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Level 1

Luxembourg to develop asteroid mining

6th February, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1602/160206-asteroid-mining-1.html>

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1602/160206-asteroid-mining-1.html>

The nation of Luxembourg is a new player in the space race. Its government is putting money into the asteroid mining industry. Companies will mine asteroids for water and minerals. This will help future trips to outer space. Luxembourg is looking at projects to become a leader in this new industry. It said: "Our aim is to open access to a wealth of previously unexplored mineral resources on lifeless rocks...without damaging natural habitats."

Other countries are looking for new places to mine. In 2015, the USA made a law to let companies mine space resources. The European Space Agency plans a research base on the Moon. Asteroid mining will allow greater exploration of space, and protect resources on Earth. However, the Outer Space Treaty of 1967 says that natural resources in space are part of our 'common heritage'. This means companies may not be allowed to mine asteroids.

Sources: <http://mashable.com/2016/02/04/luxembourg-asteroid-mining-initiative/#bOJUuel.UgqM>
<http://www.mining-technology.com/news/newsluxembourg-plans-legal-framework-asteroid-mining-4801653>
http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/Luxembourgs_ultimate_offshore_investment_Space_mining_999.html

VOCABULARY MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1602/160206-asteroid-mining-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. a new player in the space | a. unexplored mineral resources |
| 2. mine asteroids for water | b. race |
| 3. This will help future trips to outer | c. rocks |
| 4. Luxembourg is | d. and minerals |
| 5. a leader in | e. habitats |
| 6. previously | f. looking at projects |
| 7. lifeless | g. this new industry |
| 8. without damaging natural | h. space |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. looking for new | a. space |
| 2. the USA made | b. Treaty of 1967 |
| 3. a research | c. places to mine |
| 4. greater exploration of | d. allowed to mine asteroids |
| 5. protect resources | e. base on the Moon |
| 6. the Outer Space | f. heritage |
| 7. part of our common | g. a law |
| 8. companies may not be | h. on Earth |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1602/160206-asteroid-mining-1.html>

(1) _____ Luxembourg is a new player in the
(2) _____. Its government is putting money
into the asteroid mining industry. Companies
(3) _____ asteroids for water and minerals.
This will help future trips to (4) _____.
Luxembourg is looking at projects to become a leader in this new
industry. It said: "Our (5) _____ open access to
a wealth of previously unexplored mineral resources on lifeless
rocks...without damaging (6) _____."

Other countries (7) _____ new places to mine.
In 2015, the USA made (8) _____ companies
mine space resources. The European Space Agency plans a
research base on the Moon. Asteroid mining
(9) _____ greater exploration of space, and
protect (10) _____ Earth. However, the Outer
Space Treaty of (11) _____ natural resources in
space are part of our 'common heritage'. This means companies
may not be (12) _____ asteroids.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

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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)

g)

h)

WRITING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1602/160206-asteroid-mining-1.html>

Write about **asteroid mining** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner’s paper.
