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**Level 2 – 1st April, 2020**

## **Astronaut pee could help build moon bases**

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200401-moon-bases-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/2004/200401-moon-bases-2.html>

New materials could make buildings on the Moon. Scientists in Europe say a new kind of concrete could be made with moon dust and urine from astronauts. There is a chemical in human urine called urea. This helps things stick together and could help to make concrete. Scientists could use 3D printers to make the material. Space agencies could start using this material to make buildings for a permanent moon base. NASA, the European Space Agency (ESA) and the China National Space Administration are all interested in building research stations on the Moon.

Astronaut pee and moon dust could save a lot of money. It costs about \$10,000 to take 0.45kg of materials to the Moon. The urine and moon dust would be a cheaper way of building things. A scientist said: "A waste product, such as the urine of the personnel who occupy the moon bases, could be used." She added: "The actual water in the urine could be used for the mixture, together with [water] that can be obtained on the Moon." Scientists say there is ice on the Moon. The scientists say they need to do more tests to find the best building material.

Sources: <https://www.eurasiareview.com/27032020-astronaut-urine-to-build-moon-bases/>  
<https://www.cnet.com/news/astronauts-could-use-their-own-pee-to-build-future-moon-habitats/>  
[https://www.eurekalert.org/pub\\_releases/2020-03/f-sf-aut032720.php](https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2020-03/f-sf-aut032720.php)

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200401-moon-bases-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                            |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. make buildings          | a. astronauts      |
| 2. a new kind of           | b. agencies        |
| 3. could be made           | c. stations        |
| 4. urine from              | d. use 3D printers |
| 5. This helps things stick | e. with moon dust  |
| 6. Scientists could        | f. on the Moon     |
| 7. Space                   | g. together        |
| 8. research                | h. concrete        |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                  |                    |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. save a lot                    | a. to the Moon     |
| 2. take 0.45kg of materials      | b. the moon bases  |
| 3. a cheaper way of              | c. material        |
| 4. personnel who occupy          | d. on the Moon     |
| 5. The actual water in the urine | e. building things |
| 6. Scientists say there is ice   | f. do more tests   |
| 7. scientists say they need to   | g. of money        |
| 8. find the best building        | h. could be used   |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200401-moon-bases-2.html>

New materials (1) \_\_\_\_\_ on the Moon. Scientists in Europe say a new (2) \_\_\_\_\_ could be made with moon dust and urine from astronauts. There is a chemical in human urine called urea. This helps (3) \_\_\_\_\_ and could help to make concrete. Scientists could use 3D printers to make the material. Space agencies (4) \_\_\_\_\_ this material to make buildings (5) \_\_\_\_\_ moon base. NASA, the European Space Agency (ESA) and the China National Space Administration (6) \_\_\_\_\_ in building research stations on the Moon.

Astronaut pee and moon dust could (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of money. It costs about \$10,000 to take 0.45kg of materials to the Moon. The urine and moon dust would (8) \_\_\_\_\_ way of building things. A scientist said: "A waste product, such as the urine of the personnel (9) \_\_\_\_\_ moon bases, could be used." She added: "The actual water in the urine could be used (10) \_\_\_\_\_, together with [water] that can be obtained on the Moon." Scientists say there (11) \_\_\_\_\_ the Moon. The scientists say (12) \_\_\_\_\_ do more tests to find the best building material.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200401-moon-bases-2.html>

New materials could make buildings on the Moon. Scientists in Europe say a new kind of concrete could be made with moon dust and urine from astronauts. There is a chemical in human urine called urea. This helps things stick together and could help to make concrete. Scientists could use 3D printer to make the material. Space agencies could start using this material to make buildings for a permanent moon base. NASA, the European Space Agency (ESA) and the China National Space Administration are all interested in building research stations on the Moon. Astronaut pee and moon dust could save a lot of money. It costs about \$10,000 to take 0.45 kg of material to the Moon. The urine and moon dust would be a cheaper way of building things. A scientist said: "A waste product, such as the urine of the personnel who occupy the moon bases, could be used." She added: "The actual water in the urine could be used for the mixture, together with [water] that can be obtained on the Moon." Scientists say there is ice on the Moon. The scientists say they need to do more tests to find the best building material.

# MOON BASES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200401-moon-bases-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Moon bases 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*Astronaut pee could help build moon bases – 1st April, 2020*  
More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

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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) \_\_\_\_\_

