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Level 4

Earth's Magnetic Poles Are About To Flip

7th February, 2018

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180207-magnetic-poles-4.html>

Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

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

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180207-magnetic-poles-4.html>

Scientists often warn us about climate change, asteroids or nuclear war. Now scientists have warned of the threat of Earth's magnetic poles reversing. The poles create the magnetic shield around Earth. This protects us from deadly radiation. Life on Earth depends on this shield. The poles could flip in the next thousand years because the molten iron turning around Earth's center is changing direction. This molten iron is like a gigantic electromagnet.

Earth's poles flip roughly every 250,000 years. The last time was 780,000 years ago. The next flip could destroy communications and power grids; deadly solar rays could increase rates of cancer; and climate change could kill many species. A polar flip could even blow Earth's atmosphere away. One scientist dismissed the danger from increased radiation from the poles flipping. He said it would be as harmful as lying on a beach for a day without wearing a hat.

Sources: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-5351589/Earths-magnetic-field-flip-upside-down.html>
<https://sciexaminer.com/news/science/beware-magnetic-poles-earth-can-switch-positions-future-warn-esa-scientists-3874.html>
<https://www.inquisitr.com/4771682/magnetic-field-reversal-doomsday-predictions-blown-out-of-proportion-experts-say/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180207-magnetic-poles-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. scientists have warned | a. direction |
| 2. Earth's magnetic poles | b. of the threat |
| 3. create the magnetic shield | c. Earth's center |
| 4. Life on Earth depends | d. reversing |
| 5. in the next thousand | e. electromagnet |
| 6. turning around | f. around Earth |
| 7. changing | g. years |
| 8. a gigantic | h. on this shield |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Earth's poles flip roughly every | a. rays |
| 2. The next flip could destroy | b. many species |
| 3. power | c. beach |
| 4. deadly solar | d. grids |
| 5. increase rates | e. harmful |
| 6. climate change could kill | f. 250,000 years |
| 7. it would be as | g. of cancer |
| 8. lying on a | h. communications |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180207-magnetic-poles-4.html>

Scientists often warn us about climate change, (1) _____ war. Now scientists (2) _____ the threat of Earth's magnetic poles reversing. The poles create (3) _____ around Earth. This protects us from deadly radiation. Life on Earth depends on this shield. The poles (4) _____ the next thousand years because the (5) _____ around Earth's center is changing direction. This molten iron is (6) _____ electromagnet. Earth's poles (7) _____ 250,000 years. The last time was 780,000 years ago. The next (8) _____ communications and power grids; deadly solar rays could increase (9) _____; and climate change could (10) _____. A polar flip could even blow Earth's atmosphere away. One scientist (11) _____ from increased radiation from the poles flipping. He said it would be as (12) _____ on a beach for a day without wearing a hat.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180207-magnetic-poles-4.html>

Scientists often warn us about climate change, asteroids or nuclear war.

Now scientists have warned of the threat of Earth's magnetic poles reversing.

The poles create the magnetic shield around Earth. This protects us from

deadly radiation. Life on Earth depends on this shield. The poles could flip

in the next thousand years because the molten iron turning around Earth's

center is changing direction. This molten iron is like a giant electromagnet.

Earth's poles flip roughly every 250,000 years. The last time was

780,000 years ago. The next flip could destroy communications and power

grids; deadly solar arrays could increase rates of cancer; and climate change

could kill many species. A polar flip could even blow Earth's atmosphere

away. One scientist dismissed the danger from increased radiation from

the poles flipping. He said it would be as harmful as lying on a beach for a

day without wearing a hat.

MAGNETIC POLES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180207-magnetic-poles-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about magnetic poles 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) _____

