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Level 2 – 29th June, 2021

Scientists show the world 'Dragon Man'

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210629-dragon-man-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210629-dragon-man-2.html>

Researchers showed an ancient skull to the world for the first time. The skull belongs to a new species of humans that lived in China 146,000 years ago. The species could be our closest relatives. The researchers nicknamed the person the skull came from "Dragon Man". It was originally found in the city of Harbin in 1933. The Chinese worker who found the skull decided to keep it safe from the Japanese army. He hid it at the bottom of his well. It stayed there for nearly 90 years. The man recently told his family about the skull. His family located it and gave it to scientists.

Dragon Man could change our understanding of human evolution. He was "a large-brained male in his 50s with deep-set eyes". He looked more like today's humans than other extinct members of the human family tree. Scientists say Dragon Man is closer to modern-day humans than Neanderthals were. Researcher Chris Stringer described Dragon Man's group. He said: "This population would have been hunter-gatherers, living off the land. From the winter temperatures in Harbin today, it looks like they were coping with even harsher cold than the Neanderthals."

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-57432104>
<https://asiatimes.com/2021/06/dragon-man-skull-offers-clues-to-human-evolution/>
<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-01738-w>
<https://doi.org/10.1038/d41586-021-01738-w>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210629-dragon-man-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Researchers showed an ancient | a. found the skull |
| 2. for the first | b. of humans |
| 3. The skull belongs to a new species | c. relatives |
| 4. our closest | d. it to scientists |
| 5. It was originally found in | e. skull to the world |
| 6. the Chinese worker who | f. Japanese army |
| 7. keep it safe from the | g. time |
| 8. His family located it and gave | h. the city of Harbin |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. change our understanding of human | a. the land |
| 2. He was a large-brained male in | b. humans |
| 3. deep-set | c. hunter-gatherers |
| 4. He looked more like today's | d. evolution |
| 5. Dragon Man is closer to modern- | e. cold |
| 6. This population would have been | f. his 50s |
| 7. living off | g. day humans |
| 8. coping with even harsher | h. eyes |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210629-dragon-man-2.html>

Researchers (1) _____ skull to the world for the first time. The skull belongs to (2) _____ of humans that lived in China 146,000 years ago. The species could be (3) _____. The researchers nicknamed the person the skull came from "Dragon Man". It was (4) _____ the city of Harbin in 1933. The Chinese worker who found the skull decided to keep it safe from the Japanese army. He (5) _____ the bottom of his well. It stayed there for nearly 90 years. The man recently told his family about the skull. His family (6) _____ gave it to scientists.

Dragon Man (7) _____ understanding of human evolution. He was "a (8) _____ in his 50s with deep-set eyes". He looked more like today's humans than other (9) _____ the human family tree. Scientists say Dragon Man is closer to (10) _____ than Neanderthals were. Researcher Chris Stringer described Dragon Man's group. He said: "This population would have been hunter-gatherers, living (11) _____. From the winter temperatures in Harbin today, it looks like they were coping with (12) _____ than the Neanderthals."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210629-dragon-man-2.html>

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ANCIENT HUMANS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210629-dragon-man-2.html>

Write five GOOD questions about ancient humans 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) _____

