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Level 5 – 2nd January, 2020

The 2020s are here - Happy New Decade

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200102-the-2020s-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200102-the-2020s-5.html>

The clock struck twelve to ring in the 2020s and people worldwide felt optimistic and pessimistic at what the new decade has in store for us. Many hope the New Year will improve both their fortunes and the Earth's. The past decade has been somewhat tumultuous. Global warming has put our very existence in peril; wars and conflict continue to rage around the world; millions still lack the basics of clean water and education; and thousands of species became endangered or extinct. Technology and greater cooperation between nations will hopefully make the 2020s a better decade.

Technology website cnet.com predicted that our lives will advance into the realms of science fiction. It wrote: "The decade...will take us even further toward a world where far-out ideas like hooking brains up to computers, and even immortality, become topics of serious conversation." A futurologist wrote about flying cars, bionic suits and unlimited clean energy. He said: "Some technologies will take longer to reach the masses than others....The 2020s will be when the incredible promises of technology finally happen." Let's get together in 2030 and compare notes on how things went.

Sources: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/bijankhosravi/2019/12/22/happy-new-year-happy-new-decade-and-welcome-to-the-2020s/#2c50444a2508>
<https://fortune.com/longform/ideas-shape-2020s-tech-economy-markets-ai-health-work-society/>
<https://www.cnet.com/news/2020s-visions-we-will-get-flying-cars-just-before-becoming-software-based-people/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200102-the-2020s-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. The clock struck twelve to | a. store for us |
| 2. what the new decade has in | b. became endangered |
| 3. put our very existence in | c. continue to rage |
| 4. wars and conflict | d. a better decade |
| 5. millions still lack the basics | e. ring in the 2020s |
| 6. thousands of species | f. between nations |
| 7. greater cooperation | g. of clean water |
| 8. make the 2020s | h. peril |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. advance into the realms | a. conversation |
| 2. far-out | b. finally happen |
| 3. hooking brains | c. ideas |
| 4. become topics of serious | d. things went |
| 5. unlimited clean | e. up to computers |
| 6. take longer to reach | f. of science fiction |
| 7. the incredible promises of technology | g. the masses |
| 8. compare notes on how | h. energy |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200102-the-2020s-5.html>

The clock (1) _____ ring in the 2020s and people worldwide felt optimistic and pessimistic at what the (2) _____ in store for us. Many hope the New Year will improve (3) _____ and the Earth's. The past decade has been somewhat tumultuous. Global warming has put our very (4) _____; wars and conflict continue to rage around the world; millions still (5) _____ of clean water and education; and thousands of species became endangered or extinct. Technology and greater cooperation between nations will hopefully make the 2020s (6) _____.

Technology website cnet.com predicted that our lives will advance into (7) _____ science fiction. It wrote: "The decade...will take us even further toward a world where (8) _____ hooking brains up to computers, (9) _____, become topics of serious conversation." A (10) _____ flying cars, bionic suits and unlimited clean energy. He said: "Some technologies will take longer to (11) _____ than others....The 2020s will be when the incredible promises of technology finally happen." Let's get together in 2030 and compare notes (12) _____ went.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200102-the-2020s-5.html>

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THE 2020s SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200102-the-2020s-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about the 2020s 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) _____

