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## **Level 0**

### **Scientists make super-strong spider web silk**

**14th January, 2017**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170114-spider-web-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 <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170114-spider-web-0.html>

Researchers know one of nature's big secrets. They found out how spiders make strong silk. It is stronger than steel. Scientists found that the place the spider keeps its silk has a special acid. This makes the silk strong. The researchers copied this. They made enough spider silk to stretch for one kilometer.

The new silk could be very useful. Doctors think it can help with stitches, burns and ligament damage. Airplane companies and clothes companies want it. A researcher said: "This is the first successful example of [copying] spider silk spinning....This may allow...production of...silk for bio-materials."

Sources: <https://www.cnet.com/news/spider-web-artificial-swedish-university-agriculture/>  
<http://www.livescience.com/57458-strong-spider-silk-produced.html>  
<https://cosmosmagazine.com/chemistry/new-synthetic-spider-silk-that-s-almost-as-strong-as-the-real-thing>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170114-spider-web-0.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. know      | a. particular |
| 2. secrets   | b. discovered |
| 3. found out | c. stores     |
| 4. make      | d. duplicated |
| 5. keeps     | e. understand |
| 6. special   | f. extend     |
| 7. copied    | g. mysteries  |
| 8. stretch   | h. create     |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1. new        | a. businesses  |
| 2. very       | b. believe     |
| 3. think      | c. aid         |
| 4. help       | d. extremely   |
| 5. companies  | e. effective   |
| 6. successful | f. manufacture |
| 7. copying    | g. latest      |
| 8. production | h. reproducing |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170114-spider-web-0.html>

Researchers (1) \_\_\_\_\_ nature's big secrets.

They (2) \_\_\_\_\_ spiders make strong silk. It is

stronger than steel. Scientists found that (3) \_\_\_\_\_

spider keeps its silk (4) \_\_\_\_\_ acid. This makes

the silk strong. The researchers (5) \_\_\_\_\_.

They made enough spider silk (6) \_\_\_\_\_ one

kilometer.

The new silk (7) \_\_\_\_\_ useful. Doctors think it

(8) \_\_\_\_\_ stitches, burns and ligament damage.

(9) \_\_\_\_\_ and clothes companies want it. A

researcher said: "(10) \_\_\_\_\_ successful

example of [copying] spider (11) \_\_\_\_\_....This

may allow...production of...silk (12) \_\_\_\_\_."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170114-spider-web-0.html>

Researchers know one of nature's big secrets. They found out how spider  
smake strong silk. It is stronger than steel. Scientists found that the place  
the spider keeps its silk has a special acid. This makes the silk strong. The  
researchers copied this. They made enough spider silk to stretch for one kil  
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mpanies want it. A researcher said: "This is the first successful example of  
[copying] spider silk spinning.... This may allow... production of... silk for b  
io-materials."

# SPIDER WEBS SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170114-spider-web-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about spider webs 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*Scientists make super-strong spider web silk – 14th January, 2017*  
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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) \_\_\_\_\_

# WRITING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170114-spider-web-0.html>

Write about **spider webs** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.

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