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Level 1

Scientists say life on Mars would be difficult

11th July, 2017

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1707/170711-life-on-mars-1.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1707/170711-life-on-mars-1.html>

Scientists have found a "toxic cocktail" of chemicals on Mars. It would kill any living thing. The scientists say the discovery of the chemicals means the chance of finding life on Mars is very low. The scientists study the places in the universe that might have life. Mars has no ozone layer. This means there are high levels of ultra-violet (UV) radiation. This mixes with the chemicals and makes it impossible for anything to grow on Mars.

The scientists said that just the chemicals were enough to kill living things. When they mix with UV rays, the mix kills living things 11 times faster. The scientists said: "The surface of...Mars is highly [harmful] to cells, caused by a toxic cocktail of [chemicals] and UV radiation." They say their research is evidence that the land on Mars is deadly to any kind of plant life. They say the chemicals and UV rays make, "much of the surface and near-surface regions uninhabitable".

Sources: <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/science/mars-toxic-chemicals-found-surface-life-organisms-less-likely-planet-ozone-layer-ultra-violet-a7828361.html>
<http://time.com/4845251/mars-life-toxins-microbes/>
<http://www.ed.ac.uk/news/2017/surface-of-mars-poses-danger-to-life-tests-show>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1707/170711-life-on-mars-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Scientists have found a toxic | a. with the chemicals |
| 2. the chance of finding life on Mars | b. cocktail of chemicals |
| 3. places in the universe that | c. radiation |
| 4. Mars has no ozone | d. to grow |
| 5. This means there are high | e. is very low |
| 6. ultra-violet (UV) | f. might have life |
| 7. This mixes | g. levels |
| 8. impossible for anything | h. layer |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. just the chemicals were | a. harmful |
| 2. kill living | b. life |
| 3. 11 times | c. things |
| 4. The surface of Mars is highly | d. is deadly |
| 5. UV | e. enough |
| 6. the land on Mars | f. the surface |
| 7. any kind of plant | g. faster |
| 8. much of | h. radiation |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1707/170711-life-on-mars-1.html>

Scientists have found a "toxic (1) _____ on Mars. It would kill any living thing. The scientists (2) _____ of the chemicals means the chance of (3) _____ Mars is very low. The scientists study the places in the universe that might have life. Mars (4) _____ layer. This means there are high levels of ultra-violet (UV) radiation. (5) _____ the chemicals and makes it impossible for (6) _____ on Mars.

The scientists said that just the chemicals (7) _____ living things. When they mix with UV rays, the mix kills living things (8) _____. The scientists said: "The (9) _____ is highly [harmful] to cells, (10) _____ toxic cocktail of [chemicals] and UV radiation." They say their research is evidence that the land on Mars (11) _____ kind of plant life. They say (12) _____ UV rays make, "much of the surface and near-surface regions uninhabitable".

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1707/170711-life-on-mars-1.html>

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LIFE ON MARS SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1707/170711-life-on-mars-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about life on Mars 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) _____

