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## Level 1 – 17th February, 2020 Scientists start huge search for ET

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:** https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2002/200217-extraterrestrial-life-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 https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2002/200217-extraterrestrial-life-1.html

Is there life in space? Are we alone? We have asked these questions for centuries. Scientists are trying to find out if anybody is out there. The researchers are from SETI (the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence). Its mission is, "to understand and explain the origin...of life...and the evolution of intelligence". Scientists will scan the sky for signs of alien life. "Citizen scientists" will use the data to spot things missed by scientists.

Scientists will use giant radio telescopes to look for "technosignatures" of alien life. These include chemicals, large amounts of oxygen, non-natural structures, and lasers. It is the first time a project will search the entire sky. An astronomer said finding out if we are alone, "is among the [biggest] questions in science". Another scientist said we are getting closer to finding out if aliens exist. She said science fiction is now "almost mainstream" science.

Sources: https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/gadgets-and-tech/news/alien-life-extraterrestrials-setilatest-observatory-a9336681.html https://phys.org/news/2020-02-technologies-strategies-extraterrestrial-life.html https://www.seti.org/about-us/mission

### **PHRASE MATCHING**

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2002/200217-extraterrestrial-life-1.html

#### **PARAGRAPH ONE:**

| 1. | We have asked these questions | a. | to find out    |
|----|-------------------------------|----|----------------|
| 2. | Scientists are trying         | b. | the data       |
| 3. | if anybody is out             | c. | intelligence   |
| 4. | explain the                   | d. | by scientists  |
| 5. | the evolution of              | e. | for centuries  |
| 6. | scan the sky for signs        | f. | origin of life |
| 7. | "Citizen scientists" will use | g. | there          |
| 8. | spot things missed            | h. | of alien life  |

#### **PARAGRAPH TWO:**

| 1. | Scientists will use giant   | a. | in science       |
|----|-----------------------------|----|------------------|
| 2. | large amounts               | b. | fiction          |
| 3. | search the entire           | c. | to finding out   |
| 4. | among the biggest questions | d. | of oxygen        |
| 5. | we are getting closer       | e. | science          |
| 6. | if aliens                   | f. | sky              |
| 7. | science                     | g. | exist            |
| 8. | mainstream                  | h. | radio telescopes |

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#### LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2002/200217-extraterrestrial-life-1.html

Is there life in space? (1) \_\_\_\_\_? We have asked these (2) \_\_\_\_\_\_. Scientists are trying to find out if anybody (3) \_\_\_\_\_. The researchers are from SETI (the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence). Its mission is, "to understand (4) \_\_\_\_\_\_ origin...of life...and the evolution of intelligence". Scientists (5) \_\_\_\_\_\_ sky for signs of alien life. "Citizen scientists" will use the data to spot things (6) Scientists will (7) \_\_\_\_\_\_ telescopes to look for "techno-signatures" of alien life. These include chemicals, large (8) \_\_\_\_\_, non-natural structures, and lasers. It is the first time a project will search (9) \_\_\_\_\_. An astronomer said finding out if (10) \_\_\_\_\_, "is among the [biggest] questions in science". Another scientist said we (11) \_\_\_\_\_\_ to finding out if aliens exist. She said science (12) "almost mainstream" science.

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## PUT A SLASH ( / )WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2002/200217-extraterrestrial-life-1.html

Istherelifeinspace?Arewealone?Wehaveaskedthesequestionsforcen turies.Scientistsaretryingtofindoutifanybodyisoutthere.Theresearc hersarefromSETI(theSearchforExtraterrestrialIntelligence).Itsmiss ionis,"tounderstandandexplaintheorigin...oflife...andtheevolutionof intelligence". Scientistswillscantheskyforsignsofalienlife. "Citizensci entists"willusethedatatospotthingsmissedbyscientists.Scientistswil lusegiantradiotelescopestolookfor"techno-signatures"ofalienlife.Th eseincludechemicals, largeamountsofoxygen, non-natural structure s, and lasers. It is the first time a project will search the entires ky. An astro nomersaidfindingoutifwearealone,"isamongthe[biggest]questionsi nscience". Anotherscientistsaidwearegettingclosertofindingoutifalie nsexist.Shesaidsciencefictionisnow"almostmainstream"science.

#### **EXTRATERRESTRIAL LIFE SURVEY**

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2002/200217-extraterrestrial-life-4.html

Write five GOOD questions about extraterrestrial life 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).

| <br> | <br> |
|------|------|
|      |      |
| <br> | <br> |
| <br> | <br> |
| <br> | <br> |
| <br> |      |
|      |      |

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#### WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

| a) | <br> | <br> |
|----|------|------|
| b) | <br> | <br> |
| c) |      |      |
| d) |      |      |
| e) |      |      |
| f) |      |      |
| ') | <br> | <br> |

#### WRITING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2002/200217-extraterrestrial-life-1.html

Write about **extraterrestrial life** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.