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Level 1 – 17th January, 2019

China grows plants on the moon

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1901/190117-ecology-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/1901/190117-ecology-1.html>

Plants from Earth are growing on the moon. China's space agency showed photos of seeds sprouting into life. This is part of a project on the far side of the moon. It is called a "moon surface micro-ecological circle". Project leader Liu Hanlong says cotton was the first plant to sprout. He chose cotton and potatoes because they were small, strong and could grow in the difficult conditions on the moon's surface.

Professor Hanlong wants to understand how plants grow in space. He wants plants to grow on the moon. His team is looking at the future survival in space. These plants could allow us to start a space base. The project also includes yeast and fruit flies in a mini-ecosystem. The plants will produce oxygen and food for the fruit flies; the yeast could change the flies' waste and the dead plants into another food source.

Sources: <https://www.scmp.com/news/china/science/article/2182111/chinese-lunar-landers-cotton-seeds-lead-way-plant-life-germinates>
<https://www.newscientist.com/article/2190704-first-moon-plants-sprout-in-chinas-change-4-biosphere-experiment/>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-46873526>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1901/190117-ecology-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. China's space | a. conditions |
| 2. photos of seeds | b. of the moon |
| 3. on the far side | c. and potatoes |
| 4. cotton was the first plant | d. surface |
| 5. He chose cotton | e. sprouting |
| 6. because they | f. agency |
| 7. grow in the difficult | g. to sprout |
| 8. the moon's | h. were small |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. understand how plants | a. base |
| 2. He wants plants to grow | b. the future |
| 3. His team is looking at | c. flies |
| 4. start a space | d. waste |
| 5. The project also | e. grow in space |
| 6. fruit | f. produce oxygen |
| 7. The plants will | g. includes yeast |
| 8. yeast could change the flies' | h. on the moon |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1901/190117-ecology-1.html>

Plants from Earth (1) _____ the moon. China's space agency showed (2) _____ sprouting into life. This is part (3) _____ on the far side of the moon. It (4) _____ "moon surface micro-ecological circle". Project leader Liu Hanlong says cotton was the (5) _____ sprout. He chose cotton and potatoes because they were small, strong and could grow in the difficult (6) _____ moon's surface.

Professor Hanlong (7) _____ how plants grow in space. He wants (8) _____ on the moon. His team is looking at the (9) _____ space. These plants could allow (10) _____ a space base. The project also includes yeast and fruit flies in a mini-ecosystem. The plants will produce (11) _____ for the fruit flies; the yeast could change the flies' waste and (12) _____ into another food source.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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ECOLOGY SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1901/190117-ecology-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about ecology 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/1901/190117-ecology-1.html>

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