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Level 6 – 29th June, 2018

New nation of Asgardia established in space

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180629-asgardia.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180629-asgardia.html>

A Russian billionaire has attended his inauguration as leader of humankind's first ever nation in space. Igor Ashurbeyli, a computer scientist, established the space nation of Asgardia at a ceremony in Vienna, Austria on Monday. In his inauguration address, Mr Ashurbeyli stated that: "This day will certainly be recorded in the annals of history as one of the greatest events for humankind. We have established all branches of government. I can therefore declare with confidence that Asgardia - the first space nation of the united humankind - has been born." He also said his nation was a "global humanitarian project" that would pioneer the future colonization of space and set up human colonies on the Moon.

Asgardia is named after Asgard - a flying city in ancient Scandinavian mythology. It already has a growing number of would-be citizens. Around 200,000 people have signed up to claim their Asgardian nationality. Within the next 10 years, Asgardia hopes to amass a population of 150 million. This would make it the ninth most populous country. Future candidates to become an Asgard national will have to pass an IQ test to prove they are of a higher intelligence. They will also have to pay an annual membership of 100 euros. Asgardia has a long-term goal to launch life-sustaining, high-tech, verdant arks in space, where Asgardian citizens can live and prosper.

Sources: <https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/gadgets-and-tech/news/space-kingdom-asgardia-nation-iq-tests-citizens-a8417276.html>
<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/6629190/asgardia-space-kingdom/>
<http://www.newsweek.com/asgardia-worlds-first-space-nation-inaugurates-head-state-994555>

WARM-UPS

1. SPACE NATIONS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about space nations. 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?

billionaire / scientists / leader / nation / space / ceremony / history / global / colonies
ancient / mythology / nationality / population / candidates / intelligence / prosper

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

3. LIVING IN SPACE: Students A **strongly** believe living in space would be great; Students B **strongly** believe it wouldn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. SPACE: How difficult would it be to live in space? How could you overcome these difficulties? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Difficulties	How to overcome them
Food		
Missing Earth		
Exercise		
Boredom		
Air		
Getting on with People		

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

6. MISSING EARTH: Rank these with your partner. Put the things you would most miss about Earth if you lived in space at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- food
- mountains
- travel
- Earth air
- blue sky
- cities
- oceans
- diversity

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. inauguration | a. Places where a group of people with similar interests live together. |
| 2. established | b. A formal religious or public occasion, usually one celebrating a particular event (like a wedding or graduation) or anniversary. |
| 3. ceremony | c. Formally announce the beginning of something. |
| 4. address | d. A ceremony to mark the beginning of or introduction of a system, policy, or period. |
| 5. declare | e. Be the very, very first to open up new a road, area, business, field of science or venture into space. |
| 6. pioneer | f. Set up or started an organization, system, set of rules, etc. on a firm or permanent basis. |
| 7. colonies | g. A formal speech delivered to an audience. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 8. ancient | h. Gather together or build up a large amount or number of valuable material or things over a period of time. |
| 9. would-be | i. Wishing, trying or hoping to be a specified type of person. |
| 10. claim | j. Be financially successful. |
| 11. amass | k. Having been in existence for a very, very, very long time. |
| 12. annual | l. Happening once every year. |
| 13. verdant | m. Formally ask for something. |
| 14. prosper | n. Very green with grass or other rich vegetation. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180629-asgardia.html>

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

- a. A space nation was started by a billionaire Russian scientist. **T / F**
- b. The space nation was inaugurated at a ceremony in Australia. **T / F**
- c. The space nation has all its branches of government set up. **T / F**
- d. The space nation leader said there would be colonies on the moon. **T / F**
- e. The nation's name of Asgardia is taken from ancient Greek Mythology. **T / F**
- f. The leader thinks about 350 million people will join Asgardia. **T / F**
- g. Anyone can become an Asgardia citizen. There is no test to join. **T / F**
- h. It is free to become a citizen of Asgardia. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. leader | a. yearly |
| 2. established | b. speech |
| 3. address | c. potential |
| 4. branches | d. develop |
| 5. pioneer | e. assemble |
| 6. would-be | f. chief |
| 7. claim | g. flourish |
| 8. amass | h. divisions |
| 9. annual | i. set up |
| 10. prosper | j. formally request |

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

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. A Russian billionaire has attended | a. and prosper |
| 2. computer | b. of government |
| 3. In his inauguration | c. mythology |
| 4. established all branches | d. scientist |
| 5. set up human colonies | e. test |
| 6. ancient Scandinavian | f. his inauguration |
| 7. signed up to claim their | g. membership |
| 8. pass an IQ | h. address |
| 9. pay an annual | i. Asgardian nationality |
| 10. citizens can live | j. on the Moon |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180629-asgardia.html>

A Russian billionaire has (1) _____ his inauguration as leader of humankind's first ever nation in space. Igor Ashurbeyli, a computer (2) _____, established the space nation of Asgardia at a ceremony in Vienna, Austria on Monday. In his inauguration (3) _____, Mr Ashurbeyli stated that: "This day will certainly be recorded in the annals of (4) _____ as one of the greatest events for humankind. We have established all (5) _____ of government. I can therefore declare with (6) _____ that Asgardia - the first space nation of the united humankind - has been born." He also said his nation was a "global humanitarian (7) _____ " that would pioneer the future colonization of space and set up human (8) _____ on the Moon.

branches
scientist
project
attended
history
colonies
address
confidence

Asgardia is named after Asgard - a flying city in (9) _____ Scandinavian mythology. It already has a growing (10) _____ of would-be citizens. Around 200,000 people have signed up to (11) _____ their Asgardian nationality. Within the next 10 years, Asgardia hopes to amass a population of 150 million. This would make it the ninth most (12) _____ country. Future candidates to become an Asgard national will have to pass an IQ test to (13) _____ they are of a higher intelligence. They will also have to pay an (14) _____ membership of 100 euros. Asgardia has a long-term goal to launch life-sustaining, high-tech, (15) _____ arks in space, where Asgardian citizens can live and (16) _____.

claim
ancient
prove
prosper
number
verdant
populous
annual

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180629-asgardia.html>

- 1) a computer scientist established the space nation of Asgardia at _____ Vienna
 - a. a ceremonial in
 - b. a ceremony inn
 - c. a ceremony in
 - d. a seller money in
- 2) Ashurbeyli stated that: "This day will certainly be recorded in _____ history"
 - a. the annals of
 - b. the annuals of
 - c. the animals of
 - d. the annuls of
- 3) We have established _____ government
 - a. all branch is of
 - b. all branches off
 - c. all branch is off
 - d. all branches of
- 4) He also said his nation was a "global _____"
 - a. humanitarian projector
 - b. humanitarian projection
 - c. humanitarian project
 - d. humanitarian projected
- 5) pioneer the future colonization of space and set up human _____ Moon
 - a. colonies on the
 - b. colonise on the
 - c. collar knees on the
 - d. color knees on the
- 6) Asgardia is named after Asgard - a flying city in ancient _____
 - a. Scandinavian misogyny
 - b. Scandinavian mystery
 - c. Scandinavian mythology
 - d. Scandinavian myopathy
- 7) It already has a growing number _____ citizens
 - a. of would-been
 - b. of would-being
 - c. of would-bee
 - d. of would-be
- 8) Within the next 10 years, Asgardia hopes _____ population of 150 million
 - a. to remiss a
 - b. to a mast a
 - c. to amass a
 - d. to a mass a
- 9) This would make it the ninth _____ country
 - a. mast populous
 - b. most populous
 - c. must populous
 - d. moss populous
- 10) a long-term goal to launch life-sustaining, high-tech, _____ space
 - a. fir dent arks in
 - b. far dent arks in
 - c. verdant arks in
 - d. bird ant arks in

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180629-asgardia.html>

A Russian billionaire (1) _____ inauguration as leader of humankind's first ever nation in space. Igor Ashurbeyli, a computer scientist, (2) _____ nation of Asgardia at a ceremony in Vienna, Austria on Monday. In his inauguration address, Mr Ashurbeyli stated that: "This day (3) _____ recorded in the annals of history as one of the greatest events for humankind. We have established (4) _____ government. I can therefore declare with confidence that Asgardia - the first space nation (5) _____ humankind - has been born." He also said his nation was a "global humanitarian project" that would (6) _____ colonization of space and set up human colonies on the Moon.

Asgardia is named after Asgard - a (7) _____ ancient Scandinavian mythology. It already has a (8) _____ would-be citizens. Around 200,000 people have signed up to claim their Asgardian nationality. (9) _____ 10 years, Asgardia hopes to amass a population of 150 million. This would make it the (10) _____ country. Future candidates to become an Asgard national will have to pass an IQ test to prove they are of a higher intelligence. They will also have to (11) _____ membership of 100 euros. Asgardia has a long-term goal to launch life-sustaining, high-tech, verdant arks in space, where Asgardian citizens can (12) _____.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180629-asgardia.html>

1. What is the job of the leader of Asgardia?
2. Where was the inauguration speech for Asgardia?
3. What did the leader say he had established all branches of?
4. What kind of project did the leader say Asgardia was?
5. Where does the leader want to set up human colonies?
6. What region of the world is the name Asgardia from?
7. How many people have signed up to become Asgardia citizens?
8. What kind of test will would-be citizens have to take?
9. How much does it cost each year to be an Asgardia citizen?
10. What can Asgardia citizens do on arks in space?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180629-asgardia.html>

- 1) What is the job of the leader of Asgardia?
 - a) painter
 - b) computer scientist
 - c) astronaut
 - d) business man
- 2) Where was the inauguration speech for Asgardia?
 - a) Kenya
 - b) Brazil
 - c) Austria
 - d) New Zealand
- 3) What did the leader say he had established all branches of?
 - a) communication
 - b) a space station
 - c) trees
 - d) government
- 4) What kind of project did the leader say Asgardia was?
 - a) an expensive one
 - b) a humanitarian project
 - c) an interstellar project
 - d) an exciting one
- 5) Where does the leader want to set up human colonies?
 - a) the Moon
 - b) Mars
 - c) another galaxy
 - d) on an asteroid
- 6) What region of the world is the name Asgardia from?
 - a) Scandinavia
 - b) Antarctica
 - c) the Middle East
 - d) Central America
- 7) How many people have signed up to become Asgardia citizens?
 - a) 500,000
 - b) 400,000
 - c) 300,000
 - d) 200,000
- 8) What kind of test will would-be citizens have to take?
 - a) a space test
 - b) a personality test
 - c) an IQ test
 - d) a fitness test
- 9) How much does it cost each year to be an Asgardia citizen?
 - a) €1,000,000
 - b) €1,000
 - c) €100
 - d) €100
- 10) What can Asgardia citizens do on arks in space?
 - a) look at Earth
 - b) live and prosper
 - c) play and sleep
 - d) fly and float

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180629-asgardia.html>

Role A – Food

You think food is what you would miss most if you lived in space. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why you wouldn't miss their things as much. Also, tell the others which of these things you would miss least (and why): mountains, blue sky or diversity.

Role B – Mountains

You think mountains is what you would miss most if you lived in space. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why you wouldn't miss their things as much. Also, tell the others which of these things you would miss least (and why): food, blue sky or diversity.

Role C – Blue Sky

You think blue sky is what you would miss most if you lived in space. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why you wouldn't miss their things as much. Also, tell the others which of these things you would miss least (and why): mountains, food, or diversity.

Role D – Diversity

You think diversity is what you would miss most if you lived in space. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why you wouldn't miss their things as much. Also, tell the others which of these things you would miss least (and why): mountains, blue sky or food.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180629-asgardia.html>

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

space	nation
--------------	---------------

- 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">• inauguration• scientist• address• events• confidence• colonies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ancient• citizens• nationality• candidates• membership• prosper
---	--

SPACE NATIONS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180629-asgardia.html>

Write five GOOD questions about space nations 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.

SPACE NATIONS 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 'space'?
3. What would it be like to live in space?
4. Would life on Mars or the Moon be best?
5. Will Earth be able to sustain life forever?
6. How will this event be recorded in history?
7. What do you think of the idea of space nations?
8. If there are space nations, will there be space wars?
9. How sad would it be to leave Earth to live in space?
10. What do you think of colonies on the Moon?

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SPACE NATIONS 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 'nation'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What would you call the next space nation?
15. Would you like to be a citizen of Asgardia?
16. Why is there an intelligence test to be an Asgardia citizen?
17. Could Asgardia be a money-making scheme?
18. What new developments will there be with space nations?
19. What would the problems be of living in space?
20. What questions would you like to ask the Asgardia leader?

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/1806/180629-asgardia.html>

A Russian billionaire has attended his (1) _____ as leader of humankind's first ever nation in space. Igor Ashurbeyli, a computer scientist, (2) _____ the space nation of Asgardia at a ceremony in Vienna, Austria on Monday. In his inauguration (3) _____, Mr Ashurbeyli stated that: "This day will certainly be recorded in the annals of history as one of the greatest events for humankind. We have established all (4) _____ of government. I can therefore declare with confidence that Asgardia - the first space nation of the united humankind - has been born." He also said his nation was a "global humanitarian project" that would (5) _____ the future colonization of space and set up human (6) _____ on the Moon.

Asgardia is named after Asgard - a flying city (7) _____ ancient Scandinavian mythology. It already has a growing number of would-(8) _____ citizens. Around 200,000 people have signed up to claim their Asgardian nationality. Within the next 10 years, Asgardia hopes to (9) _____ a population of 150 million. This would make it the ninth most populous country. Future candidates to become an Asgard national will have to pass an IQ test to prove they are (10) _____ a higher intelligence. They will also have to pay an (11) _____ membership of 100 euros. Asgardia has a long-term goal to launch life-sustaining, high-tech, verdant arks (12) _____ space, where Asgardian citizens can live and prosper.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | (a) graduation | (b) deduction | (c) inauguration | (d) radiation |
| 2. | (a) established | (b) contrasted | (c) erupted | (d) intoxicated |
| 3. | (a) addressing | (b) address | (c) addressed | (d) addressee |
| 4. | (a) vines | (b) trunks | (c) twigs | (d) branches |
| 5. | (a) veneer | (b) sheer | (c) pioneer | (d) veer |
| 6. | (a) colonize | (b) colonies | (c) colonials | (d) colonized |
| 7. | (a) in | (b) by | (c) at | (d) on |
| 8. | (a) have | (b) like | (c) do | (d) be |
| 9. | (a) massive | (b) masses | (c) amass | (d) mass |
| 10. | (a) that | (b) as | (c) by | (d) of |
| 11. | (a) yearly | (b) annual | (c) 12-monthly | (d) year-long |
| 12. | (a) in | (b) up | (c) at | (d) on |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180629-asgardia.html>

Paragraph 1

1. attended his nagiuurtanio
2. at a ryceomen in Vienna
3. This day will eytirncal be recorded
4. declare with ecnefcondi
5. peonier the future
6. set up human nioecols on the Moon

Paragraph 2

7. in enitnca Scandinavian mythology
8. a growing number of would-be ecnsizti
9. the ninth most usplopuo country
10. Future tdnsaaiced
11. pay an anulna membership
12. high-tech, vrndtea arks in space

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180629-asgardia.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () membership of 100 euros. Asgardia has a long-term goal to launch life-sustaining, high-tech,
- () established all branches of government. I can therefore declare with confidence that Asgardia - the first space nation of
- () a ceremony in Vienna, Austria on Monday. In his inauguration address, Mr Ashurbeyli stated that: "This day will
- () an IQ test to prove they are of a higher intelligence. They will also have to pay an annual
- () 10 years, Asgardia hopes to amass a population of 150 million. This would make it the ninth
- () verdant arks in space, where Asgardian citizens can live and prosper.
- () the united humankind - has been born." He also said his nation was a "global humanitarian project" that would
- () ever nation in space. Igor Ashurbeyli, a computer scientist, established the space nation of Asgardia at
- () most populous country. Future candidates to become an Asgard national will have to pass
- () certainly be recorded in the annals of history as one of the greatest events for humankind. We have
- () Asgardia is named after Asgard - a flying city in ancient Scandinavian mythology. It already has a growing number
- () pioneer the future colonization of space and set up human colonies on the Moon.
- () of would-be citizens. Around 200,000 people have signed up to claim their Asgardian nationality. Within the next
- (**1**) A Russian billionaire has attended his inauguration as leader of humankind's first

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180629-asgardia.html>

1. attended his billionaire has inauguration . Russian A
2. first humankind's nation ever in of Leader space .
3. established We branches of all government . have
4. united the space nation first humankind . of The
5. up human colonies Set on the Moon .
6. mythology . ancient in city flying A Scandinavian
7. of growing number would-be A citizens .
8. intelligence . they are higher a Prove of
9. euros . 100 Pay membership of annual an
10. arks . goal to A life-sustaining long-term launch

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180629-asgardia.html>

A Russian billionaire has attended his inauguration *as / was* leader of humankind's first ever nation in space. Igor Ashurbeyli, a computer scientist, established the space *national / nation* of Asgardia at a *ceremony / ceremonial* in Vienna, Austria on Monday. In his inauguration *addressed / address*, Mr Ashurbeyli stated that: "This day will certainly *been / be* recorded in the annals of history as one of the greatest *events / event* for humankind. We have established all branches of government. I can therefore declare *by / with* confidence that Asgardia - the first space nation of the united humankind - has been born." He also *say / said* his nation was a "global humanitarian *projector / project*" that would pioneer the future colonization of space and set *up / down* human colonies on the Moon.

Asgardia is named after Asgard - a flying city *on / in* ancient Scandinavian mythology. It already has a growing *numeral / number* of would-be citizens. Around 200,000 people have signed up to *claim / clam* their Asgardian nationality. Within the *past / next* 10 years, Asgardia hopes to *amass / mass* a population of 150 million. This would make it *the / a* ninth most populous country. Future candidates to *become / becoming* an Asgard national will have to pass an IQ test to *proof / prove* they are of a higher intelligence. They will also have to *pay / paid* an annual membership of 100 euros. Asgardia has a long-term goal to launch life-sustaining, high-tech, verdant arks in space, where Asgardian citizens can live and *prosperity / prosper*.

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/1806/180629-asgardia.html>

A R_s s__ n b_l l__ n__ r_ h_s _t t_n d_d h_s _n__ g_r t__ n _s l__ d_r _f h_m_n k_n d 's f_r s_t _v_r n_t__ n _n s p_c_. I g_r A s h_r b_y l_, _ c_m p_t_r s c__ n t_s t, _s t_b l_s h_d t h_ s p_c_ n_t__ n _f A s g_r d__ _t _ c_r_m_n y _n V__ n n_, A_s t_r__ _n M_n d_y. I n h_s _n__ g_r t__ n _d d_r_s s, M_r A s h_r b_y l_ s_t_t_d t h_t: "T h_s d_y w_l l c_r t__ n l_y b_ r_c_r d_d _n t h_ _n n_l s _f h_s t_r y _s _n _f t h_ g_r__ t_s t _v_n t_s _f_r h_m_n k_n d. W_ h_v_ _s t_b l_s h_d _l l b_r_n c_h_s _f g_v_r n m_n t. I c_n t h_r_f_r_ d_c_l_r_ w_t h c_n f_d_n c_ t h_t A s g_r d__ - t h_ f_r s_t s p_c_ n_t__ n _f t h_ _n_t_d h_m_n k_n d - h_s b__ n b_r n." H_ l_s s__ d h_s n_t__ n w_s _ "g_l_b_l h_m_n t_r__ n p_r_j_c_t" t h_t w__ l d p__ n__ r t h_ f_t_r c_l_n_z_t__ n _f s p_c_ _n d s_t _p h_m_n c_l_n__ s _n t h_ M__ n.

A s g_r d__ _s _n_m_d _f t_r A s g_r d - _ f_l y_n g c_t_y _n _n c__ n t S c_n d_n_v__ n m_y t h_l_g_y. I t _l_r__ d_y h_s _ g_r_w_n g _n_m_b_r _f w__ l d - b_ c_t_z_n s. A r__ n d 2 0 0 , 0 0 0 p__ p_l_ h_v_ s_g n_d _p_t_ c_l__ m t h__ r A s g_r d__ n n_t__ n_l_t_y. W_t h_n t h_ n_x_t 1 0 y__ r s, A s g_r d__ h_p_s t_ _m_s s _ p_p_l_t__ n _f 1 5 0 m_l l__ n. T h_s w__ l d m_k_ _t t h_ n_n t h m_s t p_p_l__ s c__ n t_r y. F_t_r_ c_n d_d_t_s t_ b_c_m__ n A s g_r d n_t__ n_l w_l l h_v_ t_ p_s s _n I Q t_s t t_ p_r_v_ t h_y _r_ _f _ h_g h_r _n t_l_l_g_n c_. T h_y w_l l _l_s_ h_v_ t_ p_y _n _n n__ l m_m_b_r_s h_p _f 1 0 0 __ r_s. A s g_r d__ h_s _ l_n g - t_r m g__ l t_ l__ n c_h l_f - s_s t__ n_n g, h_g h - t_c h, v_r d_n t _r k_s _n s p_c_, w_h_r_ A s g_r d__ n c_t_z_n s c_n l_v_ _n d p_r_s p_r.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180629-asgardia.html>

a russian billionaire has attended his inauguration as leader of humankind's first ever nation in space. igor ashurbeyli, a computer scientist, established the space nation of asgardia at a ceremony in vienna, austria on monday. in his inauguration address, mr ashurbeyli stated that: "this day will certainly be recorded in the annals of history as one of the greatest events for humankind. we have established all branches of government. i can therefore declare with confidence that asgardia - the first space nation of the united humankind - has been born." he also said his nation was a "global humanitarian project" that would pioneer the future colonization of space and set up human colonies on the moon.

asgardia is named after asgard - a flying city in ancient scandinavian mythology. it already has a growing number of would-be citizens. around 200,000 people have signed up to claim their asgardian nationality. within the next 10 years, asgardia hopes to amass a population of 150 million. this would make it the ninth most populous country. future candidates to become an asgard national will have to pass an iq test to prove they are of a higher intelligence. they will also have to pay an annual membership of 100 euros. asgardia has a long-term goal to launch life-sustaining, high-tech, verdant arks in space, where asgardian citizens can live and prosper.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180629-asgardia.html>

A Russian billionaire has attended his inauguration as leader of humankind's first nation in space. Igor Ashurbeyli, a computer scientist, established the space nation of Asgardia at a ceremony in Vienna, Austria on Monday. In his inauguration address, Mr Ashurbeyli stated that: "This day will certainly be recorded in the annals of history as one of the greatest events for humankind. We have established all branches of government. I can therefore declare with confidence that Asgardia - the first space nation of the united humankind - has been born." He also said his nation was a "global humanitarian project" that would pioneer the future colonization of space and set up human colonies on the Moon. Asgardia is named after Asgard - a flying city in ancient Scandinavian mythology. It already has a growing number of would-be citizens. Around 200,000 people have signed up to claim their Asgardian nationality. Within the next 10 years, Asgardia hopes to amass a population of 150 million. This would make it the ninth most populous country. Future candidates to become an Asgardian will have to pass an IQ test to prove they are of a higher intelligence. They will also have to pay an annual membership of 100 euros. Asgardia has a long-term goal to launch life-sustaining, high-tech, verdantarks in space, where Asgardian citizens can live and prosper.

ACADEMIC WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180629-asgardia.html>

The future of the human race is in space. Discuss.

HOMework

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. SPACE NATIONS: Make a poster about space nations. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. SPACE: Write a magazine article about living in space. 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 space nations. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how we can live in space. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- a T b F c T d T e F f F g F h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------|
| 1. leader | a. chief |
| 2. established | b. set up |
| 3. address | c. speech |
| 4. branches | d. divisions |
| 5. pioneer | e. develop |
| 6. would-be | f. potential |
| 7. claim | g. formally request |
| 8. amass | h. assemble |
| 9. annual | i. yearly |
| 10. prosper | j. flourish |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Computer scientist
2. Austria, Vienna
3. Government
4. A global humanitarian project
5. The Moon
6. Scandinavia
7. 200,000
8. An IQ test
9. 100 euros
10. Live and prosper

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. A Russian billionaire has attended his inauguration.
2. Leader of humankind's first ever nation in space.
3. We have established all branches of government.
4. The first space nation of the united humankind.
5. Set up human colonies on the Moon.
6. A flying city in ancient Scandinavian mythology.
7. A growing number of would-be citizens.
8. Prove they are of a higher intelligence.
9. Pay an annual membership of 100 euros.
10. A long-term goal to launch life-sustaining arks.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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