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## Level 3

### Man to take rocket trip to show Earth is flat

24th November, 2017

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171124-flat-earther.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171124-flat-earth.html>

An American scientist is going to try and prove his belief that the Earth is flat. The man's name is Mike Hughes and he is 61 years old. He is a flat-Earther – someone who believes that the Earth is flat and not round. He has been interested in science for many years and taught himself how to make a rocket. He will get into his rocket on Saturday and fire it hundreds of meters in the air. The rocket cost Mr Hughes \$20,000 to make. Hughes said it is powered by steam and can fly at 800kmh. He told reporters why he made his rocket. He said: "I like to do extraordinary things that no one else can do. No one in the history of mankind has designed, built and launched himself in his own rocket."

Mr Hughes says when he flies above Earth, he will take photos to prove that the Earth is flat and disc-shaped. He believes that the Earth is just a mass of land surrounded by large walls of ice at the edges. He said: "I don't believe in science." He added that his project will "shut the door on this ball-Earth" idea. He is a little worried about the flight. He said: "It's as scary as hell, but none of us are getting out of this world alive." Hughes said he wants to run for Governor of California after his rocket tests. He hopes his flat-Earth discovery will help him do this. People can see Mr Hughes' flight this weekend live on his website. He said he has put out enough food for his four cats just in case something goes wrong.

Sources: <http://www.newshub.co.nz/home/world/2017/11/stuntman-taking-rocket-trip-to-prove-earth-is-flat.html>.  
<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/4955648/flat-earth-self-taught-scientist-mad-mike-launch-california-home-made-rocket/>  
<http://metro.co.uk/2017/11/22/flat-earth-will-launch-himself-into-the-sky-on-steam-powered-rocket-this-week-7098673/>

# WARM-UPS

**1. EARTH:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about Earth. 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?

scientist / Earth / flat / rocket / \$20,000 / steam / designed / history / mankind / photos / land / walls / ice / project / flight / scary / hell / alive / tests / website

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

**3. ROUND:** Students A **strongly** believe the Earth is round; Students B **strongly** believe it isn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. EXTRAORDINARY THINGS:** What extraordinary things would you like to do? Complete this table and share what you wrote with your partner(s). Change partners often.

	Extraordinary Things	Why?
Travel		
Hobby		
Charity		
Job		
Friends		
Love		

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

**6. SCIENCE:** Rank these with your partner. Put the most important sciences at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Physics
- Biology
- Computer science
- Health science
- Sports science
- Chemistry
- Neurology
- Environmental science

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 1. prove         | a. Unusually great.   |
| 2. belief        | b. Something you think is true or real; an opinion.                       |
| 3. flat          | c. Gave energy to something for it to work.                               |
| 4. powered       | d. Show that something is 100% true.                                      |
| 5. steam         | e. Made a rocket or ship move into the air or water.                      |
| 6. extraordinary | f. Being very smooth and even, without being round or curved.             |
| 7. launched      | g. The white gas that comes from water when it gets hot or when it boils. |

## Paragraph 2

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 8. disc        | h. An action of flying through the air or in space.  |
| 9. mass        | i. When something or someone has things all around them/it.  |
| 10. surrounded | j. The action or process of finding something new.   |
| 11. flight     | k. A flat, thin, round object.   |
| 12. scary      | l. A large amount of something.  |
| 13. discovery  | m. Something that is shown or put in TV, the radio, the Internet, etc. at the same time that it happens, not from a recording. |
| 14. live       | n. Frightening; causing fear.  |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171124-flat-earth.html>

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

- a. The man taking the rocket trip is from Armenia. **T / F**
- b. A flat-Earther is someone who doesn't think the Earth is round. **T / F**
- c. The man's rocket cost \$2 million to build. **T / F**
- d. The rocket can travel at a speed of 800 kph. **T / F**
- e. The man believes the Earth is surrounded by walls of ice. **T / F**
- f. The man is not at all worried about his flight in the rocket. **T / F**
- g. The man said we will all get off this world alive. **T / F**
- h. The man gave his cats extra food just in case something went wrong. **T / F**

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH:

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

- |                         |                |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| <b>1. prove</b>         | a. finding     |
| <b>2. belief</b>        | b. remarkable  |
| <b>3. fire</b>          | c. created     |
| <b>4. extraordinary</b> | d. frightening |
| <b>5. designed</b>      | e. opinion     |
| <b>6. surrounded</b>    | f. sufficient  |
| <b>7. edges</b>         | g. show        |
| <b>8. scary</b>         | h. encircled   |
| <b>9. discovery</b>     | i. sides       |
| <b>10. enough</b>       | j. launch      |

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

- |                               |                      |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. the Earth is flat and      | a. wrong             |
| 2. taught himself how         | b. of ice            |
| 3. it is powered              | c. things            |
| 4. I like to do extraordinary | d. about the flight  |
| 5. No one in the history      | e. not round         |
| 6. take photos to prove that  | f. by steam          |
| 7. surrounded by large walls  | g. case              |
| 8. He is a little worried     | h. of mankind        |
| 9. just in                    | i. the Earth is flat |
| 10. something goes            | j. to make a rocket  |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171124-flat-earth.html>

An American scientist is going to try and prove his (1) \_\_\_\_\_ that the Earth is flat. The man's name is Mike Hughes and he is 61 years old. He is a flat-Earther – (2) \_\_\_\_\_ who believes that the Earth is flat and not (3) \_\_\_\_\_. He has been interested in science for many years and (4) \_\_\_\_\_ himself how to make a rocket. He will get into his rocket on Saturday and (5) \_\_\_\_\_ it hundreds of meters in the air. The rocket cost Mr Hughes \$20,000 to make. Hughes said it is powered by (6) \_\_\_\_\_ and can fly at 800kmh. He told reporters why he made his rocket. He said: "I like to do (7) \_\_\_\_\_ things that no one else can do. No one in the history of (8) \_\_\_\_\_ has designed, built and launched himself in his own rocket."

*fire*  
*belief*  
*mankind*  
*taught*  
*someone*  
*extraordinary*  
*round*  
*steam*

Mr Hughes says when he flies above Earth, he will take photos to prove that the Earth is flat and (9) \_\_\_\_\_ -shaped. He believes that the Earth is just a (10) \_\_\_\_\_ of land surrounded by large walls of ice at the (11) \_\_\_\_\_. He said: "I don't believe in science." He added that his project will "shut the (12) \_\_\_\_\_ on this ball-Earth" idea. He is a little worried about the flight. He said: "It's as scary as (13) \_\_\_\_\_, but none of us are getting out of this world alive." Hughes said he wants to (14) \_\_\_\_\_ for Governor of California after his rocket tests. He hopes his flat-Earth discovery will help him do this. People can see Mr Hughes' flight this weekend (15) \_\_\_\_\_ on his website. He said he has put out enough food for his four cats just in case something goes (16) \_\_\_\_\_.

*run*  
*edges*  
*mass*  
*wrong*  
*hell*  
*live*  
*disc*  
*door*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171124-flat-earth.html>

- 1) An American scientist is going to try and \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. proof his belief
  - b. prove his belief
  - c. approve his belief
  - d. approval his belief
- 2) He is a flat-Earther – someone who believes that the Earth is flat \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. and not around
  - b. and not round
  - c. and not rounds
  - d. and not rounded
- 3) He has been interested in science for many years and taught himself how to \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. make a rocket
  - b. maker rocket
  - c. mark a rocket
  - d. marker rocket
- 4) He said: "I like to do extraordinary things that no \_\_\_\_\_ do."
  - a. once else can
  - b. only else can
  - c. ones else can
  - d. one else can
- 5) No one in the history of mankind has designed, built and launched himself \_\_\_\_\_ rocket
  - a. in his sewn
  - b. in this own
  - c. in his own
  - d. in he sewn
- 6) he will take photos to prove that the Earth is flat and \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. risk-shaped
  - b. disc-shaped
  - c. biscuit-shaped
  - d. misshaped
- 7) He is a little worried about the flight. He said: "It's as \_\_\_\_\_"
  - a. scary has hell
  - b. scary was hell
  - c. scare ill's hell
  - d. scary as hell
- 8) Hughes said he wants to run for Governor of California \_\_\_\_\_ tests
  - a. after his rocket
  - b. after this rocket
  - c. after him rocket
  - d. after he's rocket
- 9) He hopes his flat-Earth discovery will \_\_\_\_\_ this
  - a. help his does
  - b. help him doing
  - c. help him do
  - d. help his do
- 10) He said he has put out enough food for his four cats just in case something \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. goes wrong
  - b. does wrong
  - c. woes wrong
  - d. foes wrong

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171124-flat-earth.html>

An American scientist is going to (1) \_\_\_\_\_ his belief that the Earth is flat. The man's name is Mike Hughes and he is 61 years old. He is a flat-Earther – someone (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the Earth is flat and not round. He has been interested (3) \_\_\_\_\_ many years and taught himself (4) \_\_\_\_\_ a rocket. He will get into his rocket on Saturday and fire it hundreds of meters in the air. The rocket cost Mr Hughes \$20,000 to make. Hughes said it (5) \_\_\_\_\_ steam and can fly at 800kmh. He told reporters why he made his rocket. He said: "I like to do extraordinary things that (6) \_\_\_\_\_ can do. No one in the history of mankind has designed, built and launched himself in his own rocket."

Mr Hughes says when (7) \_\_\_\_\_ Earth, he will take photos to prove that the Earth is flat and disc-shaped. He believes that the Earth is just a mass of land surrounded by large (8) \_\_\_\_\_ at the edges. He said: "I don't believe in science." He added that his project will "shut the door on this ball-Earth" idea. He is a little worried about the flight. He said: "It's as (9) \_\_\_\_\_, but none of us are getting out of this world alive." Hughes said he (10) \_\_\_\_\_ for Governor of California after his rocket tests. He hopes his flat-Earth discovery will help him do this. People can see Mr Hughes' (11) \_\_\_\_\_ live on his website. He said he has put out enough food for his four cats (12) \_\_\_\_\_ something goes wrong.



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171124-flat-earth.html>

1. What is the nationality of the man who will take the rocket trip?
2. How old is the man?
3. How much did the rocket cost to make?
4. What does the rocket use for power?
5. What kind of things did the man say he liked to do?
6. What will the man take when he flies above the Earth?
7. What does the man think there is at the edges of the Earth?
8. How worried is the man about the flight?
9. What does the man hope the test will help him run for?
10. How many cats does the man have?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171124-flat-earth.html>

- 1) What is the nationality of the man who will take the rocket trip?
  - a) Australian
  - b) Armenian
  - c) American
  - d) Austrian
- 2) How old is the man?
  - a) 61
  - b) 62
  - c) 63
  - d) 64
- 3) How much did the rocket cost to make?
  - a) \$20,000
  - b) \$200,000
  - c) \$2,000,000
  - d) \$2,000
- 4) What does the rocket use for power?
  - a) rocket fuel
  - b) steam
  - c) coal
  - d) petrol
- 5) What kind of things did the man say he liked to do?
  - a) interesting things
  - b) everyday things
  - c) anything
  - d) extraordinary things
- 6) What will the man take when he flies above the Earth?
  - a) a teddy bear
  - b) photos
  - c) cookies
  - d) memories
- 7) What does the man think there is at the edges of the Earth?
  - a) walls of ice
  - b) animals
  - c) nothing
  - d) waterfalls
- 8) How worried is the man about the flight?
  - a) very
  - b) unbelievably
  - c) a little
  - d) not at all
- 9) What does the man hope the test will help him run for?
  - a) forever
  - b) 10 marathons
  - c) President
  - d) California Governor
- 10) How many cats does the man have?
  - a) 4
  - b) 3
  - c) 2
  - d) 1

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171124-flat-earth.html>

## **Role A – Biology**

You think biology is the most important science. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their science isn't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): physics, environmental science or computer science.

## **Role B – Physics**

You think physics is the most important science. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their science isn't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): biology, environmental science or computer science.

## **Role C – Environmental Science**

You think environmental science is the most important science. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their science isn't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): physics, biology or computer science.

## **Role D – Computer Science**

You think computer science is the most important science. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their science isn't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): physics, environmental science or biology.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171124-flat-earth.html>

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

flat	Earth

- 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>• belief</li><li>• round</li><li>• himself</li><li>• steam</li><li>• like</li><li>• history</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• take</li><li>• walls</li><li>• door</li><li>• alive</li><li>• run</li><li>• case</li></ul>
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# EARTH SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171124-flat-earth.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Earth 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.

# EARTH 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 'flat'?
3. Why do people believe the Earth is flat?
4. Why do people believe the Earth is round?
5. How interested are you in science?
6. Would you like to go into space in a rocket?
7. What things have you built?
8. What extraordinary things would you like to do?
9. What do you think of the Earth?
10. Where would you like to go in your own rocket?

*Man to take rocket trip to show Earth is flat – 24th November, 2017*  
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# EARTH 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 'Earth'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What would change if Mr Hughes is right?
15. How important is science?
16. What are your favourite things about science?
17. What things do you think are 'scary as hell'?
18. What do you think of Mr Hughes' project?
19. How kind is Mr Hughes for caring for his cats?
20. What questions would you like to ask Mike Hughes?

# 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/1711/171124-flat-earth.html>

An American scientist is going to try and prove his (1) \_\_\_\_\_ that the Earth is flat. The man's name is Mike Hughes and he is 61 years old. He is a flat-Earther – someone who believes that the Earth is flat and not (2) \_\_\_\_\_. He has been interested in science for many years and taught (3) \_\_\_\_\_ how to make a rocket. He will get into his rocket on Saturday and fire it hundreds of meters (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the air. The rocket cost Mr Hughes \$20,000 to make. Hughes said it is (5) \_\_\_\_\_ by steam and can fly at 800kmh. He told reporters why he made his rocket. He said: "I like to do extraordinary things that no one (6) \_\_\_\_\_ can do. No one in the history of mankind has designed, built and launched himself in his own rocket."

Mr Hughes says when he flies above Earth, he will take photos to prove that the Earth is flat and disc-shaped. He believes that the Earth is just a (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of land surrounded by large walls of ice (8) \_\_\_\_\_ the edges. He said: "I don't believe in science." He added that his project will "shut the door (9) \_\_\_\_\_ this ball-Earth" idea. He is a little worried about the flight. He said: "It's as scary as hell, but none of us are getting out of this world (10) \_\_\_\_\_." Hughes said he wants to run for Governor of California after his rocket tests. He hopes his flat-Earth discovery will help him do (11) \_\_\_\_\_. People can see Mr Hughes' flight this weekend live on his website. He said he has put out enough food for his four cats just in case something (12) \_\_\_\_\_ wrong.

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

- |     |              |              |            |              |
|-----|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| 1.  | (a) believe  | (b) believes | (c) belief | (d) believer |
| 2.  | (a) round    | (b) roundly  | (c) around | (d) rounded  |
| 3.  | (a) himself  | (b) him      | (c) his    | (d) he       |
| 4.  | (a) in       | (b) up       | (c) at     | (d) of       |
| 5.  | (a) powerful | (b) powers   | (c) power  | (d) powered  |
| 6.  | (a) another  | (b) other    | (c) self   | (d) else     |
| 7.  | (a) mass     | (b) mess     | (c) miss   | (d) moss     |
| 8.  | (a) up       | (b) as       | (c) of     | (d) at       |
| 9.  | (a) on       | (b) of       | (c) op     | (d) oh       |
| 10. | (a) life     | (b) alive    | (c) living | (d) lively   |
| 11. | (a) once     | (b) this     | (c) off    | (d) away     |
| 12. | (a) goes     | (b) does     | (c) foes   | (d) woes     |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171124-flat-earth.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. try and vreop his belief
2. interested in ncsicee for many years
3. it is powered by maset
4. I like to do xioardtryaren things
5. in the history of mndkani
6. aeunchdl himself in his own rocket

## Paragraph 2

7. land rnosdudure by large walls of ice
8. at the deegs
9. his rtjoepc will shut the door on this ball-Earth idea
10. It's as aycsr as hell
11. his flat-Earth ovryedsic
12. something goes gnorw

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171124-flat-earth.html>

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

- ( ) round. He has been interested in science for many years and taught himself how to make a rocket. He will get into his
- ( ) rocket on Saturday and fire it hundreds of meters in the air. The rocket cost Mr Hughes \$20,000 to
- ( **1** ) An American scientist is going to try and prove his belief that the Earth is flat. The man's name
- ( ) discovery will help him do this. People can see Mr Hughes' flight this weekend live
- ( ) of mankind has designed, built and launched himself in his own rocket."
- ( ) shaped. He believes that the Earth is just a mass of land surrounded by large walls of ice at the
- ( ) he made his rocket. He said: "I like to do extraordinary things that no one else can do. No one in the history
- ( ) alive." Hughes said he wants to run for Governor of California after his rocket tests. He hopes his flat-Earth
- ( ) edges. He said: "I don't believe in science." He added that his project will "shut the door on this ball-Earth"
- ( ) idea. He is a little worried about the flight. He said: "It's as scary as hell, but none of us are getting out of this world
- ( ) Mr Hughes says when he flies above Earth, he will take photos to prove that the Earth is flat and disc-
- ( ) is Mike Hughes and he is 61 years old. He is a flat-Earther – someone who believes that the Earth is flat and not
- ( ) on his website. He said he has put out enough food for his four cats just in case something goes wrong.
- ( ) make. Hughes said it is powered by steam and can fly at 800 kmh. He told reporters why

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171124-flat-earth.html>

1. the that belief his prove and Try flat is Earth .
2. Earth the that believes who Someone flat is .
3. cost Mr Hughes \$20,000 to make The rocket .
4. that things extraordinary Do can else one no .
5. one the of No in history mankind .
6. is prove flat that Take the photos Earth to .
7. edges by of the surrounded walls at Land large ice .
8. about worried little a is He flight the .
9. of alive us out world of getting this None are .
10. something goes in wrong case Just .

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171124-flat-earth.html>

An American scientist is going to try and *proof / prove* his belief that the Earth is flat. The man's name is Mike Hughes and he is 61 years old. He is a flat-Earther – someone who *beliefs / believes* that the Earth is flat and not round. He has been *interested / interesting* in science for many years and *taught / teach* himself how to make a rocket. He will get into his rocket on Saturday and fire *him / it* hundreds of meters in the air. The rocket cost Mr Hughes \$20,000 to make. Hughes said it is *powerful / powered* by steam and can fly *at / up* 800kmh. He told reporters why he made his rocket. He said: "I like to do extraordinary things that no one *body / else* can do. No one in the history *for / of* mankind has designed, built and launched himself *in / on* his own rocket."

Mr Hughes says when he flies above Earth, he will take photos to *proof / prove* that the Earth is flat and disc-shaped. He *believes / beliefs* that the Earth is just a mass of land *surround / surrounded* by large walls of ice at the edges. He said: "I don't believe *on / in* science." He added that his project will "shut the door *on / in* this ball-Earth" idea. He is a little worried about the flight. He said: "It's as *scared / scary* as hell, but none of us are getting out of this world alive." Hughes said he wants to *run / walk* for Governor of California after his rocket tests. He hopes his flat-Earth discovery will help *his / him* do this. People can see Mr Hughes' flight this weekend *live / life* on his website. He said he has put out enough food for his four cats just in case something *does / goes* wrong.

**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)

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\_ n \_ m \_ r \_ c \_ n s c \_ \_ n t \_ s t \_ s g \_ \_ n g t \_ t r y \_ n d p r \_ v \_ h \_ s  
b \_ l \_ \_ f t h \_ t t h \_ \_ \_ r t h \_ s f l \_ t . T h \_ m \_ n ' s n \_ m \_ \_ s M \_ k \_  
H \_ g h \_ s \_ n d h \_ \_ s 61 y \_ \_ r s \_ l d . H \_ \_ s \_ f l \_ t - \_ \_ r t h \_ r -  
s \_ m \_ \_ n \_ w h \_ b \_ l \_ \_ v \_ s t h \_ t t h \_ \_ \_ r t h \_ s f l \_ t \_ n d n \_ t  
r \_ \_ n d . H \_ h \_ s b \_ \_ n \_ n t \_ r \_ s t \_ d \_ n s c \_ \_ n c \_ f \_ r m \_ n y  
y \_ \_ r s \_ n d t \_ \_ g h t h \_ m s \_ l f h \_ w t \_ m \_ k \_ \_ r \_ c k \_ t . H \_  
w \_ l l g \_ t \_ n t \_ h \_ s r \_ c k \_ t \_ n S \_ t \_ r d \_ y \_ n d f \_ r \_ \_ t  
h \_ n d r \_ d s \_ f m \_ t \_ r s \_ n t h \_ \_ \_ r . T h \_ r \_ c k \_ t c \_ s t M r  
H \_ g h \_ s \$ 20,000 t \_ m \_ k \_ . H \_ g h \_ s s \_ \_ d \_ t \_ s p \_ w \_ r \_ d  
b y s t \_ \_ m \_ n d c \_ n f l y \_ t 800k m h . H \_ t \_ l d r \_ p \_ r t \_ r s w h y  
h \_ \_ m \_ d \_ h \_ s r \_ c k \_ t . H \_ s \_ \_ d : " \_ l \_ k \_ t \_ d \_  
\_ x t r \_ \_ r d \_ n \_ r y t h \_ n g s t h \_ t n \_ \_ n \_ \_ l s \_ c \_ n d \_ . N \_ \_ n \_  
\_ n t h \_ h \_ s t \_ r y \_ f m \_ n k \_ n d h \_ s d \_ s \_ g n \_ d , b \_ \_ l t \_ n d  
l \_ \_ n c h \_ d h \_ m s \_ l f \_ n h \_ s \_ w n r \_ c k \_ t . "

M r H \_ g h \_ s s \_ y s w h \_ n h \_ f l \_ \_ s \_ b \_ v \_ \_ \_ r t h , h \_ w \_ l l  
t \_ k \_ p h \_ t \_ s t \_ p r \_ v \_ t h \_ t t h \_ \_ \_ r t h \_ s f l \_ t \_ n d d \_ s c -  
s h \_ p \_ d . H \_ b \_ l \_ \_ v \_ s t h \_ t t h \_ \_ \_ r t h \_ s j \_ s t \_ m \_ s s \_ f  
l \_ n d s \_ r r \_ \_ n d \_ d b y l \_ r g \_ w \_ l l s \_ f \_ c \_ \_ t t h \_ \_ d g \_ s . H \_  
s \_ \_ d : " \_ d \_ n ' t b \_ l \_ \_ v \_ \_ n s c \_ \_ n c \_ . " H \_ \_ d d \_ d t h \_ t h \_ s  
p r \_ j \_ c t w \_ l l " s h \_ t t h \_ d \_ \_ r \_ n t h \_ s b \_ l l - \_ \_ r t h " \_ d \_ \_ .  
H \_ \_ s \_ l \_ t t l \_ w \_ r r \_ \_ d \_ b \_ \_ t t h \_ f l \_ g h t . H \_ s \_ \_ d : " \_ t ' s  
\_ s s c \_ r y \_ s h \_ l l , b \_ t n \_ n \_ \_ f \_ s \_ r \_ g \_ t t \_ n g \_ \_ t \_ f t h \_ s  
w \_ r l d \_ l \_ v \_ . " H \_ g h \_ s s \_ \_ d h \_ w \_ n t s t \_ r \_ n \_ f \_ r  
G \_ v \_ r n \_ r \_ f C \_ l \_ f \_ r n \_ \_ \_ f t \_ r h \_ s r \_ c k \_ t t \_ s t s . H \_  
h \_ p \_ s h \_ s f l \_ t - \_ \_ r t h d \_ s c \_ v \_ r y w \_ l l h \_ l p h \_ m \_ d \_ t h \_ s .  
P \_ \_ p l \_ c \_ n s \_ \_ M r H \_ g h \_ s ' f l \_ g h t t h \_ s w \_ \_ k \_ n d l \_ v \_ \_ n  
h \_ s w \_ b \_ s \_ t \_ . H \_ s \_ \_ d h \_ h \_ s p \_ t \_ \_ t \_ n \_ \_ g h \_ f \_ \_ d \_ f \_ r  
h \_ s f \_ \_ r \_ c \_ t s j \_ s t \_ n \_ c \_ s \_ s \_ m \_ t h \_ n g g \_ \_ s w r \_ n g .

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171124-flat-earther.html>

an american scientist is going to try and prove his belief that the earth is flat the man's name is mike hughes and he is 61 years old he is a flat-earther – someone who believes that the earth is flat and not round he has been interested in science for many years and taught himself how to make a rocket he will get into his rocket on saturday and fire it hundreds of meters in the air the rocket cost mr hughes \$20000 to make hughes said it is powered by steam and can fly at 800kmh he told reporters why he made his rocket he said "i like to do extraordinary things that no one else can do no one in the history of mankind has designed built and launched himself in his own rocket"

mr hughes says when he flies above earth he will take photos to prove that the earth is flat and disc-shaped he believes that the earth is just a mass of land surrounded by large walls of ice at the edges he said "i don't believe in science" he added that his project will "shut the door on this ball-earth" idea he is a little worried about the flight he said "it's as scary as hell but none of us are getting out of this world alive" hughes said he wants to run for governor of california after his rocket tests he hopes his flat-earth discovery will help him do this people can see mr hughes' flight this weekend live on his website he said he has put out enough food for his four cats just in case something goes wrong

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1711/171124-flat-earth.html>

An American scientist is going to try and prove his belief that the Earth is flat. The man's name is Mike Hughes and he is 61 years old. He is a flat-Earther – someone who believes that the Earth is flat and not round. He has been interested in science for many years and taught himself how to make a rocket. He will get into his rocket on Saturday and fire it hundreds of meters into the air. The rocket cost Mr Hughes \$20,000 to make. Hughes said it is powered by steam and can fly at 800 km/h. He told reporters why he made his rocket. He said: "I like to do extraordinary things that no one else can do. No one in the history of mankind has designed, built and launched himself in his own rocket." Mr Hughes says when he flies above Earth, he will take photos to prove that the Earth is flat and disc-shaped. He believes that the Earth is just a mass of land surrounded by large walls of ice at the edges. He said: "I don't believe in science." He added that his project will "shut the door on this ball-Earth" idea. He is a little worried about the flight. He said: "It's a scary ashell, but none of us are getting out of this world alive." Hughes said he wants to run for Governor of California after his rocket tests. He hopes his flat-Earth discovery will help him do this. People can see Mr Hughes' flight this weekend live on his website. He said he has put out enough food for his four cats just in case something goes wrong.







# 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. EARTH:** Make a poster about Earth. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. FLAT EARTH:** Write a magazine article about the Flat Earth theory. Include imaginary interviews with people who believe in this and with those who do not believe in it.

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 Earth. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your opinions on the Earth. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

- |                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1. prove         | a. show        |
| 2. belief        | b. opinion     |
| 3. fire          | c. launch      |
| 4. extraordinary | d. remarkable  |
| 5. designed      | e. created     |
| 6. surrounded    | f. encircled   |
| 7. edges         | g. sides       |
| 8. scary         | h. frightening |
| 9. discovery     | i. finding     |
| 10. enough       | j. sufficient  |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. American
2. 61
3. \$20,000
4. Steam
5. Extraordinary things
6. Photos
7. Walls of ice
8. A little
9. California governor
10. Four

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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