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Level 4 – 3rd July 2023

Microscopic handbag sells for \$63,000

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2307/230703-microscopic-handbag-4.html>

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Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2307/230703-microscopic-handbag-4.html>

Engineers have been miniaturizing things for decades. This trend led to the mobile phone. The latest miniaturized thing is a handbag. It is so tiny it can only be seen through a microscope. The art group MSCHF created the Louis Vuitton-inspired bag. The group said its creation is "smaller than a grain of sea salt and narrow enough to pass through the eye of a needle". It is 657 micrometres wide. It just sold for \$63,000.

The neon-green bag was made using high-tech 3D printers that make biotech components. MSCHF used the technology to see how small they could make a bag. The chief creative officer did not ask Louis Vuitton for permission to use its logo on the handbag. He said he would rather ask for forgiveness than for permission. He thought the bag was funny because handbags are usually highly functional, but it is now an item of jewellery.

Sources: <https://nypost.com/2023/06/29/microscopic-louis-vuitton-handbag-sells-for-over-63000-smaller-than-a-grain-of-salt/>
<https://edition.cnn.com/2023/06/29/style/mschf-lv-microscopic-bag-auction/index.html>
<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-12247561/Bizarre-handbag-thats-smaller-grain-salt-sells-63K.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2307/230703-microscopic-handbag-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Engineers have been miniaturizing | a. is a handbag |
| 2. This trend led | b. the eye of a needle |
| 3. The latest miniaturized thing | c. for \$63,000 |
| 4. It is so | d. a microscope |
| 5. it can only be seen through | e. things for decades |
| 6. smaller than a grain | f. tiny |
| 7. narrow enough to pass through | g. of sea salt |
| 8. It just sold | h. to the mobile phone |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. The neon- | a. for forgiveness |
| 2. high-tech 3D | b. functional |
| 3. how small they could | c. on the handbag |
| 4. permission to use its logo | d. of jewellery |
| 5. he would rather ask | e. make a bag |
| 6. He thought the bag | f. green bag |
| 7. handbags are usually highly | g. printers |
| 8. an item | h. was funny |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2307/230703-microscopic-handbag-4.html>

Engineers have been (1) _____ decades. This trend led to the mobile phone. The latest miniaturized (2) _____ handbag. It is (3) _____ can only be seen through a microscope. The art group MSCHF created the Louis Vuitton-inspired bag. The group said its creation is "smaller (4) _____ of sea salt and narrow enough to pass through the (5) _____ needle". It is 657 micrometres wide. It (6) _____ \$63,000.

The neon-green bag was made (7) _____ printers that make biotech components. MSCHF used (8) _____ see how small they could make a bag. The chief creative officer did not ask Louis Vuitton for permission to use (9) _____ the handbag. He said he would rather ask for forgiveness (10) _____. He thought the (11) _____ because handbags are usually highly functional, but it is (12) _____ of jewellery.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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MINIATURIZATION SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2307/230703-microscopic-handbag-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about miniaturization 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) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2307/230703-microscopic-handbag-4.html>

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