

Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

**"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"**

breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html

**Thousands more free lessons
from Sean's other websites**

www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html

Level 6 – 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.html>

Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	15
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	16
Vocabulary	4	Spelling	17
Before Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	18
Gap Fill	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	19
Match The Sentences And Listen	7	Circle The Correct Word	20
Listening Gap Fill	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	21
Comprehension Questions	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	22
Multiple Choice - Quiz	10	Put A Slash (/) Where The Spaces Are	23
Role Play	11	Free Writing	24
After Reading / Listening	12	Academic Writing	25
Student Survey	13	Homework	26
Discussion (20 Questions)	14	Answers	27

Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

Twitter



twitter.com/SeanBanville

Facebook



www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176

THE ARTICLE

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

As the clock struck twelve midnight to herald the arrival of the 2020s, people the world over were filled with a mixture of optimism and pessimism at what the new decade might have in store for us. Many hope the New Year will see an upturn in their fortunes and those of planet Earth. The past decade could be described as having been somewhat tumultuous. Global warming stoked fears of our very existence being in peril; wars and conflict have continued to rage around the world; millions still lack basic things like clean water and education; and thousands of species became endangered or extinct. There is hope that technology and greater cooperation between nations will make the 2020s a better decade.

The technology website cnet.com predicted that many of us will advance further into the realms of science fiction. It wrote: "The decade beginning in 2020 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." Futurologist Vivek Wadhwa wrote about the prospect of flying cars, bionic exoskeleton suits and unlimited clean energy. He told cnet.com that: "Some technologies will take longer to reach the masses than others, but they will be at hand. The 2020s will be when the incredible promises of technology finally happen." Let's get together again 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/>

WARM-UPS

1. THE 2020s: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about the 2020s. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

clock / midnight / 2020 / optimism / pessimism / Earth / global warming / hope / technology / science fiction / far-out ideas / immortality / flying car / promises / notes

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. THIS DECADE: Students A **strongly** believe this decade will be better than the 2010s; Students B **strongly** believe it won't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. PREDICTIONS: What are your predictions about these things for the 2030s? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Prediction	What Will This Change?
Environment		
World Peace		
Business		
Technology		
Equality		
Health		

5. MIDNIGHT: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "midnight". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. SCIENCE FICTION: Rank these with your partner. Put the things that are most likely to come true in 2030 at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- flying cars
- space travel
- animal-free diets
- the end of cancer
- greater equality
- a cleaner environment
- nuclear disarmament
- redistribution of wealth

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 1. herald | a. Stormy, volatile and full of ups and downs. |
| 2. pessimism | b. Of a species of animal or plant having no living members. |
| 3. upturn | c. Be a sign that something is about to happen. |
| 4. tumultuous | d. An improvement in economic conditions or in someone's fortunes. |
| 5. peril | e. A tendency to see the worst aspect of things or believe that the worst will happen. |
| 6. rage | f. Serious and immediate danger. |
| 7. extinct | g. Continue with great force or intensity. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 8. realms | h. Unconventional; unusual; out of the ordinary. |
| 9. far-out | i. The ability to live forever; eternal life. |
| 10. immortality | j. The ordinary people. |
| 11. prospect | k. A field or area of activity or interest. |
| 12. bionic | l. Share experiences or opinions with someone about something. |
| 13. the masses | m. Having artificial body parts, especially electromechanical ones. |
| 14. compare notes | n. The possibility or likelihood of some future event occurring. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

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

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. People over the world struck the clock of pessimism at twelve. **T / F**
- b. The article says the new decade will see more stores closing. **T / F**
- c. The article suggested the 2010s were somewhat tumultuous. **T / F**
- d. The article says millions of people cannot get a basic education. **T / F**
- e. The writer said we are living in science fiction and cannot go further. **T / F**
- f. A website said our brains could be connected to computers. **T / F**
- g. A futurologist wrote about the prospect of unlimited clean energy. **T / F**
- h. The writer asked us to meet in 2030 to discuss the 2020s. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. herald | a. progressed |
| 2. mixture | b. stormy |
| 3. upturn | c. collaboration |
| 4. tumultuous | d. common people |
| 5. cooperation | e. combination |
| 6. predicted | f. inexhaustible |
| 7. far-out | g. forecast |
| 8. unlimited | h. announce |
| 9. the masses | i. unconventional |
| 10. went | j. improvement |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1. the clock struck twelve midnight to herald | a. up to computers |
| 2. filled with a mixture of | b. the masses |
| 3. what the new decade might have in | c. finally happen |
| 4. described as having been somewhat | d. realms of science fiction |
| 5. stoked fears of our very existence | e. optimism and pessimism |
| 6. many of us will advance further into the | f. how things went |
| 7. far-out ideas like hooking brains | g. store for us |
| 8. take longer to reach | h. tumultuous |
| 9. the incredible promises of technology | i. the arrival of the 2020s |
| 10. compare notes on | j. being in peril |

GAP FILL

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

As the clock struck twelve midnight to (1) _____ the arrival of the 2020s, people the world over were filled with a (2) _____ of optimism and pessimism at what the new decade might have in (3) _____ for us. Many hope the New Year will see an upturn in their fortunes and those of planet Earth. The past decade could be described as having been somewhat (4) _____. Global warming stoked fears of our very existence being in (5) _____; wars and conflict have continued to (6) _____ around the world; millions still (7) _____ basic things like clean water and education; and thousands of species became endangered or (8) _____. There is hope that technology and greater cooperation between nations will make the 2020s a better decade.

tumultuous

mixture

rage

herald

peril

lack

store

extinct

The technology website cnet.com (9) _____ that many of us will advance further into the (10) _____ of science fiction. It wrote: "The decade beginning in 2020 will take us even further toward a world where far-out ideas like (11) _____ brains up to computers, and even (12) _____, become topics of serious conversation." Futurologist Vivek Wadhwa wrote about the (13) _____ of flying cars, bionic exoskeleton suits and (14) _____ clean energy. He told cnet.com that: "Some technologies will take longer to reach the (15) _____ than others, but they will be at hand. The 2020s will be when the incredible promises of technology finally happen." Let's get together again in 2030 and compare (16) _____ on how things went.

prospect

hooking

notes

immortality

masses

realms

predicted

unlimited

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

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

- 1) As the clock struck twelve midnight to _____
 - a. hear old the arrival
 - b. hurry and the arrival
 - c. her old the arrival
 - d. herald the arrival
- 2) people the world over were filled with a mixture of optimism _____
 - a. and pessimistic
 - b. and possum is arm
 - c. and pessimism
 - d. aid pessimism
- 3) Many hope the New Year will see an _____ fortunes
 - a. up tune in their
 - b. nap turn in their
 - c. upped urn in their
 - d. upturn in their
- 4) fears of our very existence being in peril; wars and conflict have _____
 - a. continued to trade
 - b. continued to rage
 - c. continued to rate
 - d. continued to gauge
- 5) and thousands of species became _____
 - a. in danger dead extinct
 - b. end danger door extinct
 - c. end and jarred or extinction
 - d. endangered or extinct
- 6) many of us will advance further into the _____ fiction
 - a. realms of science
 - b. reams of science
 - c. roams of science
 - d. rooms of science
- 7) further toward a world where far-out ideas like _____ to computers
 - a. hooking drains up
 - b. hooking grains up
 - c. hooking cranes up
 - d. hooking brains up
- 8) Futurologist Vivek Wadhwa wrote about the prospect of flying cars, _____
 - a. bio nick exoskeleton suits
 - b. bi tonic exoskeleton suits
 - c. biome mic exoskeleton suits
 - d. bionic exoskeleton suits
- 9) Some technologies will take longer to _____
 - a. reach the masses
 - b. reach the mass is
 - c. reach the ma says
 - d. reach the mass sis
- 10) Let's get together again in 2030 and _____
 - a. compare notes
 - b. compare moats
 - c. compare notes
 - d. compare nodes

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

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

As the clock struck twelve midnight to (1) _____ of the 2020s, people the world over were filled with (2) _____ optimism and pessimism at what the new decade might have in store for us. Many hope the New Year will (3) _____ in their fortunes and those of planet Earth. The past decade could be described as having been somewhat tumultuous. Global warming (4) _____ our very existence (5) _____; wars and conflict have continued to rage around the world; millions still lack basic things like clean water and education; and thousands of species became (6) _____. There is hope that technology and greater cooperation between nations will make the 2020s a better decade.

The technology website cnet.com predicted that many of us will advance further (7) _____ of science fiction. It wrote: "The decade beginning in 2020 will take us even further toward a world (8) _____ like hooking brains up to computers, and even immortality, become (9) _____ conversation." Futurologist Vivek Wadhwa wrote about the (10) _____ cars, bionic exoskeleton suits and unlimited clean energy. He told cnet.com that: "Some technologies will take longer to (11) _____ than others, but they will be at hand. The 2020s will be when the incredible promises of technology finally happen." Let's get together again in 2030 and (12) _____ how things went.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

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

1. What did people worldwide herald at the stroke of midnight?
2. What do people hope there is an upturn in besides their own fortunes?
3. What stoked our fears about our very existence?
4. What are millions of people lacking?
5. Who might cooperate more in the 2020s to make things better?
6. What did a website say we would advance further into the realms of?
7. What did the website say ideas about the future were?
8. What might we talk about besides hooking up brains to computers?
9. Who will some technology take longer to reach?
10. When did the writer suggest we meet again to compare notes?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

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

- 1) What did people worldwide herald at the stroke of midnight?
 - a) world peace
 - b) a newspaper
 - c) the arrival of the 2020s
 - d) fireworks
- 2) What do people hope there is an upturn in besides their own fortunes?
 - a) Earth's fortunes
 - b) the economy
 - c) the stock market
 - d) the weather
- 3) What stoked our fears about our very existence?
 - a) nuclear weapons
 - b) global warming
 - c) antimicrobial resistance
 - d) water shortages
- 4) What are millions of people lacking?
 - a) friends
 - b) food
 - c) fast wifi
 - d) clean water
- 5) Who might cooperate more in the 2020s to make things better?
 - a) people on social media
 - b) world leaders
 - c) nations
 - d) technology companies
- 6) What did a website say we would advance further into the realms of?
 - a) fake news and deep fake videos
 - b) science fiction
 - c) fantasy
 - d) the unknown
- 7) What did the website say ideas about the future were?
 - a) hand out
 - b) shout out
 - c) way out
 - d) far-out
- 8) What might we talk about besides hooking up brains to computers?
 - a) vloggers
 - b) immortality
 - c) cashless payments
 - d) the zeitgeist
- 9) Who will some technology take longer to reach?
 - a) the missing
 - b) the masses
 - c) the Mrs
 - d) the messy
- 10) When did the writer suggest we meet again to compare notes?
 - a) in 2030
 - b) next week
 - c) halfway through the decade
 - d) after a year

ROLE PLAY

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

Role A – Flying Cars

You think flying cars are the things most likely to happen in the 2020s. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least likely of these (and why): the end of cancer, nuclear disarmament or space travel.

Role B – The End of Cancer

You think the end of cancer is the most likely to happen in the 2020s. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least likely of these (and why): flying cars, nuclear disarmament or space travel.

Role C – Nuclear Disarmament

You think nuclear disarmament is the most likely to happen in the 2020s. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least likely of these (and why): the end of cancer, flying cars or space travel.

Role D – Space Travel

You think space travel is the most likely to happen in the 2020s. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least likely of these (and why): the end of cancer, nuclear disarmament or flying cars.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

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

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'year' and 'decade'.

year	decade

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• twelve• store• somewhat• peril• rage• hope	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• many• further• prospect• longer• promises• notes
---	---

THE 2020s SURVEY

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

THE 2020S DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'fear'?
3. How did you celebrate the arrival of the new decade?
4. What are your hopes for the 2020s?
5. Are you optimistic or pessimistic about the 2020s?
6. What do you think the 2020s have in store for us?
7. What were the 2010s like for you?
8. How worried are you about global warming?
9. How worried are you about species extinction?
10. Do you think nations will cooperate in the 2020s?

The 2020s are here - Happy New Decade - 2nd January, 2020
Thousands more free lessons at breakingnewsenglish.com

THE 2020S DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'decade'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What are your predictions for the 2020s?
15. What parts of the 2020s are like science fiction?
16. What far-out ideas do you think will come true in the 2020s?
17. Are you looking forward to traveling in flying cars?
18. What are your New Year resolutions?
19. What will we be saying about the 2020s in 2030?
20. What questions would you like to ask a futurologist?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____

Copyright © breakingnewsenglish.com 2020

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

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

As the clock (1) _____ twelve midnight to herald the arrival of the 2020s, people the world over were filled with a mixture of optimism and pessimism (2) _____ what the new decade might have in (3) _____ for us. Many hope the New Year will see an upturn in their fortunes and those of planet Earth. The past decade could be described as (4) _____ been somewhat tumultuous. Global warming stoked fears of our very existence being in peril; wars and conflict have continued to (5) _____ around the world; millions still lack basic things like clean water and education; and thousands of species became endangered or extinct. There is (6) _____ that technology and greater cooperation between nations will make the 2020s a better decade.

The technology website cnet.com predicted that many of us will advance further into the (7) _____ of science fiction. It wrote: "The decade beginning in 2020 will take us even further toward a world where far-(8) _____ ideas like hooking brains up to computers, and even (9) _____, become topics of serious conversation." Futurologist Vivek Wadhwa wrote about the prospect (10) _____ flying cars, bionic exoskeleton suits and unlimited clean energy. He told cnet.com that: "Some technologies will take longer to reach the (11) _____ than others, but they will be at hand. The 2020s will be when the incredible promises of technology finally happen." Let's get together again in 2030 and compare notes on how things (12) _____.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) struck | (b) striking | (c) stricken | (d) stuck |
| 2. | (a) by | (b) of | (c) at | (d) on |
| 3. | (a) shop | (b) hoard | (c) store | (d) mall |
| 4. | (a) haves | (b) has | (c) had | (d) having |
| 5. | (a) enrage | (b) engage | (c) rage | (d) gauge |
| 6. | (a) hopes | (b) hope | (c) hopeful | (d) hopefully |
| 7. | (a) auspices | (b) realms | (c) churns | (d) alms |
| 8. | (a) up | (b) out | (c) in | (d) way |
| 9. | (a) immortal | (b) immortalize | (c) immortality | (d) mortals |
| 10. | (a) up | (b) to | (c) by | (d) of |
| 11. | (a) misses | (b) messes | (c) Mrs | (d) masses |
| 12. | (a) feared | (b) came | (c) gone | (d) went |

SPELLING

Paragraph 1

1. hlarde the arrival of the 2020s
2. filled with a mixture of msmtipio
3. having been somewhat uulotstumu
4. very existence being in lreip
5. became endangered or ctxntie
6. greater rpcoaonitoe between nations

Paragraph 2

7. into the meslar of science fiction
8. ua-tofr ideas
9. gtutusiorflo Vivek Wadhwa
10. and even ymlimtotrai
11. nibico exoskeleton suits
12. take longer to reach the assmse

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

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

Number these lines in the correct order.

- (**1**) As the clock struck twelve midnight to herald the arrival of the 2020s, people the world over were filled
- () with a mixture of optimism and pessimism at what the new decade might have in store
- () masses than others, but they will be at hand. The 2020s will be when the incredible
- () out ideas like hooking brains up to computers, and even immortality, become topics of serious
- () described as having been somewhat tumultuous. Global warming stoked fears of our very existence being
- () The technology website cnet.com predicted that many of us will advance further into the realms of science
- () fiction. It wrote: "The decade beginning in 2020 will take us even further toward a world where far-
- () in peril; wars and conflict have continued to rage around the world; millions still lack basic
- () things like clean water and education; and thousands of species became endangered or
- () conversation." Futurologist Vivek Wadhwa wrote about the prospect of flying cars, bionic exoskeleton suits and unlimited clean
- () promises of technology finally happen." Let's get together again in 2030 and compare notes on how things went.
- () for us. Many hope the New Year will see an upturn in their fortunes and those of planet Earth. The past decade could be
- () energy. He told cnet.com that: "Some technologies will take longer to reach the
- () extinct. There is hope that technology and greater cooperation between nations will make the 2020s a better decade.

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

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

1. The to herald arrival . clock twelve struck the
2. new have What decade might the store . in
3. being of existence Fears in peril . very our
4. to the continued around have world . Wars rage
5. endangered became extinct . Thousands of species or
6. realms into fiction . the science Advance further of
7. brains computers . hooking to Far-out up like ideas
8. masses to reach longer Take than the others .
9. of happen . The technology promises finally incredible
10. went . notes things on Let's compare how

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

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

As the clock *struck* / *stricken* twelve midnight to *herald* / *herbal* the arrival of the 2020s, people the world over were filled with a mixture of *optimistic* / *optimism* and pessimism at what the new decade might have in *store* / *shop* for us. Many hope the New Year will see an *overturn* / *upturn* in their fortunes and *those* / *them* of planet Earth. The past decade could be described as having been somewhat tumultuous. Global warming stoked fears of our very existence being in *prevail* / *peril*; wars and conflict have continued to *rage* / *gauge* around the world; millions still lack *basic* / *basically* things like clean water and education; and thousands of species became endangered or *extinction* / *extinct*. There is hope that technology and greater cooperation between nations will make the 2020s a better decade.

The technology website cnet.com *predicated* / *predicted* that many of us will advance further into the *realms* / *roams* of science fiction. It wrote: "The decade *begins* / *beginning* in 2020 will take us even further toward a world where *far-out* / *faraway* ideas like hooking brains up to computers, and even *immortality* / *immortal*, become topics of serious conversation." Futurologist Vivek Wadhwa wrote about the *prospectus* / *prospect* of flying cars, bionic exoskeleton suits and unlimited clean energy. He told cnet.com that: "Some technologies will take longer to reach the *mass* / *masses* than others, but they will be at *arm* / *hand*. The 2020s will be when the incredible *promissory* / *promises* of technology finally happen." Let's get together again in 2030 and compare *notes* / *lines* on how things went.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

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

A s t h _ c l _ c k s t r _ c k t w _ l v _ m _ d n _ g h t t _
h _ r _ l d t h _ _ r r _ v _ l _ f t h _ 2 0 2 0 s , p _ _ p l _ t h _
w _ r l d _ v _ r w _ r _ f l l _ d w _ t h _ _ m _ x t _ r _ _ f _ p
t _ m _ s m _ n d p _ s s _ m _ s m _ t w h _ t t h _ n _ w _ d _ c _ d _
m _ g h t h _ v _ _ n s t r _ _ f r _ _ s . M _ n y h _ p _ t h _
N _ w Y _ _ r w _ l l s _ _ _ n _ p t _ r n _ n t h _ _ r f _ r
t _ n _ s _ n d t h _ s _ _ f p l _ n _ t E _ r t h . T h _ p _ s t
d _ c _ d _ c _ _ l d b _ _ d _ s c r _ b _ d _ s h _ v _ n g b _ _ n
s _ m _ w h _ t t _ m _ l t _ _ _ s . G l _ b _ l w _ r m _ n g s t _ k _ d
f _ _ r s _ f _ _ r v _ r y _ x _ s t _ n c _ b _ _ n g _ n p _ r _ l ;
w _ r s _ n d c _ n f l _ c t h _ v _ c _ n t _ n _ _ d t _ r _ g _ _ r _ _ n
d t h _ w _ r l d ; m _ l l _ _ n s s t _ l l l _ c k b _ s _ c t
h _ n g s l _ k _ c l _ _ n w _ t _ r _ n d _ d _ c _ t _ _ n ; _ n d t
h _ _ s _ n d s _ f s p _ c _ _ s b _ c _ m _ _ n d _ n g _ r _ d _ r _ x
t _ n c t . T h _ r _ _ s h _ p _ t h _ t t _ c h n _ l _ g _ y _ n d g
r _ _ t _ r c _ _ p _ r _ t _ _ n b _ t w _ _ n n _ t _ _ n s w _ l l
m _ k _ t h _ 2 0 2 0 s _ b _ t t _ r d _ c _ d _ .

T h _ t _ c h n _ l _ g _ y w _ b s _ t _ c n _ t . c _ m p r _ d _ c t _ d t
h _ t m _ n y _ f _ s w _ l l _ d v _ n c _ f _ r t h _ r _ n t _ t h _
r _ _ l m s _ f s c _ _ n c _ f _ c t _ _ n . I t w r _ t _ : " T h _
d _ c _ d _ b _ g _ n n _ n g _ n 2 0 2 0 w _ l l t _ k _ _ s _ v _ n
f _ r t h _ r t _ w _ r d _ _ w _ r l d w h _ r _ f _ r _ _ _ t _ d _ _ s
l _ k _ h _ _ k _ n g b r _ _ n s _ p t _ c _ m p _ t _ r s , _ n d
_ v _ n _ m m _ r t _ l _ t y , b _ c _ m _ t _ p _ c _ s _ f s _ r _ _ _ s c _ n
v _ r s _ t _ _ n . " F _ t _ r _ l _ g _ s t V _ v _ k W _ d h w _ w r _ t _
_ b _ _ t t h _ p r _ s p _ c t _ f f l y _ n g c _ r s , b _ _ n _ c
_ x _ s k _ l _ t _ n s _ _ t s _ n d _ n l _ m _ t _ d c l _ _ n _ n _ r g y .
H _ t _ l d c n _ t . c _ m t h _ t : " S _ m _ t _ c h n _ l _ g _ _ s
w _ l l t _ k _ l _ n g _ r t _ r _ _ c h t h _ m _ s _ s _ s t h _ n _ t
h _ r s , b _ t t h _ y w _ l l b _ _ t h _ n d . T h _ 2 0 2 0 s
w _ l l b _ w h _ n t h _ _ n c r _ d _ b l _ p r _ m _ s _ s _ f t _ c h
n _ l _ g _ y f _ n _ l l y h _ p _ p _ n . " L _ t ' s g _ t t _ g _ t h _ r
_ g _ _ n _ n 2 0 3 0 _ n d c _ m p _ r _ n _ t _ s _ n h _ w t
h _ n g s w _ n t .

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

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

as the clock struck twelve midnight to herald the arrival of the 2020s people the world over were filled with a mixture of optimism and pessimism at what the new decade might have in store for us many hope the new year will see an upturn in their fortunes and those of planet earth the past decade could be described as having been somewhat tumultuous global warming stoked fears of our very existence being in peril wars and conflict have continued to rage around the world millions still lack basic things like clean water and education and thousands of species became endangered or extinct there is hope that technology and greater cooperation between nations will make the 2020s a better decade

the technology website cnetcom predicted that many of us will advance further into the realms of science fiction it wrote the decade beginning in 2020 will take us even further toward a world where farout ideas like hooking brains up to computers and even immortality become topics of serious conversation futurologist vivek wadhwa wrote about the prospect of flying cars bionic exoskeleton suits and unlimited clean energy he told cnetcom that some technologies will take longer to reach the masses than others but they will be at hand the 2020s will be when the incredible promises of technology finally happen lets get together again in 2030 and compare notes on how things went

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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

As the clock struck twelve midnight to herald the arrival of the 2020s, people the world over were filled with a mixture of optimism and pessimism at what the new decade might have in store for us. Many hope the New Year will see an upturn in their fortunes and those of planet Earth. The past decade could be described as having been somewhat tumultuous. Global warming stoked fears of our very existence being in peril; wars and conflict have continued to rage around the world; millions still lack basic things like clean water and education; and thousands of species became endangered or extinct. There is hope that technology and greater cooperation between nations will make the 2020s a better decade. The technology website cnet.com predicted that many of us will advance further into the realm of science fiction. It wrote: "The decade beginning in 2020 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." Futurologist Vivek Wadhwa wrote about the prospect of flying cars, bionic exoskeleton suits and unlimited clean energy. He told cnet.com that: "Some technologies will take longer to reach the masses than others, but they will be a hand. The 2020s will be when the incredible promises of technology finally happen." Let's get together again in 2030 and compare notes on how things went.

FREE WRITING

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

Write about **the 2020s** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner’s paper.

A series of horizontal lines for writing.

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. THE 2020s: Make a poster about the 2020s. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. THE BEST DECADE: Write a magazine article about the 2020s being the best decade ever. Include imaginary interviews with people who believe this is true and with people who do not think the 2020s will be so great.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on the 2020s. Ask him/her three questions about the decade. Give him/her three of your predictions for the next 10 years. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. c 2. e 3. d 4. a 5. f 6. g 7. b
8. k 9. h 10. i 11. n 12. m 13. j 14. l

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- a F b F c T d T e F f T g T h T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. h	2. e	3. j	4. b	5. c
6. g	7. i	8. f	9. d	10. a

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. The arrival of the 2020s
2. Earth's fortunes
3. Global warming
4. Clean water and education
5. Nations
6. Science fiction
7. Far-out
8. Immortality
9. The masses
10. In 2030

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. The clock struck twelve to herald the arrival.
2. What the new decade might have in store.
3. Fears of our very existence being in peril.
4. Wars have continued to rage around the world.
5. Thousands of species became endangered or extinct.
6. Advance further into the realms of science fiction.
7. Far-out ideas like hooking brains up to computers.
8. Take longer to reach the masses than others.
9. The incredible promises of technology finally happen.
10. Let's compare notes on how things went.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. c 2. a 3. b 4. d 5. c 6. b 7. d 8. b 9. b 10. a

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)