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Level 5 – 19th June, 2021

World's first wooden satellite tested

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2016/210619-wooden-satellite-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2016/210619-wooden-satellite-5.html>

Advanced technology is getting back to nature with the testing of a satellite that is largely made from plywood. The Woodsat is the brainchild of engineer Jari Makinen, co-founder of a company called Arctic Astronautics. It is just 10cm cubed in size. Mr Makinen tested his DIY device in the stratosphere. He attached it to a weather balloon and it went to an altitude of 30km above Earth. As planned, the balloon exploded and Woodsat safely parachuted back to Earth. All communications equipment survived the harsh conditions as it came back.

Makinen plans to launch Woodsat into space this year to achieve his dream. He started a company to produce wooden replicas of orbit-ready miniature satellites. He explained: "I've always enjoyed making model planes that involve a lot of wooden parts. Having worked in the space education field, this got me wondering why we don't fly any wooden materials into space." He thought of the idea for Woodsat in 2017 and "the project just snowballed". He said: "We found commercial backing, and secured a [place] on...a launcher from Rocket Lab in New Zealand."

Sources: <https://www.cnet.com/news/first-wooden-satellite-in-the-world-aims-to-prove-plywood-can-survive-space/>
<https://scitechdaily.com/worlds-first-wooden-satellite-set-to-launch-can-plywood-survive-in-space/>
<https://www.woodworkingnetwork.com/news/woodworking-industry-news/worlds-first-wooden-satellite-passes-test-flight>
<https://www.wisaplywood.com/wisawoodsat/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2016/210619-wooden-satellite-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. advanced | a. cubed in size |
| 2. getting back | b. of an engineer |
| 3. a satellite that is largely made | c. conditions |
| 4. the brainchild | d. to nature |
| 5. It is just 10cm | e. to a weather balloon |
| 6. He attached it | f. above Earth |
| 7. it went to an altitude of 30km | g. technology |
| 8. survived the harsh | h. from plywood |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Makinen plans to launch Woodsat | a. snowballed |
| 2. achieve his | b. a company |
| 3. He started | c. making model planes |
| 4. produce wooden | d. backing |
| 5. I've always enjoyed | e. into space |
| 6. this got me wondering | f. replicas |
| 7. the project just | g. dream |
| 8. We found commercial | h. why |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2016/210619-wooden-satellite-5.html>

Advanced technology is getting (1) _____ with the testing of a satellite that is (2) _____ plywood. The Woodsat is the brainchild of engineer Jari Makinen, co-founder of a company called Arctic Astronautics. It is just 10cm (3) _____. Mr Makinen tested his DIY device in the stratosphere. He attached it to (4) _____ and it went to an altitude of 30km above Earth. As planned, the balloon exploded and Woodsat (5) _____ to Earth. All communications equipment survived (6) _____ as it came back.

Makinen (7) _____ Woodsat into space this year to achieve his dream. He started a (8) _____ wooden replicas of orbit-ready miniature satellites. He explained: "I've always enjoyed (9) _____ that involve a lot of wooden parts. Having worked in the (10) _____, this got me wondering why we don't fly (11) _____ into space." He thought of the idea for Woodsat in 2017 and "the project just snowballed". He said: "We (12) _____, and secured a [place] on...a launcher from Rocket Lab in New Zealand."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2016/210619-wooden-satellite-5.html>

Advanced technology is getting back to nature with the testing of a satellite that is largely made from plywood. The Woodsat is the brainchild of engineer Jari Mäkinen, co-founder of a company called Arctic Astronautics. It is just 10 cm cubed in size. Mr Mäkinen tested his DIY device in the stratosphere. He attached it to a weather balloon and it went to an altitude of 30 km above Earth. As planned, the balloon exploded and Woodsat safely parachuted back to Earth. All communication equipment survived the harsh conditions as it came back. Mäkinen plans to launch Woodsat into space this year to achieve his dream. He started a company to produce wooden replicas of orbit-ready miniature satellites. He explained: "I've always enjoyed making model planes that involve a lot of wooden parts. Having worked in the space education field, this got me wondering why we don't fly any wooden materials into space." He thought of the idea for Woodsat in 2017 and "the project just snowballed". He said: "We found commercial backing, and secured a [place] on... a launcher from Rocket Lab in New Zealand."

SATELLITES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2016/210619-wooden-satellite-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about satellites 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) _____

