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Level 0 – 21st March 2024

Human speech is 8 times older than we thought

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240321-human-speech-0.html>

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Please try Levels 1, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240321-human-speech-0.html>

Researchers may have found when humans first spoke - 1.6 million years ago. This is eight times earlier than we thought. Studies show that the first human language came from Africa. An expert said speech was the key which made a lot of human physical and cultural changes possible.

The expert wrote a book about language. He says our brain got bigger 1.5 million years ago. An area for language developed in our brain. Also, tissue in our neck made sounds and speech possible. Speech allowed humans to move all over the world. Humans could think of and plan things, and pass on knowledge.

Sources: <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/science/archaeology/human-language-study-origins-speaking-b2514451.html>
<https://uk.news.yahoo.com/celebrity/humans-speaking-lot-longer-originally-145649872.html>
<https://sciworthy.com/how-did-humans-learn-to-speak/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240321-human-speech-0.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. when humans first | a. language |
| 2. eight | b. spoke |
| 3. earlier | c. cultural changes |
| 4. Studies show | d. than we thought |
| 5. the first human | e. key |
| 6. came from in | f. that |
| 7. speech was the | g. times |
| 8. physical and | h. Africa |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. our brain got | a. the world |
| 2. An area for language developed | b. things |
| 3. tissue in our | c. bigger |
| 4. sounds and | d. on knowledge |
| 5. move all over | e. in our brain |
| 6. Humans could | f. neck |
| 7. plan | g. think |
| 8. pass | h. speech |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240321-human-speech-0.html>

Researchers (1) _____ when humans first spoke
- 1.6 million years ago. (2) _____ times earlier
than we thought. Studies (3) _____ first human
language (4) _____. An expert said speech
(5) _____ which made a lot of human physical
(6) _____ possible.

The (7) _____ book about language. He says our
(8) _____ 1.5 million years ago. An area for
language developed (9) _____. Also, tissue
(10) _____ made sounds and speech possible.

Speech allowed (11) _____ all over the world.
Humans could think of and plan things,
(12) _____ knowledge.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240321-human-speech-0.html>

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HUMAN SPEECH SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240321-human-speech-0.html>

Write five GOOD questions about human speech 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.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

