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Level 2

Disease X is a 'big risk' to the world

13th March, 2018

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1803/180313-disease-x-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/1803/180313-disease-x-2.html>

Scientists from the WHO say the world could be at risk from a deadly disease. They do not know its name or what it does. They have called it 'Disease X'. It could come from a virus or micro-organism that scientists don't know about. Disease X could go unnoticed until it is too late, when it is spreading around the world. The WHO says the threat is serious. It is putting a lot of money into research. It is preparing a plan for an outbreak. It said: "Disease X represents the knowledge that a serious international epidemic could be caused by a [virus] currently unknown."

Disease X could come from various sources. It could come from existing diseases becoming strong enough against our vaccines; it could come from terrorism and bio-weapons; it could also come from DNA-changing technology that makes totally new viruses. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said: "Scientists estimate that more than 6 out of every 10 known infectious diseases in people are spread from animals." Today, people live closer together in cities. There is more international travel and tourism. These will make it easier for diseases to spread.

Sources: <http://www.techtimes.com/articles/222770/20180310/disease-x-unknown-pathogen-could-cause-epidemic-that-can-kill-millions-worldwide.htm>
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/0/beware-disease-x-mystery-killer-keeping-scientists-awake-night/>
<https://nypost.com/2018/03/10/disease-x-could-be-the-worlds-worst-nightmare/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1803/180313-disease-x-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. at risk from | a. the world |
| 2. a virus or | b. an outbreak |
| 3. until it is too | c. a deadly disease |
| 4. spreading around | d. epidemic |
| 5. WHO says the threat | e. late |
| 6. putting a lot of money | f. is serious |
| 7. preparing a plan for | g. micro-organism |
| 8. a serious international | h. into research |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Disease X could come from | a. and tourism |
| 2. terrorism and | b. out of every 10 |
| 3. DNA-changing | c. diseases to spread |
| 4. more than 6 | d. various sources |
| 5. infectious | e. bio-weapons |
| 6. people live closer | f. diseases |
| 7. international travel | g. technology |
| 8. make it easier for | h. together in cities |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1803/180313-disease-x-2.html>

Scientists from the WHO (1) _____ could be at risk from a deadly disease. They do not know its (2) _____ it does. They have called it 'Disease X'. It could come from a virus (3) _____ that scientists don't know about. Disease X could (4) _____ it is too late, when it is spreading around the world. The WHO says the (5) _____. It is putting a lot of money into research. It is preparing a plan for an outbreak. It said: "Disease X represents the knowledge that a serious international epidemic (6) _____ by a [virus] currently unknown."

Disease X could come (7) _____. It could come from existing diseases becoming strong enough against our vaccines; it could come from terrorism (8) _____; it could also come from DNA-changing technology (9) _____ new viruses. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said: "Scientists estimate that more than 6 (10) _____ 10 known infectious diseases in people are spread from animals." Today, (11) _____ together in cities. There is more international travel and tourism. These will make it (12) _____ to spread.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1803/180313-disease-x-2.html>

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DISEASES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1803/180313-disease-x-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Diseases 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) _____

