ \_ t  
\_ v\_ rp\_ p\_ l\_ t\_ \_ n, \_ m\_ z\_ n f\_ \_ nd\_ r J\_ ff B\_ z\_ s s\_ ys w\_  
n\_ \_ d t\_ p\_ p\_ l\_ t\_ \_ \_ r s\_ l\_ r syst\_ m. Mr B\_ z\_ s w\_ s  
\_ sk\_ d f\_ r h\_ s th\_ \_ ghts \_ n h\_ m\_ n\_ ty l\_ v\_ ng \_ n \_ \_ t\_ r  
sp\_ c\_ \_ n \_ th\_ \_ s\_ nd y\_ \_ rs' t\_ m\_ . H\_ r\_ pl\_ \_ d: " \_  
w\_ \_ ld l\_ v\_ t\_ s\_ \_ , y\_ \_ kn\_ w, \_ tr\_ ll\_ \_ n h\_ m\_ ns  
l\_ v\_ ng \_ n th\_ s\_ l\_ r syst\_ m. \_ f w\_ h\_ d \_ tr\_ ll\_ \_ n  
h\_ m\_ ns, w\_ w\_ \_ ld h\_ v\_ \_ t \_ ny g\_ v\_ n t\_ m\_ 1,000  
M\_ z\_ rts \_ nd 1,000 \_ \_ nst\_ \_ ns... Sp\_ c\_ w\_ \_ ld b\_ f\_ ll\_ \_ f  
l\_ f\_ \_ nd \_ nt\_ ll\_ g\_ nc\_ \_ nd \_ n\_ rgy." H\_ \_ dd\_ d th\_ t h\_  
w\_ nts t\_ h\_ lp "b\_ \_ ld h\_ \_ vy \_ nfr\_ str\_ ct\_ r\_ th\_ t w\_ ll b\_ \_  
\_ s\_ d by th\_ sp\_ c\_ \_ ntr\_ pr\_ n\_ \_ rs \_ f f\_ t\_ r\_ \_  
g\_ n\_ r\_ t\_ \_ ns... s\_ th\_ t \_ ng\_ n\_ \_ ty \_ nd \_ m\_ g\_ n\_ t\_ \_ n c\_ n  
r\_ \_ lly b\_ \_ nl\_ \_ sh\_ d".

Mr B\_ z\_ s' th\_ \_ ghts \_ r\_ \_ ch\_ \_ d by f\_ ll\_ w m\_ lt\_ \_  
b\_ ll\_ \_ n\_ \_ r\_ \_ l\_ n M\_ sk, \_ wn\_ r \_ f X (f\_ rm\_ rly kn\_ wn \_ s  
Tw\_ tt\_ r). \_ n 2021, h\_ s\_ \_ d \_ f th\_ h\_ m\_ n r\_ c\_ : "W\_ \_  
d\_ n' t w\_ nt t\_ b\_ \_ n\_ \_ f th\_ s\_ s\_ ngl\_ - pl\_ n\_ t sp\_ c\_ \_ s;  
w\_ w\_ nt t\_ b\_ \_ m\_ lt\_ - pl\_ n\_ t sp\_ c\_ \_ s." \_ \_ rl\_ \_ r th\_ s  
y\_ \_ r, Mr M\_ sk w\_ rn\_ d th\_ t: "P\_ p\_ l\_ t\_ \_ n c\_ ll\_ ps\_ d\_ \_  
t\_ l\_ w b\_ rth r\_ t\_ s \_ s \_ m\_ ch b\_ gg\_ r r\_ sk t\_ \_  
c\_ v\_ l\_ z\_ t\_ \_ n th\_ n gl\_ b\_ l w\_ rm\_ ng... m\_ rk th\_ s\_ w\_ rds."  
Mr B\_ z\_ s c\_ nc\_ \_ v\_ s \_ f p\_ \_ pl\_ l\_ v\_ ng \_ n g\_ \_ nt sp\_ c\_ \_  
st\_ t\_ \_ ns. H\_ s\_ \_ d m\_ st \_ nh\_ b\_ t\_ nts \_ f th\_ s\_ w\_ \_ ld  
v\_ s\_ t \_ \_ rth f\_ r v\_ c\_ t\_ \_ ns. H\_ \_ nv\_ s\_ \_ ns \_ \_ r pl\_ n\_ t  
r\_ t\_ rn\_ ng t\_ \_ ts pr\_ st\_ n\_ \_ nv\_ r\_ nm\_ nt, \_ s f\_ ct\_ r\_ \_ s  
w\_ \_ ld b\_ b\_ \_ lt \_ n sp\_ c\_ . H\_ s\_ \_ d th\_ y w\_ \_ ld \_ xpl\_ \_ t  
r\_ s\_ \_ rc\_ s \_ n th\_ m\_ \_ n \_ r \_ n \_ st\_ r\_ \_ ds \_ nst\_ \_ d \_ f  
\_ s\_ ng \_ p \_ \_ rth' s.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231225-a-trillion-humans.html>

just when demographers are ringing alarm bells about overpopulation amazon founder jeff bezos says we need to populate our solar system mr bezos was asked for his thoughts on humanity living in outer space in a thousand years time he replied i would love to see you know a trillion humans living in the solar system if we had a trillion humans we would have at any given time 1000 mozarts and 1000 einsteins space would be full of life and intelligence and energy he added that he wants to help build heavy infrastructure that will be used by the space entrepreneurs of future generationsso that ingenuity and imagination can really be unleashed

mr bezos thoughts are echoed by fellow multibillionaire elon musk owner of x formerly known as twitter in 2021 he said of the human race we dont want to be one of those singleplanet species we want to be a multiplanet species earlier this year mr musk warned that population collapse due to low birth rates is a much bigger risk to civilization than global warming mark these words mr bezos conceives of people living in giant space stations he said most inhabitants of these would visit earth for vacations he envisions our planet returning to its pristine environment as factories would be built in space he said they would exploit resources on the moon or on asteroids instead of using up earths

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231225-a-trillion-humans.html>

Just when demographers are ringing alarm bells about overpopulation, Amazon founder Jeff Bezos says we need to populate our solar system. Mr Bezos was asked for his thoughts on humanity living in outer space in a thousand years' time. He replied: "I would love to see, you know, a trillion humans living in the solar system. If we had a trillion humans, we would have at any given time 1,000 Mozarts and 1,000 Einsteins.... Space would be full of life and intelligence and energy." He added that he wants to help "build heavy infrastructure that will be used by the space entrepreneur of future generations... so that ingenuity and imagination can really be unleashed". Mr Bezos' thoughts are echoed by fellow multi-billionaire Elon Musk, owner of X (formerly known as Twitter). In 2021, he said of the human race: "We don't want to be one of those single-planet species; we want to be a multi-planet species." Earlier this year, Mr Musk warned that: "Population collapse due to low birth rates is a much bigger risk to civilization than global warming... mark these words." Mr Bezos conceives of people living in giant space stations. He said most inhabitants of these would visit Earth for vacations. He envisions our planet returning to its pristine environment, as factories would be built in space. He said they would exploit resources on the moon or on asteroids instead of using up Earth's.







# 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. A TRILLION HUMANS:** Make a poster about increasing our numbers to a trillion. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. COLONIZING SPACE:** Write a magazine article about colonizing space. 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 colonizing space. Ask him/her three questions about this. Give him/her three of your opinions on it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F    2 F    3 T    4 F    5 F    6 T    7 T    8 F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Alarm bells
- Our solar system
- Mozarts and Einsteins
- Heavy infrastructure
- Ingenuity and imagination
- Echo them
- A multi-planet species
- Population collapse
- Earth
- Asteroids

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- When demographers are ringing alarm bells about overpopulation.
- Bezos says we must populate our solar system.
- His thoughts on humanity living in outer space.
- He wants to help build the heavy infrastructure.
- Used by the space entrepreneurs of future generations.
- Bezos' thoughts are echoed by a fellow multi-billionaire.
- We don't want to be a single-planet species.
- Population collapse due to low birth rates.
- Most inhabitants would visit Earth for vacations.
- He said they'd exploit resources on the moon.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. c    2. a    3. d    4. b    5. c    6. b    7. d    8. b    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 ;-)