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Level 4 – 19th June, 2021

World's first wooden satellite tested

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2016/210619-wooden-satellite-4.html>

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Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2016/210619-wooden-satellite-4.html>

Technology is getting back to nature with a satellite that is mostly made from wood. It is just 10cm cubed in size. The Woodsat is the idea of Jari Makinen, co-founder of Arctic Astronautics. Mr Makinen tested his device in the stratosphere. A weather balloon took it to an altitude of 30km above Earth. The balloon exploded and Woodsat safely came back to Earth. All communications equipment survived the harsh conditions as it came back.

Makinen plans to launch Woodsat into space this year. He started a company to produce wooden copies of orbit-ready satellites. He explained: "I've always enjoyed making model planes...Having worked in the space education field, this got me wondering why we don't fly any wooden materials into space." He thought of the idea for Woodsat in 2017 and "the project just snowballed". He found a commercial backer to help him realise his dream.

Sources: <https://www.cnet.com/news/first-wooden-satellite-in-the-world-aims-to-prove-plywood-can-survive-space/>
<https://scitechdaily.com/worlds-first-wooden-satellite-set-to-launch-can-plywood-survive-in-space/>
<https://www.woodworkingnetwork.com/news/woodworking-industry-news/worlds-first-wooden-satellite-passes-test-flight>
<https://www.wisaplywood.com/wisawoodsat/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2016/210619-wooden-satellite-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Technology is getting | a. exploded |
| 2. a satellite that is mostly made | b. cubed in size |
| 3. It is just 10cm | c. altitude of 30km |
| 4. Mr Makinen tested his device | d. conditions |
| 5. A weather balloon took it to an | e. back to nature |
| 6. The balloon | f. equipment |
| 7. All communications | g. from wood |
| 8. survived the harsh | h. in the stratosphere |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Makinen plans to launch | a. snowballed |
| 2. produce wooden | b. ready satellites |
| 3. orbit- | c. his dream |
| 4. I've always enjoyed making | d. wondering why |
| 5. this got me | e. backer |
| 6. the project just | f. model planes |
| 7. He found a commercial | g. Woodsat into space |
| 8. help him realise | h. copies |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2016/210619-wooden-satellite-4.html>

Technology is getting (1) _____ with a satellite that is mostly made from wood. It is just 10cm (2) _____. The Woodsat is (3) _____ Jari Makinen, co-founder of Arctic Astronautics. Mr Makinen (4) _____ in the stratosphere. A weather balloon took it (5) _____ of 30km above Earth. The balloon exploded and Woodsat safely came back to Earth. All communications equipment survived (6) _____ as it came back.

Makinen (7) _____ Woodsat into space this year. He started a company to produce wooden (8) _____-ready satellites. He explained: "I've (9) _____ model planes...Having worked in the (10) _____, this got me wondering why we don't fly any wooden materials into space." He thought of the idea for Woodsat in 2017 and "the (11) _____". He found a commercial backer to help him (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2016/210619-wooden-satellite-4.html>

Technology is getting back to nature with a satellite that is mostly made from wood. It is just 10 cm cubed in size. The Woodsat is the idea of Jari Mäkinen, co-founder of Arctic Astronautics. Mr Mäkinen tested his device in the stratosphere. A weather balloon took it to an altitude of 30 km above Earth. The balloon exploded and Woodsat safely came back to Earth. All communication equipment survived the harsh conditions as it came back. Mäkinen plans to launch Woodsat into space this year. He started a company to produce wooden copies of orbit-ready satellites. He explained: "I've always enjoyed making model planes... Having worked in the space education field, this got me wondering why we don't fly any wooden materials into space." He thought of the idea for Woodsat in 2017 and "the project just snowballed". He found a commercial backer to help him realise his dream.

SATELLITES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2016/210619-wooden-satellite-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about satellites 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) _____

