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**Level 2** – 13th November, 2020

## Scientists develop COVID-19 vaccine

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2011/201113-covid-19-vaccine-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2011/201113-covid-19-vaccine-2.html>

This year has largely been full of bad news because of COVID-19. Finally, there is good news. Scientists announced a breakthrough in the fight against the virus. The scientists are from the U.S. drug company Pfizer and the German company BioNTech. Researchers have developed a vaccine against COVID-19 with a 90 per cent success rate. The researchers say the vaccine has no serious side effects. The head of the USA's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases said the vaccine was positive news. He said: "The results are really quite good, I mean extraordinary."

Health experts say it will be months before people can get the vaccine. It must be stored at temperatures of -80° Celsius. The Pfizer CEO was happy with his company's success. He said: "Today is a great day for science and humanity....We are reaching this [important time]...when the world needs it most." He added: "Infection rates are setting new records, hospitals are nearing over-capacity and economies are struggling to reopen....We are a significant step closer to providing people around the world with a much-needed breakthrough to help...end...this global health crisis."

Sources: <https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2020-11-10/editorial-a-ray-of-hope-for-the-pandemics-end-in-2021>  
<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-03166-8>  
<https://www.pfizer.com/news/press-release/press-release-detail/pfizer-and-biontech-announce-vaccine-candidate-against>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2011/201113-covid-19-vaccine-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                 |                          |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. This year has largely        | a. quite good            |
| 2. Scientists announced a       | b. vaccine               |
| 3. the fight against            | c. breakthrough          |
| 4. Researchers have developed a | d. effects               |
| 5. a 90 per cent                | e. been full of bad news |
| 6. no serious side              | f. diseases              |
| 7. infectious                   | g. the virus             |
| 8. The results are really       | h. success rate          |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                      |                    |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Health experts say it will        | a. closer          |
| 2. It must be stored at temperatures | b. and humanity    |
| 3. a great day for science           | c. records         |
| 4. when the world needs it           | d. of -80° Celsius |
| 5. Infection rates are setting new   | e. breakthrough    |
| 6. We are a significant step         | f. crisis          |
| 7. a much-needed                     | g. most            |
| 8. .end this global health           | h. be months       |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2011/201113-covid-19-vaccine-2.html>

This year has (1) \_\_\_\_\_ of bad news because of COVID-19. Finally, there is good news. Scientists announced a breakthrough in (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the virus. The scientists are from the U.S. drug company Pfizer and the German company BioNTech. Researchers have (3) \_\_\_\_\_ against COVID-19 with a 90 per cent success rate. The researchers say the vaccine has (4) \_\_\_\_\_ effects. The (5) \_\_\_\_\_ USA's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases said the vaccine was positive news. He said: "The results are (6) \_\_\_\_\_, I mean extraordinary."

Health experts say it will (7) \_\_\_\_\_ people can get the vaccine. It must (8) \_\_\_\_\_ temperatures of -80° Celsius. The Pfizer CEO was happy with his company's success. He said: "Today is a great (9) \_\_\_\_\_ and humanity....We are reaching this [important time]...when the world needs it most." He added: "Infection (10) \_\_\_\_\_ new records, hospitals are nearing over-capacity and economies are struggling to reopen....We are a significant (11) \_\_\_\_\_ providing people around the world with a much-needed breakthrough to help...end...this (12) \_\_\_\_\_."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2011/201113-covid-19-vaccine-2.html>

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# COVID-19 VACCINE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2011/201113-covid-19-vaccine-2.html>

Write five GOOD questions about COVID-19 vaccine 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 develop COVID-19 vaccine – 13th November, 2020*  
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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) \_\_\_\_\_

