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Level 6 – 29th December, 2019

Satellites may obscure our views of the stars

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191229-satellites.html>

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

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191229-satellites.html>

Astronomers are concerned that our views of the heavens are becoming more and more obscured. Their warning comes ahead of a whole series of satellite launches by a variety of companies. Thousands of satellites are being launched into orbit throughout 2020 to make high-speed Internet more readily available across the world from space. The scientists say the skies will be so littered with arrays of satellites they will compete for our attention with the stars. They say the satellites will link up to form "mega-constellations" that could interfere with radio astronomy and the quality of images from optical telescopes. The astronomers said the satellites will appear as dazzling white streaks of light that could be mistaken for stars.

Technology analysts say there are plans to launch as many as 46,000 satellites into space over the next few years. This is five times more than the number of objects sent into space since the launch of Sputnik 1 in 1957, over six decades ago. Satellites from companies like SpaceX and Amazon will provide much faster Internet speeds to even the remotest areas of the world. They will provide global connectivity across the globe. Even today, about 14 million people in the USA live in rural areas with zero Internet coverage. SpaceX will launch 120 satellites in January and has plans to send a further 12,000 into orbit in the next decade. Astrophysicist Dr Dave Clements called the initiative a "tragedy".

Sources: <https://www.cnbc.com/2019/12/14/spacex-oneweb-and-amazon-to-launch-thousands-more-satellites-in-2020s.html>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-50870117>
http://www.spacedaily.com/reports/First_launch_of_UKs_OneWeb_satellites_from_Baikonur_now_set_for_30_Jan_999.html

WARM-UPS

1. SATELLITES: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about satellites. 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?

astronomers / views / heavens / warning / variety / high-speed Internet / satellites / technology / analysts / a few years / space / connectivity / rural area / orbit / tragedy

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

3. STARS: Students A **strongly** believe we need to seeing the stars is more important than putting satellites into space; Students B **strongly** believe satellites are more important than seeing the stars. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. SATELLITE USES: What do you know about these uses for satellites? What do you want to know? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What I Know	What I Want to Know
Weather		
GPS		
Military		
Internet		
Business		
Climate		

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

6. THE HEAVENS: Rank these with your partner. Put the most beautiful things in the heavens at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Earth
- Constellations
- The Milky Way
- The sun
- Shooting stars
- Solar eclipses
- The Aurora Borealis
- The moon

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1. astronomer | a. A group of stars forming a recognizable pattern that is traditionally named after what it looks like or a mythological figure. |
| 2. concerned | b. The sky and beyond. |
| 3. the heavens | c. Worried, troubled, or anxious. |
| 4. obscured | d. Prevent a process or activity from continuing or being carried out properly. |
| 5. constellation | e. An expert, student or enthusiast in the branch of science which deals with space objects, space, and the physical universe as a whole. |
| 6. littered | f. Made hard to make out or define; vague. |
| 7. interfere | g. Made a place untidy with rubbish, garbage or a large number of objects left lying about. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 8. analyst | h. Send a missile, satellite, or spacecraft on its course or into space. |
| 9. launch | i. The curved path of an object or spacecraft in space around a star, planet, or moon. |
| 10. remote | j. An event causing great suffering, destruction, and distress, such as a serious accident, crime, or natural catastrophe. |
| 11. rural | k. Situated far from the main centers of population; distant. |
| 12. orbit | l. An act or strategy intended to resolve a difficulty or improve a situation; a fresh approach to something. |
| 13. initiative | m. In, relating to, or characteristic of the countryside rather than the town. |
| 14. tragedy | n. A person who conducts detailed examination of the elements or structure of something. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191229-satellites.html>

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

- a. The article said it is becoming more difficult to see heaven. **T / F**
- b. Companies will launch thousands of satellites into space in 2020. **T / F**
- c. Astronomers say satellites will compete with stars for our attention. **T / F**
- d. The article said satellites look like dazzling streaks of blue light. **T / F**
- e. Over 45,000 satellites could be launched in the next decade. **T / F**
- f. The first satellite was launched into space nearly 50 years ago. **T / F**
- g. Amazon is one of the companies launching satellites into space. **T / F**
- h. An astrophysicist said the number of satellites was a tragedy. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

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

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| 1. concerned | a. things |
| 2. whole | b. countryside |
| 3. launched | c. entire |
| 4. littered | d. none |
| 5. streaks | e. disaster |
| 6. objects | f. filled |
| 7. remotest | g. worried |
| 8. zero | h. most isolated |
| 9. rural | i. lines |
| 10. tragedy | j. blasted off |

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

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. our views of | a. more readily available |
| 2. make high-speed Internet | b. coverage |
| 3. the skies will be so | c. of light |
| 4. interfere | d. as many as 46,000 |
| 5. dazzling white streaks | e. littered |
| 6. there are plans to launch | f. areas of the world |
| 7. to even the remotest | g. with radio astronomy |
| 8. They will provide global connectivity | h. initiative a "tragedy" |
| 9. zero Internet | i. across the globe |
| 10. Dr Dave Clements called the | j. the heavens |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191229-satellites.html>

Astronomers are concerned that our views of the (1) _____ are becoming more and more obscured. Their warning comes ahead of a whole (2) _____ of satellite launches by a variety of companies. Thousands of satellites are being launched into (3) _____ throughout 2020 to make high-speed Internet more readily (4) _____ across the world from space. The scientists say the skies will be so littered with (5) _____ of satellites they will compete for our attention with the stars. They say the satellites will (6) _____ up to form "mega-constellations" that could interfere with radio astronomy and the quality of images from (7) _____ telescopes. The astronomers said the satellites will appear as dazzling white (8) _____ of light that could be mistaken for stars.

series
arrays
streaks
heavens
available
optical
orbit
link

Technology (9) _____ say there are plans to launch as many as 46,000 satellites into space over the next few years. This is five times more than the number of (10) _____ sent into space since the launch of Sputnik 1 in 1957, over six (11) _____ ago. Satellites from companies like SpaceX and Amazon will provide much faster Internet speeds to even the (12) _____ areas of the world. They will provide global (13) _____ across the globe. Even today, about 14 million people in the USA live in (14) _____ areas with zero Internet coverage. SpaceX will launch 120 satellites in January and has plans to send a (15) _____ 12,000 into orbit in the next decade. Astrophysicist Dr Dave Clements called the (16) _____ a "tragedy".

connectivity
further
objects
initiative
analysts
rural
remotest
decades

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191229-satellites.html>

- 1) comes ahead of a whole series of satellite launches by _____ companies
 - a. a various of
 - b. a varieties of
 - c. a variation of
 - d. a variety of
- 2) The scientists say the skies will be so littered _____ satellites
 - a. with displays of
 - b. with arrears of
 - c. with aerials of
 - d. with arrays of
- 3) They say the satellites will link up to form " _____ "
 - a. major-constellations
 - b. meager-constellations
 - c. mega-constellations
 - d. magma-constellations
- 4) interfere with radio astronomy and the quality of images from _____
 - a. optician telescopes
 - b. optic all telescopes
 - c. optics all telescopes
 - d. optical telescopes
- 5) The astronomers said the satellites will appear as _____ streaks
 - a. dazzling white
 - b. dabbling white
 - c. darkling white
 - d. dappling white
- 6) plans to launch as many as 46,000 satellites into space over the _____
 - a. next few years
 - b. next through years
 - c. next flew years
 - d. next flu years
- 7) Amazon will provide much faster Internet speeds to even _____
 - a. the remote is areas
 - b. the remotest auroras
 - c. the remotest areas
 - d. the limitless auras
- 8) Even today, about 14 million people in the USA live _____
 - a. in rural areas
 - b. in alluvial auroras
 - c. in roar all auras
 - d. inner real aerials
- 9) launch 120 satellites in January and has plans to send a further _____
 - a. 12,000 onto orbit
 - b. 12,000 into orbit
 - c. 12,000 unto orbit
 - d. 12,000 in two orbit
- 10) Astrophysicist Dr Dave Clements called the _____
 - a. in shaft a "tragedy"
 - b. initial I've a "tragedy"
 - c. initiate a "tragedy"
 - d. initiative a "tragedy"

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191229-satellites.html>

Astronomers are concerned that our views (1) _____ are becoming more and more obscured. Their warning comes ahead of a whole series of satellite launches (2) _____ of companies. Thousands of satellites are being launched (3) _____ 2020 to make high-speed Internet more readily available across the world from space. The scientists say the skies will be so (4) _____ of satellites they will compete for our attention with the stars. They say the satellites will link up to form "mega-constellations" that could interfere with radio astronomy and the quality of images (5) _____. The astronomers said the satellites will (6) _____ white streaks of light that could be mistaken for stars.

Technology (7) _____ are plans to launch as many as 46,000 satellites into space over the next few years. This is five times more than the number of objects sent into space (8) _____ of Sputnik 1 in 1957, over six decades ago. Satellites from companies like SpaceX and Amazon will provide much faster Internet speeds to even the (9) _____ the world. They will provide global connectivity across the globe. Even today, about 14 million people in the USA live in (10) _____ zero Internet coverage. SpaceX will launch 120 satellites in January and has plans to send a further 12,000 (11) _____ the next decade. Astrophysicist Dr Dave Clements called the (12) _____.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191229-satellites.html>

1. Who is worried about our view of the heavens becoming more obscured?
2. How many companies will be launching satellites into space in 2020?
3. What will the satellites link up to form?
4. What could the satellites interfere with?
5. What will the satellites appear as in the sky?
6. How many satellites could be put into space in the next decade?
7. In what year was the satellite Sputnik 1 launched into space?
8. How many people in the USA lack Internet coverage today?
9. What company will launch 120 satellites in January?
10. What did an astrophysicist call the launch of so many satellites?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191229-satellites.html>

- 1) Who is worried about our view of the heavens becoming more obscured?
 - a) astrophysicists
 - b) astronomers
 - c) astronauts
 - d) astrologists
- 2) How many companies will be launching satellites into space in 2020?
 - a) millions
 - b) dozens
 - c) several
 - d) a variety
- 3) What will the satellites link up to form?
 - a) a mega-constellation
 - b) a super-constellation
 - c) a mega-consortium
 - d) a stellar consortium
- 4) What could the satellites interfere with?
 - a) the International Space Station
 - b) solar power
 - c) radio astronomy
 - d) our weather
- 5) What will the satellites appear as in the sky?
 - a) darting blue flashes of light
 - b) dazzling white streaks of light
 - c) mysterious yellow stars
 - d) bright orange shooting stars
- 6) How many satellites could be put into space in the next decade?
 - a) up to 46,000
 - b) hundreds of thousands
 - c) thousands
 - d) 48,722
- 7) In what year was the satellite Sputnik 1 launched into space?
 - a) 1975
 - b) 1955
 - c) 1957
 - d) 1977
- 8) How many people in the USA lack Internet coverage today?
 - a) about 14 million
 - b) exactly 14 million
 - c) just more than 14 million
 - d) slightly fewer than 14 million
- 9) What company will launch 120 satellites in January?
 - a) SpaceX
 - b) Virgin Galactic
 - c) Boeing
 - d) Amazon
- 10) What did an astrophysicist call the launch of so many satellites?
 - a) innovative
 - b) a disaster waiting to happen
 - c) mind-boggling
 - d) a tragedy

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191229-satellites.html>

Role A – Earth

You think Earth is the most beautiful thing in the heavens. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least beautiful of these (and why): constellations, the moon or shooting stars.

Role B – Constellations

You think constellations are the most beautiful things in the heavens. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least beautiful of these (and why): Earth, the moon or shooting stars.

Role C – The Moon

You think the moon is the most beautiful thing in the heavens. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least beautiful of these (and why): constellations, Earth or shooting stars.

Role D – Shooting Stars

You think shooting stars are the most beautiful things in the heavens. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least beautiful of these (and why): constellations, the moon or Earth.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191229-satellites.html>

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

space	satellite
--------------	------------------

- 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">• view• variety• 2020• littered• quality• mistaken	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• few• five• faster• 14• 120• tragedy
---	--

SATELLITES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191229-satellites.html>

Write five GOOD questions about satellites 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.

SATELLITES 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 'space'?
3. What do you know about astronomy?
4. How much do you like watching the stars?
5. How important are satellites?
6. Should governments limit the number of satellites in space?
7. What do you think of 46,000 satellites going into space?
8. How sad would you be if satellites spoiled our views of the stars?
9. What can go wrong with thousands of satellites being in space?
10. How important is it to keep space clear of objects?

Satellites may obscure our views of the stars – 29th December, 2019
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SATELLITES 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 'satellite'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you think of astronomy?
15. Why are people interested in astronomy?
16. What do you know about Sputnik 1?
17. How satisfied are you with your Internet connectivity?
18. How will the world change if everyone had the Internet?
19. How much of a "tragedy" is space being full of satellites?
20. What questions would you like to ask the astronomers?

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/1912/191229-satellites.html>

Astronomers are concerned that our views of the (1) _____ are becoming more and more obscured. Their warning comes ahead of a (2) _____ series of satellite launches by a variety of companies. Thousands of satellites are being launched into orbit throughout 2020 to make high-speed Internet more (3) _____ available across the world from space. The scientists say the skies will be so littered with arrays of satellites they will compete (4) _____ our attention with the stars. They say the satellites will link up to form "mega-constellations" that could (5) _____ with radio astronomy and the quality of images from optical telescopes. The astronomers said the satellites will appear as (6) _____ white streaks of light that could be mistaken for stars.

Technology (7) _____ say there are plans to launch as many as 46,000 satellites into space over the next few years. This is five times more than the number of objects sent into space since the launch of Sputnik 1 in 1957, over six decades ago. Satellites from companies like SpaceX and Amazon will provide much faster Internet speeds to even the (8) _____ areas of the world. They will provide global (9) _____ across the globe. Even today, about 14 million people in the USA live in rural areas with (10) _____ Internet coverage. SpaceX will launch 120 satellites in January and has plans to send a further 12,000 into (11) _____ in the next decade. Astrophysicist Dr Dave Clements called the (12) _____ a "tragedy".

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| 1. | (a) heaven | (b) heavens | (c) heavenly | (d) heaven sent |
| 2. | (a) holy | (b) whole | (c) hole | (d) wholly |
| 3. | (a) readied | (b) ready | (c) readies | (d) readily |
| 4. | (a) on | (b) for | (c) for | (d) of |
| 5. | (a) atmosphere | (b) interfere | (c) sphere | (d) stratosphere |
| 6. | (a) dabbling | (b) dappling | (c) dazzling | (d) darkling |
| 7. | (a) analysis | (b) analyses | (c) analysts | (d) analytics |
| 8. | (a) lest | (b) incest | (c) remotest | (d) retest |
| 9. | (a) embossing | (b) encrusting | (c) deal | (d) coverage |
| 10. | (a) diddly-squat | (b) zilch | (c) nought | (d) zero |
| 11. | (a) orbit | (b) circular | (c) spherical | (d) roundness |
| 12. | (a) initials | (b) initiation | (c) initiative | (d) initially |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191229-satellites.html>

Paragraph 1

1. a yarievt of companies
2. more erlidya available
3. littered with ysraar of satellites
4. eenretfir with radio astronomy
5. images from cotplai telescopes
6. lindzazg white streaks of light

Paragraph 2

7. Technology nlatysas say there are plans
8. the number of tbsjoec sent into space
9. They will provide global tynccvieotni
10. rural areas with zero Internet raeecvgo
11. send a further 12,000 into trboi
12. Clements called the enitaitiiv a "tragedy"

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191229-satellites.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- (**1**) Astronomers are concerned that our views of the heavens are becoming more and more
- () telescopes. The astronomers said the satellites will appear as dazzling white streaks of light that could be mistaken for stars.
- () companies. Thousands of satellites are being launched into orbit throughout 2020 to make high-speed Internet more readily
- () obscured. Their warning comes ahead of a whole series of satellite launches by a variety of
- () Internet speeds to even the remotest areas of the world. They will provide global connectivity across the
- () few years. This is five times more than the number of objects sent into space since the launch
- () available across the world from space. The scientists say the skies will be so littered with arrays of satellites they will
- () Technology analysts say there are plans to launch as many as 46,000 satellites into space over the next
- () of Sputnik 1 in 1957, over six decades ago. Satellites from companies like SpaceX and Amazon will provide much faster
- () constellations" that could interfere with radio astronomy and the quality of images from optical
- () compete for our attention with the stars. They say the satellites will link up to form "mega-
- () into orbit in the next decade. Astrophysicist Dr Dave Clements called the initiative a "tragedy".
- () globe. Even today, about 14 million people in the USA live in rural areas with zero Internet
- () coverage. SpaceX will launch 120 satellites in January and has plans to send a further 12,000

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191229-satellites.html>

1. more are becoming more and The obscured . heavens
2. of orbit . Thousands launched into being satellites are
3. up mega-constellations . link form to Satellites will
4. said appear . astronomers the The satellites will
5. that be mistaken . of could Streaks light
6. to satellites . as launch Plans as many 46,000
7. of the space into Sent 1 . since Sputnik launch
8. remotest areas . the Internet speeds even Faster to
9. global the connectivity will They globe . across provide
10. further 12,000 send into Plans a to orbit .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191229-satellites.html>

Astronomers are *concerned* / *cornered* that our views of the heavens are becoming more and more obscured. Their warning comes *heading* / *ahead* of a whole *series* / *serial* of satellite launches by a variety of companies. Thousands of satellites are being launched into *orb* / *orbit* throughout 2020 to make high-speed Internet more *readily* / *ready* available across the world from space. The scientists say the skies will be so littered with *disarray* / *arrays* of satellites they will compete for our attention with the stars. They say the satellites will link *down* / *up* to form "mega-constellations" that could *interference* / *interfere* with radio astronomy and the quality of images from *optical* / *optician* telescopes. The astronomers said the satellites will appear as dazzling white streaks of light that could be *mistake* / *mistaken* for stars.

Technology *analysis* / *analysts* say there are plans to launch as *much* / *many* as 46,000 satellites into space over the next few years. This is five times more than the *number* / *numeral* of objects sent into space since the launch of Sputnik 1 in 1957, over six decades *ago* / *hence*. Satellites from companies like SpaceX and Amazon will provide much faster Internet *speedy* / *speeds* to even the remotest areas *of* / *off* the world. They will provide global connectivity across the *globule* / *globe*. Even today, about 14 million people in the USA live in rural areas with *zero* / *nought* Internet coverage. SpaceX will launch 120 satellites in January and has *plans* / *plan* to send a further 12,000 into orbit in the next decade. Astrophysicist Dr Dave Clements called the initiative a "*tragedy* / *tragic*".

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)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191229-satellites.html>

Astronomers are concerned that our views of the heavens are becoming more and more biased. Their warning comes ahead of what's sure to be a launch by the very first companies. The sounds of satellites are being launched into orbit through 2020 to make high-speed Internet more readily available across the world from space. The scientists say the satellites will be built with arrays of satellites they will compete for their own territories with the stars. They say the satellites will link up to form "mega-constellations" that could interfere with radio astronomy and the quality of signals from optical telescopes. The astronomers said the satellites will appear as dazzling streaks of light that could be mistaken for stars.

Technology analysts say there are plans to launch as many as 46,000 satellites into space over the next few years. This is five times more than the number of objects sent into space since the launch of Sputnik 1 in 1957, over six decades ago. Satellites from companies like SpaceX and Amazon will provide fast Internet speeds to even the remotest areas of the world. They will provide global connectivity across the globe. Even today, about 14 million people in the USA live in rural areas with zero Internet coverage. SpaceX will launch 120 satellites in January and has plans to send a further 12,000 into orbit in the next decade. Astrophysicist Dr David Clements called the next wave "tragedy".

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191229-satellites.html>

astronomers are concerned that our views of the heavens are becoming more and more obscured their warning comes ahead of a whole series of satellite launches by a variety of companies thousands of satellites are being launched into orbit throughout 2020 to make highspeed internet more readily available across the world from space the scientists say the skies will be so littered with arrays of satellites they will compete for our attention with the stars they say the satellites will link up to form megaconstellations that could interfere with radio astronomy and the quality of images from optical telescopes the astronomers said the satellites will appear as dazzling white streaks of light that could be mistaken for stars

technology analysts say there are plans to launch as many as 46000 satellites into space over the next few years this is five times more than the number of objects sent into space since the launch of sputnik 1 in 1957 over six decades ago satellites from companies like spacex and amazon will provide much faster internet speeds to even the remotest areas of the world they will provide global connectivity across the globe even today about 14 million people in the usa live in rural areas with zero internet coverage spacex will launch 120 satellites in january and has plans to send a further 12000 into orbit in the next decade astrophysicist dr dave clements called the initiative a tragedy

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191229-satellites.html>

Astronomers are concerned that our views of the heavens are becoming more and more obscured. Their warning comes ahead of a whole series of satellite launches by a variety of companies. Thousands of satellites are being launched into orbit throughout 2020 to make high-speed Internet more readily available across the world from space. The scientists say the skies will be littered with arrays of satellites they will compete for our attention with the stars. They say the satellites will link up to form "mega-constellations" that could interfere with radio astronomy and the quality of images from optical telescopes. The astronomers said the satellites will appear as dazzling white streaks of light that could be mistaken for stars. Technology analysts say there are plans to launch as many as 46,000 satellites into space over the next few years. This is five times more than the number of objects sent into space since the launch of Sputnik 1 in 1957, over six decades ago. Satellites from companies like SpaceX and Amazon will provide much faster Internet speeds to even the remotest areas of the world. They will provide global connectivity across the globe. Even today, about 14 million people in the USA live in rural areas with zero Internet coverage. SpaceX will launch 120 satellites in January and has plans to send another 12,000 into orbit in the next decade. Astrophysicist Dr Dave Clements called the initiative a "tragedy".

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. SATELLITES: Make a poster about satellites. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. SPACE JUNK: Write a magazine article about limiting the number of satellites put into 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 satellites. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your opinions of putting 46,000 new satellites into space. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Astronomers
2. A variety of companies
3. Mega-constellations
4. Radio astronomy
5. Dazzling white streaks of light
6. Up to 46,000
7. 1957
8. About 14 million
9. SpaceX
10. A tragedy

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. The heavens are becoming more and more obscured.
2. Thousands of satellites are being launched into orbit.
3. Satellites will link up to form mega-constellations.
4. The astronomers said the satellites will appear.
5. Streaks of light that could be mistaken.
6. Plans to launch as many as 46,000 satellites.
7. Sent into space since the launch of Sputnik 1.
8. Faster Internet speeds to even the remotest areas.
9. They will provide global connectivity across the globe.
10. Plans to send a further 12,000 into orbit.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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