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Level 3 – 29th September, 2022

NASA spacecraft hits asteroid in Earth-protection test

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220929-asteroid.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/2209/220929-asteroid.html>

Hollywood has made many sci-fi movies about asteroids crashing into Earth and destroying us all. The U.S. space agency NASA may have an answer to this end-of-the-world possibility. It has tested a spacecraft that could change the direction of an asteroid that might hit our planet. The spacecraft is called DART, which means Double Asteroid Redirection Test. The \$325m craft set off on its journey in November 2021. Its goal was to crash into an asteroid called Dimorphos. The mission was a success. DART collided with the centre of the asteroid at 24,000 kph on Monday. Scientists do not yet know if they have changed the asteroid's direction. They will find out from data they will get in a few weeks' time.

It is the first time that humans have tried to change the direction of a space object. NASA spokesperson Glen Nagle said DART was the first of many "planetary protection missions". He compared our chances of surviving an asteroid hit to the end of the dinosaurs. He said: "We want to have a better chance than the dinosaurs had 65 million years ago." He added that in pre-history, all the dinosaurs could do was to "look up and say, 'Oh asteroid'". Another spokesperson, Lori Glaze, said DART represented a "new era for humankind". She said: "It's an era in which we potentially have the capability to protect ourselves from something like a dangerous, hazardous asteroid impact."

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/science/2022/sep/26/nasa-spacecraft-asteroid-crash-planetary-defense-test>
<https://www.fox13now.com/news/national/nasa-ready-to-see-if-crashing-a-spacecraft-can-alter-asteroids-path>
<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/nasa-successfully-smacked-its-dart-impactor-spacecraft-into-an-asteroid-231706710.html>

WARM-UPS

1. ASTEROIDS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about asteroids. 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?

Hollywood / sci-fi / asteroids / space / planet / journey / crash / scientists / data / the first time / humans / protection / surviving / dinosaurs / a new era / humankind

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

3. PROTECTION: Students A **strongly** believe all countries should pay NASA to protect Earth from asteroids; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. SPACE: What do you know about these things? Are they a danger to Earth? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What I Know	How Dangerous?
Asteroids		
Comets		
Black holes		
Space dust		
The Sun		
Satellites		

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

6. END OF THE WORLD: Rank these with your partner. Put the things most likely to end our world at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- An asteroid hit
- Nuclear war
- Climate change
- Alien invasion
- Hunger
- Viruses
- Loss of species
- A tsunami

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 1. sci-fi | a. An action of travelling from one place to another. |
| 2. destroying | b. A course or route along which someone or something moves. |
| 3. direction | c. End or killing something by damaging or attacking it. |
| 4. planet | d. Facts and numbers collected together to look at and make a report. |
| 5. journey | e. Stories or storytelling about the future, space, time travel and life on other planets. |
| 6. mission | f. A huge object in space that moves around a star (sun). |
| 7. data | g. An important and special job given to a person or group of people, often involving travel abroad or into space. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 8. protection | h. A possibility that something might happen. |
| 9. chance | i. A long and clear period of history. |
| 10. surviving | j. Risky or very dangerous. |
| 11. dinosaur | k. Continuing to live or exist, especially where there is danger or hard times. |
| 12. era | l. The power or ability to do something. |
| 13. capability | m. The huge animals that lived on Earth before humans. |
| 14. hazardous | n. The action of keeping something safe from danger or harm. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220929-asteroid.html>

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

1. Hollywood made a sci-fi movie about the asteroid test. **T / F**
2. The NASA spacecraft is called DRAT. **T / F**
3. The spacecraft hit the asteroid at a speed of 24,000 kph. **T / F**
4. NASA will know if the asteroid changed direction in a few days. **T / F**
5. Scientists changed the direction of an asteroid 10 years ago. **T / F**
6. The dinosaurs didn't have much luck 65 million years ago. **T / F**
7. NASA said the test represented a new era for humankind. **T / F**
8. NASA said we might be able to protect ourselves from asteroid hits. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. crashing | a. age |
| 2. end-of-the-world | b. middle |
| 3. journey | c. representative |
| 4. centre | d. crash |
| 5. direction | e. Armageddon |
| 6. spokesperson | f. possibilities |
| 7. chances | g. smashing |
| 8. era | h. power |
| 9. capability | i. trip |
| 10. impact | j. route |

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

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1. Hollywood has made many sci-fi movies | a. protection missions |
| 2. change the direction | b. was a success |
| 3. The \$325m craft set | c. to look up |
| 4. The mission | d. of an asteroid |
| 5. data they will get in | e. to protect ourselves |
| 6. the first of many planetary | f. a few weeks' time |
| 7. our chances of | g. about asteroids |
| 8. all the dinosaurs could do was | h. for humankind |
| 9. a new era | i. off on its journey |
| 10. have the capability | j. surviving an asteroid hit |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220929-asteroid.html>

Hollywood has made many (1) _____ movies about asteroids crashing into Earth and destroying us all. The U.S. space (2) _____ NASA may have an answer to this end-of-the-world possibility. It has tested a spacecraft that could change the (3) _____ of an asteroid that might hit our (4) _____. The spacecraft is called DART, which (5) _____ Double Asteroid Redirection Test. The \$325m craft set off on its (6) _____ in November 2021. Its goal was to crash into an asteroid called Dimorphos. The mission was a success. DART (7) _____ with the centre of the asteroid at 24,000 kph on Monday. Scientists do not yet know if they have changed the asteroid's direction. They will find out from (8) _____ they will get in a few weeks' time.

planet
journey
sci-fi
data
direction
agency
collided
means

It is the first time that humans have tried to change the (9) _____ of a space object. NASA spokesperson Glen Nagle said DART was the first of many "planetary (10) _____ missions". He compared our chances of (11) _____ an asteroid hit to the end of the dinosaurs. He said: "We want to have a better (12) _____ than the dinosaurs had 65 million years ago." He added that in pre-history, all the (13) _____ could do was to "look up and say, 'Oh asteroid'". Another spokesperson, Lori Glaze, said DART represented a "new (14) _____ for humankind". She said: "It's an era in which we potentially have the capability to (15) _____ ourselves from something like a (16) _____, hazardous asteroid impact."

surviving
direction
protect
dinosaurs
era
protection
dangerous
chance

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220929-asteroid.html>

- 1) Hollywood has made many sci-fi movies about asteroids _____
 - a. crushing into Earth
 - b. crashing into Earth
 - c. clashing into Earth
 - d. cashing into Earth
- 2) a spacecraft that could change the direction of an asteroid that might _____
 - a. hits our planet
 - b. hit your planet
 - c. hit our planet
 - d. hit our plant
- 3) The mission was a success. DART collided _____
 - a. with the central
 - b. with the sent tar
 - c. with the centre
 - d. with the cent tar
- 4) Scientists do not yet know if they have changed _____
 - a. the asteroid's directing
 - b. the asteroid's director
 - c. the asteroid's direct shun
 - d. the asteroid's direction
- 5) They will find out from data they will get in a _____
 - a. few weeks' time
 - b. few weeks' timing
 - c. few weeks' timer
 - d. few weeks' times
- 6) It is the first time that humans have tried to change the direction of _____
 - a. a space object
 - b. a space subject
 - c. a space inject
 - d. a space reject
- 7) He compared our chances of surviving an asteroid hit to the end _____
 - a. off the dinosaurs
 - b. of the dinosaurs
 - c. of the dinosaur
 - d. off the dinosaur
- 8) all the dinosaurs could do was to look up and _____
 - a. slay, 'Oh asteroid'
 - b. say, 'Oh asteroid'
 - c. soy, 'Oh asteroid'
 - d. spray, 'Oh asteroid'
- 9) spokesperson, Lori Glaze, said DART represented a "new _____"
 - a. aura for humankind
 - b. era for humankind
 - c. error for humankind
 - d. ear for humankind
- 10) protect ourselves from something like a dangerous, _____
 - a. hazard dust-asteroid impact
 - b. hideous asteroid impact
 - c. hazy dust asteroid impact
 - d. hazardous asteroid impact

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220929-asteroid.html>

Hollywood has (1) _____ movies about asteroids crashing into Earth and (2) _____. The U.S. space agency NASA may have an answer to this end-of-the-world possibility. It has tested a spacecraft that could change the direction of an asteroid that might (3) _____. The spacecraft is called DART, which means Double Asteroid Redirection Test. The \$325m craft (4) _____ its journey in November 2021. Its goal was to crash into an asteroid called Dimorphos. The mission was a success. DART (5) _____ centre of the asteroid at 24,000 kph on Monday. Scientists do not yet know if they have changed the asteroid's direction. They will find out from data they will get in (6) _____ time.

It is the (7) _____ humans have tried to change the direction of (8) _____. NASA spokesperson Glen Nagle said DART was the first of many "planetary protection missions". He compared our chances of surviving an asteroid hit to (9) _____ the dinosaurs. He said: "We want to have a better chance than the dinosaurs had 65 million years ago." He added (10) _____, all the dinosaurs could do was to "look up and say, 'Oh asteroid'". Another spokesperson, Lori Glaze, said DART represented a "new era for humankind". She said: "It's (11) _____ which we potentially have the capability to protect ourselves from something (12) _____, hazardous asteroid impact."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220929-asteroid.html>

1. What has made many movies about asteroids hitting Earth?
2. How much did the spacecraft cost?
3. When was DART launched?
4. How fast was DART travelling when it crashed into the asteroid?
5. When will NASA get data about the spacecraft?
6. Who is Glen Nagle?
7. What did Mr Nagle compare the chances of surviving an asteroid hit to?
8. When did the dinosaurs die out?
9. Who did a NASA spokesperson say DART represented a new era to?
10. What did NASA say we have the capability to do?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220929-asteroid.html>

- 1) What has made many movies about asteroids hitting Earth?
 - a) NASA
 - b) Hollywood
 - c) an asteroid company
 - d) a university
- 2) How much did the spacecraft cost?
 - a) \$352 million
 - b) \$235 million
 - c) \$523 million
 - d) \$325 million
- 3) When was DART launched?
 - a) November 2020
 - b) November 2019
 - c) November 2021
 - d) November 2012
- 4) How fast was DART travelling when it crashed into the asteroid?
 - a) 24,000 kph
 - b) 25,000 kph
 - c) 22,000 kph
 - d) 28,000 kph
- 5) When will NASA get data about the spacecraft?
 - a) tomorrow
 - b) in a few weeks' time
 - c) next month
 - d) next year
- 6) Who is Glen Nagle?
 - a) a NASA spokesperson
 - b) an astronaut
 - c) a scientist
 - d) the designer of the DART spacecraft
- 7) What did Mr Nagle compare the chances of surviving an asteroid hit to?
 - a) a black hole
 - b) global warming
 - c) the end of the dinosaurs
 - d) roulette
- 8) When did the dinosaurs die out?
 - a) 65 million years ago
 - b) 64 million years ago
 - c) 63 million years ago
 - d) 62 million years ago
- 9) Who did a NASA spokesperson say DART represented a new era to?
 - a) scientists
 - b) asteroid researchers
 - c) aliens
 - d) humankind
- 10) What did NASA say we have the capability to do?
 - a) mine asteroids
 - b) destroy asteroids
 - c) protect ourselves
 - d) talk to aliens

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220929-asteroid.html>

Role A – An Asteroid

You think an asteroid is the think most likely to end our world. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things are not as dangerous. Also, tell the others which is the least worrying of these (and why): climate change, a virus or nuclear war.

Role B – Climate Change

You think climate change is the think most likely to end our world. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things are not as dangerous. Also, tell the others which is the least worrying of these (and why): climate change, a virus or nuclear war: an asteroid, a virus or nuclear war.

Role C – A Virus

You think a virus is the think most likely to end our world. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things are not as dangerous. Also, tell the others which is the least worrying of these (and why): climate change, a virus or nuclear war: climate change, an asteroid or nuclear war.

Role D – Nuclear War

You think nuclear war is the think most likely to end our world. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things are not as dangerous. Also, tell the others which is the least worrying of these (and why): climate change, a virus or nuclear war: climate change, a virus or an asteroid.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220929-asteroid.html>

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

asteroid	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">• Hollywood• answer• called• crash• centre• few	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• first• compared• 65• say• era• dangerous
--	---

ASTEROIDS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220929-asteroid.html>

Write five GOOD questions about asteroids 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.

ASTEROIDS 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 'asteroid'?
3. What do you know about asteroids?
4. What do you think of science fiction movies?
5. What are your favourite Hollywood movies?
6. Do you worry about the end of the world?
7. What would you do if an asteroid was going to hit?
8. How interested are you in space?
9. Would you like to go into space?
10. What three adjectives best describe this story?

NASA spacecraft hits asteroid in Earth-protection test – 29th September, 2022
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ASTEROIDS 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 do you know about NASA?
15. What other dangers are there to our planet?
16. How did the dinosaurs die out?
17. What do you know about pre-history?
18. Do you think there will be wars in space?
19. Do you think we will live on other planets?
20. What questions would you like to ask NASA?

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/2209/220929-asteroid.html>

Hollywood has made (1) _____ sci-fi movies about asteroids crashing into Earth and destroying us all. The U.S. space agency NASA may have an (2) _____ to this end-of-the-world possibility. It has tested a spacecraft that could change the (3) _____ of an asteroid that might hit our planet. The spacecraft is called DART, which means Double Asteroid Redirection Test. The \$325m craft set (4) _____ on its journey in November 2021. Its goal was to crash into an asteroid called Dimorphos. The mission was a success. DART (5) _____ with the centre of the asteroid at 24,000 kph on Monday. Scientists do not yet know if they have changed the asteroid's direction. They will find out from data they will get in a few weeks' (6) _____.

It is the first time that humans have tried to change the direction of a space (7) _____. NASA spokesperson Glen Nagle said DART was the first of many "planetary protection missions". He compared our chances (8) _____ surviving an asteroid hit to the end of the dinosaurs. He said: "We want to have a better chance than the dinosaurs (9) _____ 65 million years ago." He added that in pre-history, all the dinosaurs could do was to "look up and (10) _____, 'Oh asteroid'". Another spokesperson, Lori Glaze, said DART represented a "new (11) _____ for humankind". She said: "It's an era in which we potentially have the capability to protect ourselves from something like a dangerous, hazardous asteroid (12) _____."

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) much | (b) may | (c) many | (d) something |
| 2. | (a) answer | (b) any | (c) asteroid | (d) agency |
| 3. | (a) direction | (b) reaction | (c) ambition | (d) eruption |
| 4. | (a) off | (b) on | (c) up | (d) to |
| 5. | (a) allied | (b) collided | (c) relied | (d) filed |
| 6. | (a) advance | (b) now | (c) future | (d) time |
| 7. | (a) subject | (b) reject | (c) object | (d) inject |
| 8. | (a) to | (b) on | (c) at | (d) of |
| 9. | (a) had | (b) has | (c) having | (d) have |
| 10. | (a) say | (b) talk | (c) sing | (d) voice |
| 11. | (a) ear | (b) era | (c) error | (d) ore |
| 12. | (a) compact | (b) pact | (c) impact | (d) suspect |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220929-asteroid.html>

Paragraph 1

1. iic-sf movies
2. odgtnsriey us all
3. change the toierindc of an asteroid
4. set off on its reynjuo
5. The ssnimio was a success
6. DART deodcill with the centre

Paragraph 2

7. planetary opotctrein missions
8. vvisingur an asteroid hit
9. a better chance than the ssnoruida had
10. represented a new era for dniamhnku
11. the ipabcialty to protect ourselves
12. something like a dangerous, asdarzuoh asteroid

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220929-asteroid.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () era for humankind". She said: "It's an era in which we potentially have the capability to
- () 65 million years ago." He added that in pre-history, all the dinosaurs could do was to "look up and
- () NASA may have an answer to this end-of-the-world possibility. It has tested a spacecraft that could change the
- () Redirection Test. The \$325m craft set off on its journey in November 2021. Its goal was to crash into an
- () direction. They will find out from data they will get in a few weeks' time.
- () direction of an asteroid that might hit our planet. The spacecraft is called DART, which means Double Asteroid
- () spokesperson Glen Nagle said DART was the first of many "planetary protection missions". He compared our
- () It is the first time that humans have tried to change the direction of a space object. NASA
- (**1**) Hollywood has made many sci-fi movies about asteroids crashing into Earth and destroying us all. The U.S. space agency
- () chances of surviving an asteroid hit to the end of the dinosaurs. He said: "We want to have a better chance than the dinosaurs had
- () asteroid called Dimorphos. The mission was a success. DART collided with the centre
- () of the asteroid at 24,000 kph on Monday. Scientists do not yet know if they have changed the asteroid's
- () protect ourselves from something like a dangerous, hazardous asteroid impact."
- () say, 'Oh asteroid!'. Another spokesperson, Lori Glaze, said DART represented a "new

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220929-asteroid.html>

1. sci-fi asteroids Many Earth . into about crashing movies
2. to have this answer They possibility . end-of-the-world an
3. planet . our that An hit asteroid might
4. was asteroid . goal Its to into crash an
5. weeks . few they get Data will a in
6. time tried . It's humans first have the that
7. our compared of He asteroid chances surviving hits .
8. dinosaurs . a Have the better than chance
9. era DART represented a humankind . for new
10. have potentially ourselves . the capability protect We to

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220929-asteroid.html>

Hollywood has made many sci-fi movies about asteroids *cashing / crashing* into Earth and destroying us *every / all*. The U.S. space agency NASA may have an answer to this end-of-the-world *possibility / possible*. It has tested a spacecraft that could change the direction of an asteroid that might hit our *plant / planet*. The spacecraft is called DART, which means Double Asteroid Redirection Test. The \$325m craft set *off / on* on its journey in November 2021. Its goal was to crash into an asteroid *calling / called* Dimorphos. The mission was a *success / successful*. DART collided with the centre of the asteroid at 24,000 kph on Monday. Scientists do not *yet / yeti* know if they have changed the asteroid's *direction / direct*. They will find out from data they will get in a few weeks' *months / time*.

It is the *first / once* time that humans have tried to change the direction of a space *subject / object*. NASA spokesperson Glen Nagle said DART was the *fast / first* of many "planetary protection missions". He compared our chances of *surviving / survival* an asteroid hit to the *end / ended* of the dinosaurs. He said: "We want to have a better *change / chance* than the dinosaurs had 65 million years ago." He added that in pre-history, all the dinosaurs could do was to "look up and *speak / say*, 'Oh asteroid'". Another spokesperson, Lori Glaze, said DART represented a "new *era / aura* for humankind". She said: "It's an era in which we potentially *do / have* the capability to protect ourselves from something like a dangerous, hazardous asteroid *impact / compact*."

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/2209/220929-asteroid.html>

H_llyw__d h_s m_d_ m_ny sc_-f_ m_v__s _b__t
_st_r__ds cr_sh_ng _nt_ __rth _nd d_str_y_ng _s _ll.
Th_ __.S. sp_c_ _g_ncy N_S_ m_y h_v_ _n _nsw_r t_
th_s _nd_-f-th_-w_rld p_ss_b_l_ty. _t h_s t_st_d _
sp_c_cr_ft th_t c__ld ch_ng_ th_ d_r_ct__n _f _n
_st_r__d th_t m_ght h_t __r pl_n_t. Th_ sp_c_cr_ft _s
c_ll_d D_RT, wh_ch m__ns D__bl_ _st_r__d R_d_r_ct__n
T_st. Th_ \$325m cr_ft s_t _ff _n _ts j__rn_y _n
N_v_mb_r 2021. _ts g__l w_s t_ cr_sh _nt_ _n
_st_r__d c_ll_d D_m_rph_s. Th_ m_ss__n w_s _
s_cc_ss. D_RT c_ll_d_d w_th th_ c_ntr_ _f th_
_st_r__d _t 24,000 kph _n M_nd_y. Sc__nt_sts d_ n_t
y_t kn_w _f th_y h_v_ ch_ng_d th_ _st_r__d's
d_r_ct__n. Th_y w_ll f_nd __t fr_m d_t_ th_y w_ll g_t
_n _ f_w w__ks' t_m_.

_t _s th_ f_rst t_m_ th_t h_m_ns h_v_ tr__d t_
ch_ng_ th_ d_r_ct__n _f _ sp_c_ _bj_ct. N_S_
sp_k_sp_rs_n Gl_n N_gl_ s__d D_RT w_s th_ f_rst _f
m_ny "pl_n_t_ry pr_t_ct__n m_ss__ns". H_ c_mpr_d
__r ch_nc_s _f s_rv_v_ng _n _st_r__d h_t t_ th_ _nd
f th d_n_s__rs. H_ s__d: "W_ w_nt t_ h_v_ _
b_tt_r ch_nc_ th_n th_ d_n_s__rs h_d 65 m_ll__n
y__rs _g_." H_ _dd_d th_t _n pr_-h_st_ry, _ll th_
d_n_s__rs c__ld d_ w_s t_ "l__k _p _nd s_y, 'h
_st_r__d'". _n_th_r sp_k_sp_rs_n, L_r_ Gl_z_, s__d
D_RT r_pr_s_nt_d _ "n_w _r_ f_r h_m_nk_nd". Sh_
s__d: "_t's _n _r_ _n wh_ch w_ p_t_nt__lly h_v_ th_
c_p_b_l_ty t_ pr_t_ct __rs_lv_s fr_m s_m_th_ng l_k_ _
d_ng_r__s, h_z_rd__s _st_r__d _mp_ct."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220929-asteroid.html>

hollywood has made many scifi movies about asteroids crashing into earth and destroying us all the us space agency nasa may have an answer to this endoftheworld possibility it has tested a spacecraft that could change the direction of an asteroid that might hit our planet the spacecraft is called dart which means double asteroid redirection test the 325m craft set off on its journey in november 2021 its goal was to crash into an asteroid called dimorphos the mission was a success dart collided with the centre of the asteroid at 24000 kph on monday scientists do not yet know if they have changed the asteroids direction they will find out from data they will get in a few weeks time

it is the first time that humans have tried to change the direction of a space object nasa spokesperson glen nagle said dart was the first of many planetary protection missions he compared our chances of surviving an asteroid hit to the end of the dinosaurs he said we want to have a better chance than the dinosaurs had 65 million years ago he added that in prehistory all the dinosaurs could do was to look up and say oh asteroid another spokesperson lori glaze said dart represented a new era for humankind she said its an era in which we potentially have the capability to protect ourselves from something like a dangerous hazardous asteroid impact

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220929-asteroid.html>

Hollywood has made many sci-fi movies about asteroids crashing into Earth and destroying us all. The U.S. space agency NASA may have an answer to this end-of-the-world possibility. It has tested a spacecraft that could change the direction of an asteroid that might hit our planet. The spacecraft is called DART, which means Double Asteroid Redirection Test. The \$325m craft set off on its journey in November 2021. Its goal was to crash into an asteroid called Dimorphos. The mission was a success. DART collided with the centre of the asteroid at 24,000kph on Monday. Scientists do not yet know if they have changed the asteroid's direction. They will find out from data they will get in a few weeks' time. It is the first time that humans have tried to change the direction of a space object. NASA spokesperson Glen Nagle said DART was the first of many "planetary protection missions". He compared our chances of surviving an asteroid hit to the end of the dinosaurs. He said: "We want to have a better chance than the dinosaurs had 65 million years ago." He added that in pre-history, all the dinosaurs could do was to "look up and say, 'Oh asteroid'". Another spokesperson, Lori Glaze, said DART represented a "new era for humankind". She said: "It's a new era in which we potentially have the capability to protect ourselves from something like a dangerous, hazardous asteroid impact."

HOMWORK

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

4. EARTH PROTECTION: Write a magazine article about spending lots of money on protecting Earth from asteroids. 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 asteroids. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to protect Earth from asteroids. 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)

- 1 F 2 F 3 T 4 F 5 F 6 T 7 T 8 T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Hollywood
2. \$325 million
3. November 2021
4. 24,000 kph
5. In a few weeks' time
6. A NASA spokesperson
7. The end of the dinosaurs
8. 65 million years ago
9. Humankind
10. Protect ourselves

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. Many sci-fi movies about asteroids crashing into Earth.
2. They have an answer to this end-of-the-world possibility.
3. An asteroid that might hit our planet.
4. Its goal was to crash into an asteroid.
5. Data they will get in a few weeks.
6. It's the first time that humans have tried.
7. He compared our chances of surviving asteroid hits.
8. Have a better chance than the dinosaurs.
9. DART represented a new era for humankind.
10. We potentially have the capability to protect ourselves.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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