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Level 3 – 17th April, 2020

50,000-year-old piece of string found

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200417-piece-of-string.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200417-piece-of-string.html>

Archaeologists have discovered the oldest piece of string ever found. The archaeologists are very happy about their find. The first reason they are happy is that the string they found is around 50,000 years old. The second reason is that the string shows that Neanderthals were more intelligent than we previously thought they were. Neanderthals were an early species of humans that became extinct about 35,000 years ago. The string shows that Neanderthals had a good understanding of plants and textiles. The archaeologists say Neanderthals may have used the string to make clothes, bags, rope, mats and other things. This means they were probably as intelligent as modern humans.

The piece of string that the archaeologists found was tiny but it reveals a lot about how people lived 50,000 years ago. Dr Marie-Helene Moncel, director of research at the National Museum of Natural History in Paris, said: "We were able to uncover details about the fibres and we observed that they're different, twisted fibres. It is not possible to find these kinds of fibres in nature." She added: "In my opinion, different things can be related to this discovery. Obviously, the ability of Neanderthals to make cord, but also their huge knowledge about trees. They knew about vegetation, plants and trees, and had the intelligence to use different parts of the environment."

Sources: <https://uk.news.yahoo.com/oldest-string-neanderthal-181822003.html>
<https://metro.co.uk/2020/04/13/oldest-piece-string-found-neanderthal-dwelling-12548889/>
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/neanderthals-string-discovery-50000-years-old-france-scientists-abri-du-maras-a9462706.html>

WARM-UPS

1. STRING: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about string. 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?

archaeologist / string / happy / reason / intelligent / species / humans / plants / bags
tiny / 50,000 years ago / research / museum / nature / discovery / knowledge / trees

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

3. INTELLIGENCE: Students A **strongly** believe humans are the most intelligent creatures on the planet; Students B **strongly** believe they are not. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. UNDERSTANDING: How is your understanding of these things? How useful is a knowledge of these things? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Your Understanding	Usefulness
String		
Neanderthals		
Nature		
Trees		
Environment		
Discoveries		

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

6. USES: Rank these with your partner. Put the best uses of string at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- shoelaces
- washing line
- tying up plants
- violins and guitars
- yo-yo
- toys
- weaving
- kites

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. archeologist | a. A group of living things that are similar and can produce babies. |
| 2. reason | b. People. |
| 3. intelligent | c. A person who studies human history by digging old sites and looking for very old things. |
| 4. previously | d. A cause of something happening. |
| 5. species | e. At an earlier time; before. |
| 6. textiles | f. Cloth and fabric. |
| 7. humans | g. Having or showing the ability to get and use knowledge and skills. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 8. tiny | h. Very, very big. |
| 9. reveals | i. A belief about something. |
| 10. uncover | j. A tiny part of tissue that is used to make fabric and cloth. |
| 11. fibre | k. Very, very small. |
| 12. opinion | l. Living (usually green) things that need sunlight and water, like grass, flowers, trees, herbs, moss, etc. |
| 13. huge | m. Shows for the first time. |
| 14. plants | n. Found something that no one knew about before. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200417-piece-of-string.html>

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

- a. Archaeologists are not very happy with finding the string. **T / F**
- b. Scientists say Neanderthals were more intelligent than we thought. **T / F**
- c. Neanderthals died out about 35,000 years ago. **T / F**
- d. The archaeologists said Neanderthals used string to make silk. **T / F**
- e. The string shows very little about how Neanderthals lived. **T / F**
- f. A researcher found that the string was not found in nature. **T / F**
- g. Neanderthals had a lot of knowledge of trees and plants. **T / F**
- h. Neanderthals used different parts of the environment. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1. discovered | a. knowledge |
| 2. happy | b. bits |
| 3. shows | c. very small |
| 4. understanding | d. reveals |
| 5. intelligent | e. find out |
| 6. tiny | f. found |
| 7. uncover | g. very big |
| 8. opinion | h. clever |
| 9. huge | i. pleased |
| 10. parts | j. belief |

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

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. archaeologists are very happy | a. of humans |
| 2. more intelligent than | b. as modern humans |
| 3. an early species | c. of the environment |
| 4. make clothes, bags, rope, mats | d. people lived |
| 5. they were probably as intelligent | e. fibres in nature |
| 6. it reveals a lot about how | f. and other things |
| 7. We were able to uncover | g. to this discovery |
| 8. possible to find these kinds of | h. about their find |
| 9. different things can be related | i. details about the fibres |
| 10. use different parts | j. we previously thought |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200417-piece-of-string.html>

Archaeologists have (1) _____ the oldest piece of string ever found. The archaeologists are very happy about their (2) _____. The first reason they are (3) _____ is that the string they found is around 50,000 years old. The second (4) _____ is that the string shows that Neanderthals were more intelligent than we previously thought they were. Neanderthals were an early (5) _____ of humans that became extinct about 35,000 years ago. The string shows that Neanderthals had a (6) _____ understanding of plants and textiles. The archaeologists say Neanderthals may have used the string to make clothes, bags, rope, (7) _____ and other things. This means they were probably as intelligent as (8) _____ humans.

reason
good
find
modern
discovered
mats
happy
species

The piece of string that the archaeologists found was (9) _____ but it reveals a (10) _____ about how people lived 50,000 years ago. Dr Marie-Helene Moncel, (11) _____ of research at the National Museum of Natural History in Paris, said: "We were (12) _____ to uncover details about the fibres and we (13) _____ that they're different, twisted fibres. It is not possible to find these kinds of fibres in nature." She added: "In my (14) _____, different things can be related to this discovery. Obviously, the ability of Neanderthals to make cord, but also their huge knowledge about (15) _____. They knew about vegetation, plants and trees, and had the intelligence to use (16) _____ parts of the environment."

director
observed
different
able
trees
tiny
lot
opinion

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200417-piece-of-string.html>

- 1) Archaeologists have discovered the oldest piece of _____
 - a. string never found
 - b. string ever found
 - c. string even found
 - d. string every found
- 2) The archaeologists are very happy _____
 - a. about their fund
 - b. about their found
 - c. about their fond
 - d. about their find
- 3) Neanderthals were more intelligent than we _____
 - a. previous thought
 - b. previously thoughtful
 - c. previous thoughtless
 - d. previously thought
- 4) Neanderthals were an early species of humans that _____
 - a. became extinct
 - b. became exact
 - c. became extant
 - d. became exit
- 5) used the string to make clothes, bags, rope, mats _____
 - a. and another things
 - b. and others things
 - c. and other things
 - d. and others' things
- 6) The piece of string that the archaeologists found was tiny but it _____
 - a. reveal a lot
 - b. reveals a lot
 - c. reveals a lot
 - d. repeal a lot
- 7) We were able to uncover details _____
 - a. about a fibres
 - b. about the fibrous
 - c. about the fibres
 - d. about the fabulous
- 8) It is not possible to find these kinds of fibres _____
 - a. in nature
 - b. on nature
 - c. in natural
 - d. in natures
- 9) the ability of Neanderthals to make cord, but also their _____ trees
 - a. huge knowledge about
 - b. hug knowledge about
 - c. luge knowledge about
 - d. fugue knowledge about
- 10) and had the intelligence to use different _____ environment
 - a. parts of those
 - b. parts of some
 - c. parts of a
 - d. parts of the

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200417-piece-of-string.html>

Archaeologists have discovered the oldest piece of (1) _____. The archaeologists are very happy about their find. The first reason they are happy is that the string they (2) _____ 50,000 years old. The second reason is that the string shows that Neanderthals were more intelligent (3) _____ thought they were. Neanderthals were an early species of humans that (4) _____ 35,000 years ago. The string shows that Neanderthals had a good understanding of (5) _____. The archaeologists say Neanderthals may have used the string to make clothes, bags, rope, mats and other things. This means they were probably as intelligent (6) _____.

The piece of string that the archaeologists found was tiny (7) _____ a lot about how people lived 50,000 years ago. Dr Marie-Helene Moncel, (8) _____ at the National Museum of Natural History in Paris, said: "We were able to uncover details about the fibres and (9) _____ they're different, twisted fibres. It is not possible to find these kinds of fibres in nature." She added: "(10) _____, different things can be related to this discovery. Obviously, the ability of Neanderthals to make cord, but (11) _____ knowledge about trees. They knew about vegetation, plants and trees, and had (12) _____ use different parts of the environment."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200417-piece-of-string.html>

1. How do the archaeologists feel about finding the string?
2. What are Neanderthals?
3. When did Neanderthals die out?
4. What did Neanderthals have a good understanding of?
5. Who or what were Neanderthals probably as intelligent as?
6. What does the string reveal about Neanderthals?
7. What kind of fibres did a researcher say were in the string?
8. Where did a researcher say it was not possible to find the fibres?
9. What did a researcher say Neanderthals had a huge knowledge about?
10. What did Neanderthals use different parts of?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200417-piece-of-string.html>

- 1) How do the archaeologists feel about finding the string?
 - a) unsure
 - b) sad
 - c) puzzled
 - d) happy
- 2) What are Neanderthals?
 - a) Stone Age people
 - b) an early species of humans
 - c) ancient Egyptians
 - d) people who ate only meat
- 3) When did Neanderthals die out?
 - a) about 50,000 years ago
 - b) about 45,000 years ago
 - c) about 40,000 years ago
 - d) about 35,000 years ago
- 4) What did Neanderthals have a good understanding of?
 - a) dinosaurs
 - b) caves
 - c) plants and textiles
 - d) the stars
- 5) Who or what were Neanderthals probably as intelligent as?
 - a) today's computers
 - b) dolphins
 - c) dogs
 - d) modern humans
- 6) What does the string reveal about Neanderthals?
 - a) their fashion
 - b) their hobbies
 - c) how they lived
 - d) very little
- 7) What kind of fibres did a researcher say were in the string?
 - a) twisted fibres
 - b) thick fibres
 - c) colourful fibres
 - d) plain fibres
- 8) Where did a researcher say it was not possible to find the fibres?
 - a) in Europe
 - b) in shops
 - c) in nature
 - d) on sheep
- 9) What did a researcher say Neanderthals had a huge knowledge about?
 - a) the sea
 - b) trees
 - c) sewing
 - d) animals
- 10) What did Neanderthals use different parts of?
 - a) the environment
 - b) their body
 - c) flowers
 - d) animals

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200417-piece-of-string.html>

Role A – Shoelaces

You think shoelaces are the best use of string. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their uses. Also, tell the others which of these least need string (and why): guitars, yo-yos or kites.

Role B – Guitars

You think guitars are the best use of string. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their uses. Also, tell the others which of these least need string (and why): shoelaces, yo-yos or kites.

Role C – Yo-Yos

You think yo-yos are the best use of string. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their uses. Also, tell the others which of these least need string (and why): guitars, shoelaces or kites.

Role D – Kites

You think kites are the best use of string. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their uses. Also, tell the others which of these least need string (and why): guitars, yo-yos or shoelaces.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200417-piece-of-string.html>

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

piece	string

- 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">• ever• first• second• early• good• means	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• tiny• uncover• possible• opinion• huge• use
--	--

STRING SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200417-piece-of-string.html>

Write five GOOD questions about string 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.

STRING 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 'string'?
3. How important is string?
4. What do you use string for?
5. When was the last time you used a piece of string?
6. What kinds of string are there?
7. How long is a piece of string?
8. What do you think the 50,000-year-old string was used for?
9. What do you know about Neanderthals?
10. How important are textiles?

50,000-year-old piece of string found – 17th April, 2020
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STRING 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 'archaeologist'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you think life was like 50,000 years ago?
15. What could we use instead of string?
16. How interested are you in natural history?
17. What do archaeologists do every day?
18. Would you like to be an archaeologist?
19. What do you know about trees?
20. What questions would you like to ask the archaeologists?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

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

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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/2004/200417-piece-of-string.html>

Archaeologists have discovered the oldest piece of string (1) _____ found. The archaeologists are very happy about their find. The (2) _____ reason they are happy is that the string they found is around 50,000 years old. The second reason is that the string shows that Neanderthals were more intelligent than we (3) _____ thought they were. Neanderthals were an early species of humans that became (4) _____ about 35,000 years ago. The string shows that Neanderthals had a good understanding of plants and textiles. The archaeologists say Neanderthals may have (5) _____ the string to make clothes, bags, rope, mats and other things. This means they were probably as intelligent (6) _____ modern humans.

The piece of string that the archaeologists found was (7) _____ but it reveals a lot about how people lived 50,000 years ago. Dr Marie-Helene Moncel, director of research at the National Museum of Natural History in Paris, said: "We were (8) _____ to uncover details about the fibres and we observed that they're different, twisted fibres. It is not possible to find (9) _____ kinds of fibres in nature." She added: "In (10) _____ opinion, different things can be related to this discovery. Obviously, the ability of Neanderthals to make cord, but also their huge (11) _____ about trees. They knew about vegetation, plants and trees, and had the intelligence to use different parts of (12) _____ environment."

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) ever | (b) even | (c) every | (d) never |
| 2. | (a) firstly | (b) firsts | (c) first | (d) thirst |
| 3. | (a) precious | (b) proves | (c) previously | (d) prevails |
| 4. | (a) exact | (b) exist | (c) expert | (d) extinct |
| 5. | (a) used | (b) use | (c) uses | (d) useful |
| 6. | (a) was | (b) as | (c) is | (d) has |
| 7. | (a) toned | (b) tainted | (c) tinny | (d) tiny |
| 8. | (a) can | (b) able | (c) really | (d) wholly |
| 9. | (a) them | (b) there | (c) these | (d) they |
| 10. | (a) thus | (b) my | (c) which | (d) how |
| 11. | (a) like | (b) growing | (c) aware | (d) knowledge |
| 12. | (a) bit | (b) the | (c) whole | (d) us |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200417-piece-of-string.html>

Paragraph 1

1. desoviecdr the oldest piece of string
2. The first saerno they are happy
3. we pvyoluires thought they were
4. an early cpsesie of humans
5. became ticnxte about 35,000 years ago
6. they were probably as itinllteeng

Paragraph 2

7. it srelave a lot
8. find these kinds of fibres in ertanu
9. In my nponoii
10. their huge edwelognk about trees
11. veeoagtitn, plants and trees
12. different parts of the otvirnnmeen

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200417-piece-of-string.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () 50,000 years old. The second reason is that the string shows that Neanderthals were more intelligent
- () to uncover details about the fibres and we observed that they're different, twisted fibres. It is not
- () things. This means they were probably as intelligent as modern humans.
- () the intelligence to use different parts of the environment."
- () than we previously thought they were. Neanderthals were an early species of humans that became
- (**1**) Archaeologists have discovered the oldest piece of string ever found. The archaeologists are very happy
- () knowledge about trees. They knew about vegetation, plants and trees, and had
- () possible to find these kinds of fibres in nature." She added: "In my opinion, different things can
- () extinct about 35,000 years ago. The string shows that Neanderthals had a good understanding of plants
- () ago. Dr Marie-Helene Moncel, director of research at the National Museum of Natural History in Paris, said: "We were able
- () about their find. The first reason they are happy is that the string they found is around
- () and textiles. The archaeologists say Neanderthals may have used the string to make clothes, bags, rope, mats and other
- () The piece of string that the archaeologists found was tiny but it reveals a lot about how people lived 50,000 years
- () be related to this discovery. Obviously, the ability of Neanderthals to make cord, but also their huge

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200417-piece-of-string.html>

1. string ever the Discovered of found . piece oldest
2. their very happy about find . archaeologists are The
3. more were than thought . intelligent we Neanderthals previously
4. string Neanderthals make clothes . have to may used
5. were humans . as probably They as intelligent modern
6. how about a reveals It lived . people lot
7. able about fibres . details We were to uncover
8. fibres . find of these to possible Not kinds
9. be things Different this discovery . related to can
10. use of different Intelligence environment . to the parts

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200417-piece-of-string.html>

Archaeologists have discovered the oldest piece of string *never / ever* found. The archaeologists are very happy about their *found / find*. The first reason they are happy is that the string they found is around 50,000 years old. The *second / secondly* reason is that the string shows that Neanderthals were more *intelligence / intelligent* than we previously thought they were. Neanderthals were an early species *of / to* humans that became extinct about 35,000 years ago. The string *shown / shows* that Neanderthals had a good understanding of plants and *reptiles / textiles*. The archaeologists say Neanderthals may have used the string to make clothes, *bag / bags*, rope, mats and other things. This means they were *probably / probable* as intelligent as modern *humans / humane*.

The piece of string that the archaeologists found was *tinny / tiny* but it reveals a lot about how people *living / lived* 50,000 years ago. Dr Marie-Helene Moncel, director of research *on / at* the National Museum of Natural History in Paris, said: "We were able to uncover details about *a / the* fibres and we observed that they're different, twisted fibres. It is not *possibly / possible* to find these kinds of fibres in *natural / nature*." She added: "In my opinion, different things can be *related / relation* to this discovery. Obviously, the *ability / able* of Neanderthals to make cord, but also their huge knowledge about trees. They knew *around / about* vegetation, plants and trees, and had the intelligence to use different *parts / party* of the environment."

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/2004/200417-piece-of-string.html>

A r c h__ l_g_s t s h_v_ d_s c_v_r_d t h_ _l_d_s t p__
c_ _f s t r_n g _v_r f__ n d . T h_ _r c h__ _l_g_s t s
r v_r y h_p p y _b__ t t h__ r f_n d . T h_ f_r s t
r__ s_n t h_y _r_ h_p p y _s t h_t t h_ s t r_n g t
h_y f__ n d _s _r__ n d 5 0 , 0 0 0 y__ r s _l d . T
h_ s_c_n d r__ s_n _s t h_t t h_ s t r_n g s h_w s t
h_t N__ n d_r t h_l s w_r_ m_r_ _n t_l l_g_n t t h_n
w_ p_r_v__ _s l y t h__ g h t t h_y w_r_ . N__ n d_r t
h_l s w_r_ _n __ r l y s p_c__ s _f h_m_n s t h_t
b_c_m_ _x t_n c t _b__ t 3 5 , 0 0 0 y__ r s _g_ . T h_
s t r_n g s h_w s t h_t N__ n d_r t h_l s h_d _ g__ d
_n d_r s t_n d_n g _f p l_n t s _n d t_x t_l s . T h_ _r
c h__ _l_g_s t s s_y N__ n d_r t h_l s m_y h_v_ _s_d
t h_ s t r_n g t_ m_k_ c l_t h_s , b_g s , r_p_ , m_t s
_n d _t h_r t h_n g s . T h_s m__ n s t h_y w_r_ p
r_b_b l y _s _n t_l l_g_n t _s m_d_r n h_m_n s .

T h_ p__ c_ _f s t r_n g t h_t t h_ _r c h__ _l_g_s t s
f__ n d w_s t_n y b_t _t r_v__ l s _ l_t _b__ t
h_w p__ p_l _l_v_d 5 0 , 0 0 0 y__ r s _g_ . D r
M_r__ - H_l_n_ M_n c_l , d_r_c t_r _f r_s__ r c h _t t
h_ N_t__ n_l M_s__ m _f N_t_r_l H_s t_r y _n P_r_s
, s__ d : " W_ w_r_ _b_l_ t _n c_v_r d_t__ l s _b__ t
t h_ f_b r_s _n d w_ _b_s_r v_d t h_t t h_y 'r_ d_f
f_r_n t , t w_s t_d f_b r_s . I t _s n_t p_s s_b l_ t_
f_n d t h_s_ k_n d s _f f_b r_s _n n_t_r_ . " S h_ _d
d_d : " I n m_y _p_n__ n , d_f f_r_n t t h_n g s c_n
b_ r_l_t_d t_ t h_s d_s c_v_r y . O b v__ _s l y , t h_
_b_l_t y _f N__ n d_r t h_l s t_ m_k_ c_r d , b_t _l
s_ t h__ r h_g_ k_n_w l_d g_ _b__ t t r__ s . T h_y k
n_w _b__ t v_g_t_t__ n , p_l_n t s _n d t r__ s , _n d
h_d t h_ _n t_l l_g_n c_ t_ _s_ d_f f_r_n t p_r_t s _f t
h_ _n v_r_n m_n t . "

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200417-piece-of-string.html>

archaeologists have discovered the oldest piece of string ever found the archaeologists are very happy about their find the first reason they are happy is that the string they found is around 50000 years old the second reason is that the string shows that neanderthals were more intelligent than we previously thought they were neanderthals were an early species of humans that became extinct about 35000 years ago the string shows that neanderthals had a good understanding of plants and textiles the archaeologists say neanderthals may have used the string to make clothes bags rope mats and other things this means they were probably as intelligent as modern humans

the piece of string that the archaeologists found was tiny but it reveals a lot about how people lived 50000 years ago dr mariehelene moncel director of research at the national museum of natural history in paris said we were able to uncover details about the fibres and we observed that theyre different twisted fibres it is not possible to find these kinds of fibres in nature she added in my opinion different things can be related to this discovery obviously the ability of neanderthals to make cord but also their huge knowledge about trees they knew about vegetation plants and trees and had the intelligence to use different parts of the environment

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200417-piece-of-string.html>

Archaeologists have discovered the oldest piece of string ever found. The archaeologists are very happy about their find. The first reason they are happy is that the string they found is around 50,000 years old. The second reason is that the string shows that Neanderthals were more intelligent than we previously thought they were. Neanderthals were a nearly species of human that became extinct about 35,000 years ago. The string shows that Neanderthals had a good understanding of plants and textiles. The archaeologists say Neanderthals may have used the string to make clothes, bags, rope, mats and other things. This means they were probably as intelligent as modern humans. The piece of string that the archaeologists found was tiny but it reveals a lot about how people lived 50,000 years ago. Dr Marie-Helene Moncel, director of research at the National Museum of Natural History in Paris, said: "We were able to uncover details about the fibres and we observed that they're different, twisted fibres. It is not possible to find these kinds of fibres in nature." She added: "In my opinion, different things can be related to this discovery. Obviously, the ability of Neanderthals to make cord, but also their huge knowledge about trees. They knew about vegetation, plants and trees, and had the intelligence to use different parts of the environment."

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. STRING: Make a poster about string. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. 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.

5. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on string. Ask him/her three questions about string. Give him/her three of your ideas. 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. d 3. g 4. e 5. a 6. f 7. b
8. k 9. m 10. n 11. j 12. i 13. h 14. l

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Happy
- An early species of humans
- About 35,000 years ago
- Plants and textiles
- Modern humans
- How they lived
- Twisted fibres
- In nature
- Trees
- The environment

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

- Discovered the oldest piece of string ever found.
- The archaeologists are very happy about their find.
- Neanderthals were more intelligent than we previously thought.
- Neanderthals may have used string to make clothes.
- They were probably as intelligent as modern humans.
- It reveals a lot about how people lived.
- We were able to uncover details about fibres.
- Not possible to find these kinds of fibres.
- Different things can be related to this discovery.
- Intelligence to use different parts of the environment.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. d 2. b 3. d 4. c 5. d 6. c 7. a 8. c 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 ;-)