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Level 0 – 28th December 2023

Scientists 'talk' with a whale for 20 minutes

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale-0.html>

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Please try Levels 1, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale-0.html>

Scientists had a "chat" with a humpback whale. The whale's name is Twain. They spoke in "humpback language" for 20 minutes. The scientists sent a "contact call" into the ocean. Twain heard the call, swam to the boat and "chatted". A researcher said it was the first ever chat between humans and humpback whales.

Whales use contact calls so other whales know where they are. The scientists made 36 calls in 20 minutes. Twain answered them all. A scientist said her research could make it easier to talk to aliens. She said: "We can better understand what alien intelligence might be like." It will be a different kind of intelligence.

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>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale-0.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Scientists had a "chat" with | a. into the ocean |
| 2. The whale's name | b. language |
| 3. They spoke in humpback | c. to the boat |
| 4. scientists sent a "contact call" | d. chat |
| 5. Twain heard | e. a humpback whale |
| 6. swam | f. said it was |
| 7. A researcher | g. is Twain |
| 8. he first ever | h. the call |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Whales use contact | a. to talk to aliens |
| 2. other whales know where | b. intelligence |
| 3. scientists made 36 calls | c. they are |
| 4. Twain answered | d. of intelligence |
| 5. research could make it easier | e. understand |
| 6. We can better | f. calls |
| 7. alien | g. them all |
| 8. It will be a different kind | h. in 20 minutes |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale-0.html>

Scientists had (1) _____ a humpback whale. The whale's name is Twain. (2) _____ "humpback language" (3) _____. The scientists sent a "contact call" (4) _____. Twain heard the call, swam to the (5) _____. A researcher said it was the (6) _____ between humans and humpback whales.

Whales (7) _____ so other whales know (8) _____. The scientists made 36 calls in 20 minutes. Twain (9) _____. A scientist said her research could make it (10) _____ to aliens. She said: "We (11) _____ what alien intelligence might be like." It will be a different (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale-0.html>

Scientists had a "chat" with a humpback whale. The whale's name is Twain. They spoke in "humpback language" for 20 minutes. The scientists sent a "contact call" into the ocean. Twain heard the call, swam to the boat and "chatted". A researcher said it was the first ever chat between humans and humpback whales. Whales use contact calls so other whales know where they are. The scientists made 36 calls in 20 minutes. Twain answered them all. A scientist said her research could make it easier to talk to aliens. She said: "We can better understand what alien intelligence might be like." It will be a different kind of intelligence.

WHALES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale-0.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.

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) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2312/231228-chat-with-whale-0.html>

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