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Level 2

New, super-thin material cools buildings

15th February, 2017

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1702/170215-air-conditioning-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 <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1702/170215-air-conditioning-2.html>

Engineers from the University of Colorado Boulder have made a super-thin material that could help keep buildings cool. The engineers developed the amazing new material, that can cool objects even under direct Sunlight. The material does not need energy to work. It does not need water to help keep things cool. The new material could do the work of air conditioners, which need a lot of energy and water. The material is not like anything found in nature. It is a glass-polymer hybrid and is just 50 micrometers thick - about the same as the aluminium foil we use for cooking.

The engineers explained how the new material works. When it is put on top of something, two things happen. The first is it cools the object underneath by reflecting the Sun's rays. At the same time, the second thing happens - the material takes away heat from the object underneath. An engineer said: "The key advantage of this technology is that it works 24/7 with no electricity or water....We're excited about the opportunity to explore potential uses in the power industry, aerospace, agriculture and more." Just 10 to 20 square meters of this material could cool down a house in summer.

Sources: <https://knowridge.com/2017/02/new-engineered-material-can-cool-roofs-structures-with-zero-energy-consumption/>
<http://www.ctvnews.ca/sci-tech/scientists-make-thin-material-that-acts-as-air-conditioner-1.3281871>
<http://www.techtimes.com/articles/196976/20170211/new-material-can-cool-structures-without-consuming-water-and-energy.htm>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1702/170215-air-conditioning-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. help keep | a. hybrid |
| 2. The engineers developed the | b. energy to work |
| 3. cool objects even under direct | c. use for cooking |
| 4. The material does not need | d. buildings cool |
| 5. not like anything | e. thick |
| 6. It is a glass-polymer | f. amazing new material |
| 7. just 50 micrometers | g. found in nature |
| 8. the aluminium foil we | h. sunlight |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| 1. When it is put on | a. industry |
| 2. takes away heat from the object | b. 24/7 |
| 3. The key | c. house in summer |
| 4. it works | d. top of something |
| 5. the opportunity to explore potential | e. square meters |
| 6. in the power | f. underneath |
| 7. Just 10 to 20 | g. uses |
| 8. cool down a | h. advantage |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1702/170215-air-conditioning-2.html>

Engineers from the University of Colorado Boulder (1) _____ super-thin material that could help keep buildings cool. The engineers developed (2) _____ material, that can cool objects (3) _____ Sunlight. The material does not need energy to work. It does not need water to (4) _____ cool. The new material could do the work of air conditioners, which need a lot of energy and water. The material is not like anything (5) _____. It is a glass-polymer hybrid and is just 50 micrometers thick - about the same as the aluminium foil (6) _____ cooking.

The engineers explained how the (7) _____. When it is put on top of something, (8) _____. The first is it cools the object underneath (9) _____ the Sun's rays. At the same time, the second thing happens - the material takes away heat from the object underneath. An engineer said: "The key (10) _____ technology is that it works 24/7 with no electricity or water...We're excited about the opportunity to (11) _____ uses in the power industry, aerospace, agriculture and more." Just 10 to 20 square meters of this material (12) _____ a house in summer.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1702/170215-air-conditioning-2.html>

Engineers from the University of Colorado Boulder have made a super-thin material that could help keep buildings cool. The engineers developed the amazing new material, that can cool objects even under direct sunlight. The material does not need energy to work. It does not need water to help keep things cool. The new material could do the work of air conditioners, which need a lot of energy and water. The material is not like anything found in nature. It is a glass-polymer hybrid and is just 50 micrometers thick - about the same as the aluminium foil we use for cooking. The engineer explained how the new material works. When it is put on top of something, two things happen. The first is it cools the object underneath by reflecting the Sun's rays. At the same time, the second thing happens - the material takes away heat from the object underneath. An engineer said: "The key advantage of this technology is that it works 24/7 with no electricity or water.... We're excited about the opportunity to explore potential uses in the power industry, aerospace, agriculture and more." Just 10 to 20 square meters of this material could cool down a house in summer.

AIR CONDITIONING SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1702/170215-air-conditioning-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about air conditioning 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) _____

