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Level 1 – 8th September, 2022

Space travel changes astronauts' DNA

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220908-astronauts-dna-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/2209/220908-astronauts-dna-1.html>

Scientists found that our DNA can change in space. This change could increase astronauts' chances of getting cancer. The scientists did research on the blood of astronauts who flew on the Space Shuttle 20 years ago. They gave blood ten days before going into space and three days after coming back. Professor David Goukassian said astronauts work in an "extreme environment" where radiation and other factors could "result in mutations".

The study could help space travel in the future. Countries are working on going to Mars and building bases on the moon. Companies are starting the business of space tourism. More research is needed to study how any space travel might harm our body. This could help NASA's Artemis project. This aims to send people to the moon for the first time in 50 years. The last time we went to the moon was in December 1972.

Sources: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-11182509/NASA-astronauts-blood-shows-signs-DNA-mutations-spaceflight-monitored.html>
<https://thehill.com/changing-america/well-being/prevention-cures/3622854-spaceflight-may-increase-the-risk-of-heart-disease-cancer-study/>
<https://www.universetoday.com/157440/even-short-flights-to-space-cause-cell-mutations-that-could-lead-to-cancer-and-heart-disease/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220908-astronauts-dna-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. our DNA can change | a. factors |
| 2. increase astronauts' chances of | b. astronauts |
| 3. The scientists did | c. blood ten days before |
| 4. the blood of | d. getting cancer |
| 5. flew on the Space Shuttle | e. back |
| 6. They gave | f. in space |
| 7. three days after coming | g. 20 years ago |
| 8. radiation and other | h. research |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. The study could | a. people to the moon |
| 2. in the | b. on the moon |
| 3. Countries are working on | c. to the moon |
| 4. build bases | d. tourism |
| 5. space | e. in 50 years |
| 6. This aims to send | f. future |
| 7. for the first time | g. help space travel |
| 8. The last time we went | h. going to Mars |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220908-astronauts-dna-1.html>

Scientists found that our (1) _____ in space. This change could increase astronauts' chances (2) _____. The scientists did research on the blood of astronauts (3) _____ the Space Shuttle 20 years ago. They gave blood ten days (4) _____ space and three days after coming back. Professor David Goukassian said astronauts work (5) _____ environment" where radiation and other factors (6) _____ mutations".

The study could help space travel (7) _____. Countries are working on going to Mars and (8) _____ the moon. Companies are starting the business of space tourism. More research (9) _____ study how any space travel might (10) _____. This could help NASA's Artemis project. This aims to send people to the moon for the (11) _____ 50 years. The last time we went to the (12) _____ December 1972.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220908-astronauts-dna-1.html>

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DNA SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2209/220908-astronauts-dna-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about DNA 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) _____

