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**Level 3 – 28th December 2023**

## Scientists 'talk' with a whale for 20 minutes

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale.html>

### Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	15
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	16
Vocabulary	4	Spelling	17
Before Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	18
Gap Fill	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	19
Match The Sentences And Listen	7	Circle The Correct Word	20
Listening Gap Fill	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	21
Comprehension Questions	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	22
Multiple Choice - Quiz	10	Put A Slash ( / ) Where The Spaces Are	23
Role Play	11	Free Writing	24
After Reading / Listening	12	Academic Writing	25
Student Survey	13	Homework	26
Discussion (20 Questions)	14	Answers	27

**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale.html>

Scientists say they have had a "conversation" with a whale. They also say the chat could help them to one day talk to aliens. The scientists are from the University of California, the Alaska Whale Foundation, and SETI (Search for Extra-terrestrial Intelligence). The three organizations teamed up and spoke to a humpback whale named Twain. They spoke to her in "humpback language" for 20 minutes. Their conversation took place after the scientists sent a "contact call" into the ocean off the coast of Alaska. Twain heard the call and responded. She swam to the research boat and chatted. SETI said it was the first ever communication between humans and humpback whales.

The scientists say their conversation with Twain was not a deep one. Professor Brenda McCowan said it was more like a series of greetings. Whales use contact calls to let other whales know where they are. The scientists made the same call 36 times over a 20-minute period. Each time, Twain responded by calling back. She even matched the intervals between each call the researchers made. Professor McCowan told the Business Insider website that her research could make it easier to talk to aliens. She said: "There are diverse intelligences on this planet. By studying them, we can better understand what an alien intelligence might be like because they are not going to be exactly like ours."

Sources: <https://www.boredpanda.com/scientist-claim-having-20-minute-conversation-whale/>  
<https://www.earth.com/news/scientists-have-20-minute-conversation-with-a-humpback-whale-named-twain/>  
<https://www.unilad.com/film-and-tv/news/freeview-best-takeaway-for-watching-tv-556889-20231218>

# WARM-UPS

**1. WHALES:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about whales. 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?

scientists / conversation / aliens / intelligence / whale / language / ocean / research / greetings / contact / 20 minutes / intervals / diverse / planet / understand / exactly

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

**3. TALK TO THE ANIMALS:** Students A **strongly** believe it is important we learn how to talk to animals; Students B **strongly** believe it isn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. ANIMAL LEARNING:** What could we learn from these creatures if we could communicate with them? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What We Could Learn	Usefulness
Whales		
Bats		
Foxes		
Bees		
Butterflies		
Crabs		

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

**6. CHAT:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best things to talk to at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Whales
- Snakes
- Eagles
- Ants
- Cockroaches
- Jellyfish
- Lions
- Koalas

# VOCABULARY MATCHING/

## Paragraph 1

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. conversation      | a. An organization like a charity that helps people or carries out research.                 |
| 2. extra-terrestrial | b. The part of the land next to or near the sea.   |
| 3. foundation        | c. A talk between two or more people, in which news and ideas are exchanged.                 |
| 4. organization      | d. Of or from outside the earth.   |
| 5. took place        | e. A group of people with a particular purpose, such as a business or government department. |
| 6. coast             | f. Happened.   |
| 7. responded         | g. Say something in reply.   |

## Paragraph 2

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 8. deep       | h. A space between two things.   |
| 9. series     | i. Of an emotion or feeling intensely felt.  |
| 10. greetings | j. Made or was harmonious.   |
| 11. matched   | k. Very different.   |
| 12. interval  | l. A number of events, objects, or people of a similar or related kind coming one after another. |
| 13. diverse   | m. Used to say how accurate something is.  |
| 14. exactly   | n. Polite words or signs of welcome.   |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale.html>

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

1. The scientists in the article hope to chat to aliens one day. **T / F**
2. The scientists spoke to a blue whale. **T / F**
3. The scientists and the whale communicated in a giant pool. **T / F**
4. This is the second time scientists have chatted to a humpback whale. **T / F**
5. The conversation with the whale was in deep water. **T / F**
6. The whale responded to 36 calls the scientists made in the water. **T / F**
7. The whale matched the intervals of the scientists' calls. **T / F**
8. A scientist said our intelligence is the same as alien intelligence. **T / F**

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. <b>conversation</b> | a. sequence          |
| 2. <b>teamed up</b>    | b. happened          |
| 3. <b>named</b>        | c. extra-terrestrial |
| 4. <b>took place</b>   | d. replied           |
| 5. <b>responded</b>    | e. collaborated      |
| 6. <b>series</b>       | f. precisely         |
| 7. <b>intervals</b>    | g. called            |
| 8. <b>diverse</b>      | h. gaps              |
| 9. <b>alien</b>        | i. varied            |
| 10. <b>exactly</b>     | j. chat              |

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

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. the chat could help them to one         | a. teamed up          |
| 2. The three organizations                 | b. deep one           |
| 3. Their conversation took                 | c. of Alaska          |
| 4. off the coast                           | d. by calling back    |
| 5. it was the first                        | e. like ours          |
| 6. their conversation with Twain was not a | f. day talk to aliens |
| 7. 36 times over                           | g. on this planet     |
| 8. Twain responded                         | h. ever               |
| 9. There are diverse intelligences         | i. a 20-minute period |
| 10. they are not going to be exactly       | j. place              |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale.html>

Scientists say they have had a "conversation" with a whale. They also say the (1) \_\_\_\_\_ could help them to one day talk to (2) \_\_\_\_\_. The scientists are from the University of California, the Alaska Whale Foundation, and SETI (Search for Extra-terrestrial Intelligence). The three organizations (3) \_\_\_\_\_ up and spoke to a humpback whale (4) \_\_\_\_\_ Twain. They spoke to her in "humpback language" for 20 minutes. Their conversation took (5) \_\_\_\_\_ after the scientists sent a "contact call" into the ocean off the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of Alaska. Twain heard the call and responded. She (7) \_\_\_\_\_ to the research boat and chatted. SETI said it was the first ever communication between (8) \_\_\_\_\_ and humpback whales.

*named*  
*chat*  
*swam*  
*place*  
*humans*  
*aliens*  
*teamed*  
*coast*

The scientists say their conversation with Twain was not a (9) \_\_\_\_\_ one. Professor Brenda McCowan said it was more like a series of (10) \_\_\_\_\_. Whales use contact calls to let other whales know where they are. The scientists made the same call 36 times over a 20-minute (11) \_\_\_\_\_. Each time, Twain responded by calling back. She even matched the (12) \_\_\_\_\_ between each call the researchers made. Professor McCowan told the Business Insider website that her (13) \_\_\_\_\_ could make it easier to talk to aliens. She said: "There are diverse intelligences on this (14) \_\_\_\_\_. By studying them, we can better understand what an alien (15) \_\_\_\_\_ might be like because they are not going to be (16) \_\_\_\_\_ like ours."

*period*  
*research*  
*greetings*  
*exactly*  
*planet*  
*intervals*  
*deep*  
*intelligence*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale.html>

- 1) They also say the chat could help them to one day \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. talk two aliens
  - b. talks to aliens
  - c. talk to aliens
  - d. take to aliens
- 2) the Alaska Whale Foundation, and SETI (Search for \_\_\_\_\_)
  - a. Extra-terrestrial Intelligence
  - b. Extra-terror stool Intelligence
  - c. Extra-tries trial Intelligence
  - d. Extra-terrors-trial Intelligence
- 3) The three organizations teamed up and spoke to a humpback \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. whale maimed Twain
  - b. whale named Twain
  - c. whale meme Twain
  - d. whale name Twain
- 4) scientists sent a "contact call" into the ocean off the \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. cost of Alaska
  - b. crest of Alaska
  - c. caste of Alaska
  - d. coast of Alaska
- 5) Twain heard the call and responded. She swam to the research \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. boat and chat it
  - b. boat and charted
  - c. boat and chatted
  - d. boat and chattel
- 6) The scientists say their conversation with Twain was not \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. a depth one
  - b. a deeps one
  - c. a deep once
  - d. a deep one
- 7) Professor Brenda McCowan said it was more like a \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. series of greetings
  - b. series of greet tins
  - c. series of greet things
  - d. series of glee tins
- 8) The scientists made the same call 36 times over a \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. 20-minutes period
  - b. 20-minutely period
  - c. 20-minute period
  - d. 20-minutia period
- 9) There are diverse intelligences \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. on this plan net
  - b. on this plan it
  - c. on his planet
  - d. on this planet
- 10) an alien intelligence might be like because they are not going to be \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. exact like ours
  - b. exact real like ours
  - c. exactly likes ours
  - d. exactly like ours

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale.html>

Scientists say they have (1) \_\_\_\_\_ with a whale. They also say the chat could help them to one day (2) \_\_\_\_\_. The scientists are from the University of California, the (3) \_\_\_\_\_, and SETI (Search for Extra-terrestrial Intelligence). The three organizations (4) \_\_\_\_\_ spoke to a humpback whale named Twain. They spoke to her in "humpback language" for 20 minutes. Their conversation took place after the scientists sent (5) \_\_\_\_\_ into the ocean off the coast of Alaska. Twain heard the call and responded. She swam to the research boat and chatted. SETI said it was (6) \_\_\_\_\_ communication between humans and humpback whales.

The scientists say their conversation with Twain was (7) \_\_\_\_\_ one. Professor Brenda McCowan said it was more like a series of greetings. Whales (8) \_\_\_\_\_ to let other whales know where they are. The scientists made the same call 36 times over a 20-minute period. Each time, Twain (9) \_\_\_\_\_ back. She even (10) \_\_\_\_\_ between each call the researchers made. Professor McCowan told the Business Insider website that her research could make it easier to talk to aliens. She said: "(11) \_\_\_\_\_ intelligences on this planet. By studying them, we can better understand what an alien intelligence might be like because they are not going to be (12) \_\_\_\_\_."



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale.html>

1. What do scientists hope to chat to one day?
2. What does the organization SETI look for?
3. What's the name of the whale in the article?
4. Where did the scientists talk to the whale?
5. How many times have scientists now spoken to a humpback whale?
6. How did the scientists describe their conversation with the whale?
7. How many contact calls did the whale make to the whale?
8. What did the whale match?
9. With what website did a professor talk about the whale?
10. What did a professor say was diverse on our planet?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale.html>

- 1) What do scientists hope to chat to one day?
  - a) plankton
  - b) dolphins
  - c) clown fish
  - d) aliens
- 2) What does the organization SETI look for?
  - a) whales
  - b) extra-terrestrial (alien) life
  - c) intelligent sea life
  - d) boats
- 3) What's the name of the whale in the article?
  - a) Humpy
  - b) Bob
  - c) Train
  - d) Twain
- 4) Where did the scientists talk to the whale?
  - a) Wales
  - b) in a giant tank
  - c) near Alaska
  - d) in an aquarium
- 5) How many times have scientists now spoken to a humpback whale?
  - a) five
  - b) three
  - c) two
  - d) one
- 6) How did the scientists describe their conversation with the whale?
  - a) It was shallow.
  - b) It was intelligent.
  - c) It wasn't deep.
  - d) It was interesting
- 7) How many contact calls did the whale make to the whale?
  - a) 36
  - b) 35
  - c) 34
  - d) 33
- 8) What did the whale match?
  - a) a world record
  - b) the colour of the research boat
  - c) the intervals of contact calls
  - d) a perfect partner
- 9) With what website did a professor talk about the whale?
  - a) Inside Business
  - b) Business Insider
  - c) Insider Business
  - d) Business Inside
- 10) What did a professor say was diverse on our planet?
  - a) intelligences
  - b) marine life
  - c) whale species
  - d) aliens

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale.html>

## **Role A – Whales**

You think whales would be the best creatures to talk to. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their creatures. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these to talk to (and why): eagles, ants or snakes.

## **Role B – Eagles**

You think eagles would be the best creatures to talk to. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their creatures. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these to talk to (and why): whales, ants or snakes.

## **Role C – Ants**

You think ants would be the best creatures to talk to. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their creatures. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these to talk to (and why): eagles, whales or snakes.

## **Role D – Snakes**

You think snakes would be the best creatures to talk to. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their creatures. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these to talk to (and why): eagles, ants or whales.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale.html>

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

scientist	whale

- 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"><li>• day</li><li>• search</li><li>• teamed</li><li>• language</li><li>• coast</li><li>• ever</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• deep</li><li>• greetings</li><li>• 36</li><li>• easier</li><li>• planet</li><li>• exactly</li></ul>
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# WHALES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale.html>

Write five GOOD questions about whales 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.

# WHALES 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 'scientist'?
3. What do you know about whales?
4. What would you like to talk to a whale about?
5. What do whales talk to each other about?
6. How useful is this research?
7. How might this research help us talk to aliens?
8. What questions would you like to ask an alien?
9. What is your favourite species of whale?
10. What would life be like if we could talk to animals?

*Scientists 'talk' with a whale for 20 minutes – 28th December 2023*  
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# WHALES 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 'whale'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. When was the last time you had a deep conversation?
15. What are your favourite forms of greetings?
16. What questions would aliens ask humans?
17. What kinds of animals would you like to talk to?
18. How can we increase our intelligence?
19. Who is the most intelligent person you know?
20. What questions would you like to ask the scientists?

# 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/2312/231228-chat-with-whale.html>

Scientists say they have had a "conversation" with a whale. They also say the chat could help them to (1) \_\_\_\_ day talk to aliens. The scientists are from the University of California, the Alaska Whale Foundation, and SETI (Search for Extra-terrestrial Intelligence). The three organizations teamed (2) \_\_\_\_ and spoke to a humpback whale (3) \_\_\_\_ Twain. They spoke to her in "humpback language" for 20 minutes. Their conversation took (4) \_\_\_\_ after the scientists sent a "contact call" into the ocean off the (5) \_\_\_\_ of Alaska. Twain heard the call and responded. She swam to the research boat and chatted. SETI said it was the first ever communication (6) \_\_\_\_ humans and humpback whales.

The scientists say their conversation with Twain was not a (7) \_\_\_\_ one. Professor Brenda McCowan said it was more like a (8) \_\_\_\_ of greetings. Whales use contact calls to let other whales know where they are. The scientists made the same call 36 times over a 20-minute period. Each time, Twain responded (9) \_\_\_\_ calling back. She even matched the intervals between each call the researchers (10) \_\_\_\_ . Professor McCowan told the Business Insider website that her research could make it easier to talk to aliens. She said: "There are (11) \_\_\_\_ intelligences on this planet. By studying them, we can better understand what an alien intelligence might be like because they are not going to be exactly (12) \_\_\_\_ ours."

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

- |     |              |               |              |             |
|-----|--------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|
| 1.  | (a) one      | (b) once      | (c) this     | (d) a       |
| 2.  | (a) down     | (b) in        | (c) up       | (d) on      |
| 3.  | (a) title    | (b) calling   | (c) named    | (d) surname |
| 4.  | (a) venue    | (b) situation | (c) location | (d) place   |
| 5.  | (a) caste    | (b) cost      | (c) coast    | (d) crest   |
| 6.  | (a) middle   | (b) between   | (c) either   | (d) among   |
| 7.  | (a) depth    | (b) deep      | (c) deeps    | (d) deepen  |
| 8.  | (a) services | (b) series    | (c) serious  | (d) serves  |
| 9.  | (a) of       | (b) at        | (c) by       | (d) on      |
| 10. | (a) logged   | (b) phoned    | (c) called   | (d) made    |
| 11. | (a) drivers  | (b) diverts   | (c) divots   | (d) diverse |
| 12. | (a) way      | (b) similar   | (c) same     | (d) like    |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. a rnvcotasieon with a whale
2. talk to leians
3. sent a contact call into the ceoan
4. off the oacst of Alaska
5. Twain heard the call and osprndeed
6. the first ever muocniacitmon

## Paragraph 2

7. opsefsror Brenda McCowan
8. like a erseis of greetings
9. cesitnsits made the same call 36 times
10. the tivreanls between each call
11. There are ivedsre intelligences on this planet
12. be xcaetly like ours

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) be like because they are not going to be exactly like ours."
- ( ) took place after the scientists sent a "contact call" into the ocean off the coast
- ( ) this planet. By studying them, we can better understand what an alien intelligence might
- ( ) of Alaska. Twain heard the call and responded. She swam to the research
- ( ) The scientists say their conversation with Twain was not a deep one. Professor Brenda McCowan said it
- ( ) was more like a series of greetings. Whales use contact calls to let other whales know where they
- ( ) the Business Insider website that her research could make it easier to talk to aliens. She said: "There are diverse intelligences on
- ( **1** ) Scientists say they have had a "conversation" with a whale. They also say the chat could help them to one
- ( ) boat and chatted. SETI said it was the first ever communication between humans and humpback whales.
- ( ) SETI (Search for Extra-terrestrial Intelligence). The three organizations teamed up and spoke
- ( ) are. The scientists made the same call 36 times over a 20-minute period. Each time, Twain responded
- ( ) day talk to aliens. The scientists are from the University of California, the Alaska Whale Foundation, and
- ( ) to a humpback whale named Twain. They spoke to her in "humpback language" for 20 minutes. Their conversation
- ( ) by calling back. She even matched the intervals between each call the researchers made. Professor McCowan told

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale.html>

1. They with a have conversation had a whale .
2. up Organizations spoke and teamed to a humpback .
3. spoke to her They humpback in language .
4. sent The call a scientists into the ocean .
5. said the was it first SETI ever communication .
6. conversation with Twain wasn't a Their deep one .
7. scientists the The call same made 36 times .
8. easier it Research to makes to talk aliens .
9. what an alien intelligence might Understand be like .
10. going They're be to not exactly like ours .

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale.html>

Scientists say they have had a "conversation" *with / wither* a whale. They also say the chat could help them to *one / once* day talk to aliens. The scientists *are / be* from the University of California, the Alaska Whale Foundation, and SETI (Search for Extra-terrestrial Intelligence). The three organizations teamed *down / up* and spoke to a humpback whale *name / named* Twain. They spoke to her *at / in* "humpback language" for 20 minutes. Their conversation *took / gave* place after the scientists sent a "contact call" into the ocean off the *coast / cost* of Alaska. Twain heard the call and responded. She swam *at / to* the research boat and chatted. SETI said it was the first *ever / every* communication between humans and humpback whales.

The scientists say their conversation with Twain was not a *depth / deep* one. Professor Brenda McCowan said it was more like a *services / series* of greetings. Whales use contact calls to *bet / let* other whales know where they are. The scientists made the same call 36 times *over / under* a 20-minute period. Each time, Twain responded by calling back. She even matched the intervals *among / between* each call the researchers made. Professor McCowan *told / said* the Business Insider website that her research could make *it / them* easier to talk to aliens. She said: "There are *diverse / drivers* intelligences on this planet. By studying them, we can better *understand / understanding* what an alien intelligence might be like because they are not going to be *exact / exactly* like ours."

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale.html>

Sc\_\_nt\_sts s\_y th\_y h\_v\_ h\_d \_ "c\_nv\_rs\_t\_\_n" w\_th \_ wh\_l\_. Th\_y \_ls\_ s\_y th\_ ch\_t c\_\_ld h\_lp th\_m t\_ \_n\_d\_y t\_lk t\_ \_l\_\_ns. Th\_ sc\_\_nt\_sts \_r\_ fr\_m th\_ \_n\_v\_rs\_ty \_f C\_l\_f\_rn\_\_, th\_ \_l\_sk\_ Wh\_l\_ F\_\_nd\_t\_\_n, \_nd S\_T\_ (S\_\_rch f\_r \_xtr\_-t\_rr\_str\_\_l \_nt\_ll\_g\_nc\_). Th\_ thr\_\_ \_rg\_n\_z\_t\_\_ns t\_\_m\_d \_p \_nd sp\_k\_ t\_ \_ h\_mpb\_ck wh\_l\_ n\_m\_d Tw\_\_n. Th\_y sp\_k\_ t\_ h\_r \_n "h\_mpb\_ck \_l\_ng\_\_g\_" f\_r 20 m\_n\_t\_s. Th\_\_r c\_nv\_rs\_t\_\_n t\_\_k pl\_c\_ \_ft\_r th\_ sc\_\_nt\_sts s\_nt \_ "c\_nt\_ct c\_ll" \_nt\_ th\_ \_c\_\_n \_ff th\_ c\_\_st \_f \_l\_sk\_. Tw\_\_n h\_\_rd th\_ c\_ll \_nd r\_sp\_nd\_d. Sh\_ sw\_m t\_ th\_ r\_s\_\_rch b\_\_t \_nd ch\_tt\_d. S\_T\_ s\_\_d \_t w\_s th\_ f\_rst \_v\_r c\_mmn\_c\_t\_\_n b\_tw\_\_n h\_m\_ns \_nd h\_mpb\_ck wh\_l\_s.

Th\_ sc\_\_nt\_sts s\_y th\_\_r c\_nv\_rs\_t\_\_n w\_th Tw\_\_n w\_s n\_t \_ d\_\_p \_n\_. Pr\_f\_ss\_r Br\_nd\_ McC\_w\_n s\_\_d \_t w\_s m\_r\_ l\_k\_ \_ s\_r\_\_s \_f gr\_\_t\_ngs. Wh\_l\_s \_s\_c\_nt\_ct c\_lls t\_ l\_t \_th\_r wh\_l\_s kn\_w wh\_r\_ th\_y \_r\_. Th\_ sc\_\_nt\_sts m\_d\_ th\_ s\_m\_ c\_ll 36 t\_m\_s \_v\_r \_ 20-m\_n\_t\_ p\_r\_\_d. \_\_ch t\_m\_, Tw\_\_n r\_sp\_nd\_d by c\_ll\_ng b\_ck. Sh\_ \_v\_n m\_tch\_d th\_ \_nt\_rv\_ls b\_tw\_\_n \_\_ch c\_ll th\_ r\_s\_\_rch\_rs m\_d\_. Pr\_f\_ss\_r McC\_w\_n t\_ld th\_ B\_s\_n\_ss \_ns\_d\_r w\_bs\_t\_ th\_t h\_r r\_s\_\_rch c\_\_ld m\_k\_ \_t \_\_s\_\_r t\_ t\_lk t\_ \_l\_\_ns. Sh\_ s\_\_d: "Th\_r\_ \_r\_ d\_v\_rs\_ \_nt\_ll\_g\_nc\_s \_n th\_s pl\_n\_t. By st\_dy\_ng th\_m, w\_ c\_n b\_tt\_r \_nd\_rst\_nd wh\_t \_n \_l\_\_n \_nt\_ll\_g\_nc\_ m\_ght b\_ l\_k\_ b\_c\_\_s\_ th\_y \_r\_ n\_t g\_\_ng t\_ b\_ \_x\_ctly l\_k\_ \_\_rs."

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale.html>

scientists say they have had a conversation with a whale they also say the chat could help them to one day talk to aliens the scientists are from the university of california the alaska whale foundation and seti search for extraterrestrial intelligence the three organizations teamed up and spoke to a humpback whale named twain they spoke to her in humpback language for 20 minutes their conversation took place after the scientists sent a contact call into the ocean off the coast of alaska twain heard the call and responded she swam to the research boat and chatted seti said it was the first ever communication between humans and humpback whales

the scientists say their conversation with twain was not a deep one professor brenda mccowan said it was more like a series of greetings whales use contact calls to let other whales know where they are the scientists made the same call 36 times over a 20minute period each time twain responded by calling back she even matched the intervals between each call the researchers made professor mccowan told the business insider website that her research could make it easier to talk to aliens she said there are diverse intelligences on this planet by studying them we can better understand what an alien intelligence might be like because they are not going to be exactly like ours

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale.html>

Scientists say they have had a "conversation" with a whale. They also say the chat could help them to one day talk to aliens. The scientists are from the University of California, the Alaska Whale Foundation, and SETI (Search for Extra-terrestrial Intelligence). The three organizations teamed up and spoke to a humpback whale named Twain. They spoke to her in "humpback language" for 20 minutes. Their conversation took place after the scientist sent a "contact call" into the ocean off the coast of Alaska. Twain heard the call and responded. She swam to the research boat and chatted. SETI said it was the first ever communication between humans and humpback whales. The scientists say their conversation with Twain was not a deep one. Professor Brenda McCowan said it was more like a series of greetings. Whales use contact calls to let other whales know where they are. The scientists made the same call 36 times over a 20-minute period. Each time, Twain responded by calling back. She even matched the interval between each call the researchers made. Professor McCowan told the Business Insider website that her research could make it easier to talk to aliens. She said: "There are diverse intelligences on this planet. By studying them, we can better understand what an alien intelligence might be like because they are not going to be exactly like ours."





# ACADEMIC WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale.html>

We must communicate with aliens in the future. Discuss.

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# 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. WHALES:** Make a poster about whales. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. ALIEN CHAT:** Write a magazine article about chatting with aliens. 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 whales. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on what we could talk to them about. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. c    2. d    3. a    4. e    5. f    6. b    7. g  
8. i    9. l    10. n    11. j    12. h    13. k    14. m

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 T    2 F    3 F    4 F    5 F    6 T    7 T    8 F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Aliens
2. Extra-terrestrial (alien) life
3. Twain
4. Near Alaska
5. One
6. It wasn't deep
7. Thirty-six
8. The intervals of contact calls
9. Business Insider
10. Intelligences

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. They have had a conversation with a whale.
2. Organizations teamed up and spoke to a humpback.
3. They spoke to her in humpback language.
4. The scientists sent a call into the ocean.
5. SETI said it was the first ever communication.
6. Their conversation with Twain wasn't a deep one.
7. The scientists made the same call 36 times.
8. Research makes it easier to talk to aliens.
9. Understand what an alien intelligence might be like.
10. They're not going to be exactly like ours.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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