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## New coronavirus can spread among humans

14th May, 2013

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1305/130514-coronavirus.html>

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# THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130514-coronavirus.html>

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has warned that a new coronavirus strain could be passed from human to human. The virus, called nCoV-EMC, looks like an offshoot of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), which killed 775 people and infected 8,273 between 2002-03. However, the WHO was quick to point out that the new strain isn't as virulent as SARS. The warning came after the 34th case worldwide came to light on Sunday. A man is in a "very serious but stable" condition in an intensive care unit in France. It is believed he contracted the virus while vacationing in Dubai in April. The new coronavirus has already claimed the lives of 18 people, 15 of the fatalities being in Saudi Arabia.

Coronavirus causes respiratory illnesses in both humans and animals. Unlike SARS, which spread from birds and animals to humans, the new strain could have mutated to spread between people. A WHO spokesman, Keiji Fukuda, told reporters in the Saudi capital Riyadh on Sunday that the new virus posed an "important and major challenge" for those countries already affected and for the whole world. He stressed that while the new virus was not SARS, it was very worrying. He said: "Of most concern is the fact that the different clusters seen in multiple countries increasingly support the hypothesis that when there is close contact, this coronavirus can transmit from person to person".

Sources: <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/europe/2013/05/2013512164333239266.html>  
<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887324216004578479220166561826.html>  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coronavirus#Recent\\_discoveries\\_of\\_novel\\_human\\_coronaviruses](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coronavirus#Recent_discoveries_of_novel_human_coronaviruses)

# WARM-UPS

**1. VIRUSES:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about viruses. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

*coronavirus / offshoot / syndrome / infected / virulent / worldwide / vacationing / illnesses / mutated / major challenge / clusters / hypothesis / person to person*

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

**3. PANDEMIC:** What advice should governments give if there is a deadly global pandemic? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners and share often.

Advice re...	Advice	Why?
travel		
medicine		
food		
large groups		
becoming ill		
health		

**4. SAFE:** Students A **strongly** believe scientists can keep the world safe from deadly viruses; Students B **strongly** believe they can't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. CONCERNS:** Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put your biggest concerns at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- virus pandemics
- computer viruses
- war
- money
- terrorism
- the environment
- your looks
- your English

**6. ILLNESS:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word 'illness'. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130514-coronavirus.html>

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

- a. The WHO confirmed an old coronavirus spreads between humans. T / F
- b. The new virus resembles a virus from 10 years ago called SARS. T / F
- c. SARS killed over 8,000 people between 2002-2003. T / F
- d. The new virus strain has caused the death of 18 Saudi Arabians. T / F
- e. SARS spread to humans via both birds and animals. T / F
- f. The new virus could have mutated to be contagious among humans. T / F
- g. The WHO said the virus was a worry not just in places already affected. T / F
- h. The WHO said the virus spreads without humans being in close contact. T / F

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the following synonyms from the article.

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. warned      | a. indicate    |
| 2. point out   | b. presented   |
| 3. virulent    | c. deaths      |
| 4. claimed     | d. leads to    |
| 5. fatalities  | e. transformed |
| 6. causes      | f. cautioned   |
| 7. mutated     | g. group       |
| 8. posed       | h. theory      |
| 9. cluster     | i. taken       |
| 10. hypothesis | j. infectious  |

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

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. a new coronavirus strain could be passed | a. as virulent as SARS   |
| 2. killed 775 people                        | b. and major challenge   |
| 3. the new strain isn't                     | c. lives of 18 people    |
| 4. in a very serious                        | d. illnesses             |
| 5. already claimed the                      | e. from human to human   |
| 6. respiratory                              | f. contact               |
| 7. the new strain                           | g. in multiple countries |
| 8. the new virus posed an important         | h. but stable condition  |
| 9. different clusters seen                  | i. could have mutated    |
| 10. when there is close                     | j. and infected 8,273    |

# GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130514-coronavirus.html>

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has warned that a new coronavirus (1) \_\_\_\_\_ could be passed from human to human. The virus, called nCoV-EMC, looks like an (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), which killed 775 people and (3) \_\_\_\_\_ 8,273 between 2002-03. However, the WHO was quick to point out that the new strain isn't as (4) \_\_\_\_\_ as SARS. The warning came after the 34th case worldwide came to (5) \_\_\_\_\_ on Sunday. A man is in a "very serious but stable" condition in an intensive (6) \_\_\_\_\_ unit in France. It is believed he contracted the virus while vacationing in Dubai in April. The new coronavirus has already (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the lives of 18 people, 15 of the (8) \_\_\_\_\_ being in Saudi Arabia.

*claimed*  
*infected*  
*light*  
*strain*  
*care*  
*offshoot*  
*fatalities*  
*virulent*

Coronavirus causes (9) \_\_\_\_\_ illnesses in both humans and animals. Unlike SARS, which spread from birds and animals to humans, the new strain could have (10) \_\_\_\_\_ to spread between people. A WHO spokesman, Keiji Fukuda, told reporters in the Saudi capital Riyadh on Sunday that the new virus (11) \_\_\_\_\_ an "important and (12) \_\_\_\_\_ challenge" for those countries already affected and for the whole world. He (13) \_\_\_\_\_ that while the new virus was not SARS, it was very worrying. He said: "Of most concern is the fact that the different (14) \_\_\_\_\_ seen in multiple countries increasingly (15) \_\_\_\_\_ the hypothesis that when there is close contact, this coronavirus can (16) \_\_\_\_\_ from person to person".

*major*  
*support*  
*mutated*  
*clusters*  
*respiratory*  
*transmit*  
*posed*  
*stressed*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130514-coronavirus.html>

- 1) a new coronavirus \_\_\_\_\_ passed from human to human
  - a. stain could be
  - b. strains could be
  - c. strain could be
  - d. strained could be
- 2) the WHO was quick to point out that the new strain isn't \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. as virulent as SARS
  - b. as virulence as SARS
  - c. as viral as SARS
  - d. as violent as SARS
- 3) The warning came after the 34th case worldwide \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday
  - a. came through light on
  - b. came two lights on
  - c. came too light on
  - d. came to light on
- 4) A man is in a "very serious but stable" condition in an \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. intensively care unit
  - b. intensive careful unit
  - c. intensive care unit
  - d. intensive care units
- 5) The new coronavirus has already claimed the lives of 18 people, 15 of \_\_\_\_\_ Saudi Arabia.
  - a. the fatality is being in
  - b. the fatalities be in an
  - c. the fatalities being in
  - d. the fatal ties being in
- 6) Coronavirus \_\_\_\_\_ in both humans and animals.
  - a. causes respiratory illnesses
  - b. causes respiration illnesses
  - c. causes respiratory illness
  - d. cause respiratory illnesses
- 7) the new strain could \_\_\_\_\_ spread between people
  - a. have mutated too
  - b. have mutated to
  - c. have mutation to
  - d. have mutant ad to
- 8) the new virus posed an "important \_\_\_\_\_"
  - a. and major challenge
  - b. and major challenges
  - c. and major challenged
  - d. and major challenging
- 9) He stressed that \_\_\_\_\_ was not SARS, it was very worrying
  - a. while a new virus
  - b. while the new virus
  - c. while this new virus
  - d. while that new virus
- 10) different clusters seen in multiple countries increasingly \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. support the hypothesis
  - b. support the hypotheses
  - c. support the hypothetical
  - d. support the hypothesises

## LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130514-coronavirus.html>

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has warned that a new coronavirus strain (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to human. The virus, called nCoV-EMC, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), which killed 775 people (3) \_\_\_\_\_ 2002-03. However, the WHO was quick to point out that the new strain isn't as virulent as SARS. The warning (4) \_\_\_\_\_ worldwide came to light on Sunday. A man is in a "very serious but stable" condition in an intensive care unit (5) \_\_\_\_\_ in France. It is believed he contracted the virus while vacationing in Dubai in April. The new coronavirus has (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of 18 people, 15 of the fatalities being in Saudi Arabia.

Coronavirus causes (7) \_\_\_\_\_ both humans and animals. Unlike SARS, which spread from birds and animals to humans, the new strain could have (8) \_\_\_\_\_ people. A WHO spokesman, Keiji Fukuda, told reporters in the Saudi capital Riyadh on Sunday that (9) \_\_\_\_\_ "important and major challenge" for those countries already affected and for the whole world. He stressed (10) \_\_\_\_\_ was not SARS, it was very worrying. He said: "Of most concern (11) \_\_\_\_\_ different clusters seen in multiple countries increasingly support the hypothesis that (12) \_\_\_\_\_, this coronavirus can transmit from person to person".

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130514-coronavirus.html>

1. What did the WHO warn of?

---

2. How many people did SARS infect and kill?

---

3. How is the man in a French hospital doing?

---

4. How did the man in France contract the virus?

---

5. How many fatalities have there been and where are they?

---

6. How does the new virus differ from SARS?

---

7. How could the new strain have arisen?

---

8. What did Mr Fukuda want to make people aware of?

---

9. Which countries face a challenge?

---

10. What hypothesis seems to be supported?

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# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130514-coronavirus.html>

1. What did the WHO warn of?
  - a) to wash our hands regularly
  - b) not to live near chickens
  - c) person-to-person infection
  - d) thousands of deaths
2. How many did SARS infect and kill?
  - a) it infected over 8,000 and killed 775
  - b) it infected fewer than 8,000 and killed 775
  - c) it infected 775 and killed 8,273
  - d) it infected fewer than 800 and killed fewer than 8,000
3. How is the man in the French hospital?
  - a) he's up and about
  - b) he's near to a full recovery
  - c) his vital signs are deteriorating
  - d) he's in a serious but stable condition
4. How did the man get the virus?
  - a) after eating chicken
  - b) while on holiday in the UAE
  - c) he was researching the virus
  - d) no one knows
5. How many fatalities have there been and where are they?
  - a) 775 worldwide
  - b) 80, 50 in Dubai
  - c) 18, 15 in Saudi Arabia
  - d) 3 in France
6. How does the virus differ from SARS?
  - a) it's identical
  - b) it can pass from person to person
  - c) it causes a fever
  - d) there's no hope of recovery
7. How could the new strain have arisen?
  - a) after an accident in a research lab
  - b) it's a long-lost prehistoric strain
  - c) it has always been with us
  - d) it could have mutated
8. What did Mr Fukuda want to make people aware of?
  - a) that wearing a mask eliminates any risk
  - b) that nCoV-EMC isn't SARS
  - c) that travelling could be dangerous
  - d) not to get too close to people
9. Which countries face a challenge?
  - a) every country
  - b) Saudi Arabia and the UAE
  - c) only France
  - d) those in the northern hemisphere
10. What hypothesis seems to be supported?
  - a) that viruses spread among humans
  - b) the nCoV-EMC hypothesis
  - c) the WHO / SARS hypothesis
  - d) that being near people can spread the virus

# ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130514-coronavirus.html>

## **Role A – Coronavirus worrier**

You think the coronavirus is the biggest threat to people's health. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why they are wrong to worry about their health concern. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): sodas, a lack of exercise or fast food.

## **Role B – Worried about sodas**

You think sodas are the biggest threat to people's health. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why they are wrong to worry about their health concern. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): the coronavirus, a lack of exercise or fast food.

## **Role C – Worried about lack of exercise**

You think a lack of exercise is the biggest threat to people's health. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why they are wrong to worry about their health concern. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): sodas, the coronavirus or fast food.

## **Role D – Fast food worrier**

You think fast food is the biggest threat to people's health. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why they are wrong to worry about their health concern. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): sodas, the coronavirus or fast food.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130514-coronavirus.html>

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

<b>virus</b>	<b>spread</b>
--------------	---------------

- 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"><li>• warned</li><li>• looks</li><li>• point</li><li>• light</li><li>• unit</li><li>• claimed</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• both</li><li>• mutated</li><li>• posed</li><li>• whole</li><li>• fact</li><li>• close</li></ul>
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# VIRUSES SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130514-coronavirus.html>

Write five GOOD questions about viruses 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.

# VIRUSES DISCUSSION

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

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'virus'?
- c) How much do you worry when you hear about the spread of viruses?
- d) How big a problem would it be if the coronavirus spread worldwide?
- e) What would governments do if the virus started killing thousands?
- f) What would you do if the virus was spreading in your country?
- g) How do you think the SARS virus was contained?
- h) Do you have confidence that scientists can provide vaccines for viruses?
- i) What do you know about the new coronavirus strain?

*New coronavirus can spread among humans – 14th May, 2013*  
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# VIRUSES DISCUSSION

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

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) Is infection among humans as dangerous as animal to human infection?
- c) What is being reported about the coronavirus in your country's press?
- d) What challenges does the virus pose to the world?
- e) What is a virus?
- f) When should governments start issuing health warnings and advice?
- g) Would you start avoiding people if the virus spread?
- h) How do new viruses keep appearing?
- i) What questions would you like to ask a virus expert?

# 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. \_\_\_\_\_

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - LANGUAGE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130514-coronavirus.html>

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has warned that a new coronavirus strain could be passed from human to human. The virus, called nCoV-EMC, looks like an (1) \_\_\_\_ of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), which killed 775 people and (2) \_\_\_\_ 8,273 between 2002-03. However, the WHO was quick to point (3) \_\_\_\_ that the new strain isn't as (4) \_\_\_\_ as SARS. The warning came after the 34th case worldwide came to light on Sunday. A man is in a "very serious but stable" condition in an (5) \_\_\_\_ care unit in France. It is believed he contracted the virus while vacationing in Dubai in April. The new coronavirus has already claimed the lives of 18 people, 15 of the fatalities (6) \_\_\_\_ in Saudi Arabia.

Coronavirus causes (7) \_\_\_\_ illnesses in both humans and animals. Unlike SARS, which spread from birds and animals to humans, the new strain could have (8) \_\_\_\_ to spread between people. A WHO spokesman, Keiji Fukuda, told reporters in the Saudi capital Riyadh on Sunday that the new virus (9) \_\_\_\_ an "important and major challenge" for those countries already (10) \_\_\_\_ and for the whole world. He stressed that while the new virus was not SARS, it was very (11) \_\_\_\_\_. He said: "Of most concern is the fact that the different clusters seen in multiple countries (12) \_\_\_\_ support the hypothesis that when there is close contact, this coronavirus can transmit from person to person".

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

- |     |                |                 |                  |                  |
|-----|----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1.  | (a) offshore   | (b) shore off   | (c) offshoot     | (d) shoot off    |
| 2.  | (a) infected   | (b) infection   | (c) infects      | (d) infect       |
| 3.  | (a) out        | (b) up          | (c) down         | (d) at           |
| 4.  | (a) virulent   | (b) flappable   | (c) ceramic      | (d) updating     |
| 5.  | (a) accidental | (b) intensive   | (c) extensive    | (d) experimental |
| 6.  | (a) happened   | (b) are         | (c) were         | (d) being        |
| 7.  | (a) perspiring | (b) preparatory | (c) respiratory  | (d) excruciating |
| 8.  | (a) coagulated | (b) consummated | (c) percolated   | (d) mutated      |
| 9.  | (a) posed      | (b) posted      | (c) postured     | (d) supposed     |
| 10. | (a) affected   | (b) affects     | (c) affective    | (d) affectation  |
| 11. | (a) worries    | (b) worrying    | (c) worried      | (d) worry        |
| 12. | (a) heightened | (b) upped       | (c) increasingly | (d) affirmed     |

# SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130514-coronavirus.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. looks like an ffoosoth
2. Severe Acute Respiratory rmenydSo
3. the new strain isn't as tvrenuli
4. an enitnsvei care unit
5. while cagantionvi in Dubai
6. 15 of the asfleitati

## Paragraph 2

7. lslessien in both humans and animals
8. ...could have tamdtue
9. depos an important and major challenge
10. countries already aetffdc
11. different utsclsre seen in multiple countries
12. support the hisetshpoy

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130514-coronavirus.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) passed from human to human. The virus, called nCoV-EMC, looks like an offshoot
- ( ) concern is the fact that the different clusters seen in multiple countries increasingly support
- ( ) spokesman, Keiji Fukuda, told reporters in the Saudi capital Riyadh on Sunday that the new virus posed an "important
- ( ) the hypothesis that when there is close contact, this coronavirus can transmit from person to person".
- ( ) between 2002-03. However, the WHO was quick to point out that the new strain isn't as virulent as SARS. The warning came
- ( ) coronavirus has already claimed the lives of 18 people, 15 of the fatalities being in Saudi Arabia.
- ( ) Coronavirus causes respiratory illnesses in both humans and animals. Unlike SARS, which spread
- ( ) after the 34th case worldwide came to light on Sunday. A man is in a "very serious but stable" condition in an intensive care
- ( ) and major challenge" for those countries already affected and for the whole world. He stressed that
- ( **1** ) The World Health Organisation (WHO) has warned that a new coronavirus strain could be
- ( ) unit in France. It is believed he contracted the virus while vacationing in Dubai in April. The new
- ( ) while the new virus was not SARS, it was very worrying. He said: "Of most
- ( ) of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), which killed 775 people and infected 8,273
- ( ) from birds and animals to humans, the new strain could have mutated to spread between people. A WHO

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130514-coronavirus.html>

1. virulent as isn't strain new the that out point to Quick.

---

2. 34th case worldwide came to light on Sunday After the.

---

3. condition is very stable man a but A in serious.

---

4. the Dubai virus while He vacationing contracted in.

---

5. claimed of already lives people has the 18 Coronavirus.

---

6. and illnesses animals in both Causes humans respiratory.

---

7. virus important challenge new an major The posed and.

---

8. affected world and for Countries the already whole.

---

9. seen clusters different The countries multiple in.

---

10. that contact when there The is hypothesis close.

---

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130514-coronavirus.html>

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has warned that a new coronavirus strain *could / should* be passed from human to human. The virus, called nCoV-EMC, looks like an *offshore / offshoot* of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), which killed 775 people and *infections / infected* 8,273 between 2002-03. However, the WHO was quick to point *at / out* that the new strain isn't as *violent / virulent* as SARS. The warning came after the 34th *case / cause* worldwide came to *light / lightning* on Sunday. A man is in a "very serious but *staple / stable*" condition in an intensive care unit in France. It is believed he *constructed / contracted* the virus while vacationing in Dubai in April. The new coronavirus has already claimed the lives of 18 people, 15 of the fatalities *being / were* in Saudi Arabia.

Coronavirus *cases / causes* respiratory illnesses in both humans and animals. Unlike SARS, which *spread / spared* from birds and animals to humans, the new strain could have *mated / mutated* to spread between people. A WHO spokesman, Keiji Fukuda, told reporters in the Saudi capital Riyadh on Sunday that the new virus *posed / posted* an "important and *major / minor* challenge" for those countries already *affective / affected* and for the whole world. He stressed that *when / while* the new virus was not SARS, it was very worrying. He said: "Of most *worry / concern* is the fact that the different clusters seen in *multiple / multiply* countries increasingly support the hypothesis that when there is *close / closed* contact, this coronavirus can transmit from person to person".

**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 <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130514-coronavirus.html>

Th\_ W\_rld H\_\_lth \_rg\_n\_s\_t\_\_n (WH\_) h\_s w\_rn\_d th\_t  
\_n\_w c\_r\_n\_v\_r\_s str\_\_n c\_\_ld b\_ p\_ss\_d fr\_m h\_m\_n  
t\_ h\_m\_n. Th\_ v\_r\_s, c\_ll\_d nC\_V-MC, l\_\_ks l\_k\_\_n  
\_ffsh\_\_t \_f th\_ S\_v\_r\_ \_c\_t\_ R\_sp\_r\_t\_ry Syndr\_m\_  
(S\_RS), wh\_ch k\_ll\_d 775 p\_\_pl\_ \_nd \_nf\_ct\_d 8,273  
b\_tw\_\_n 2002-03. H\_w\_v\_r, th\_ WH\_ w\_s q\_\_ck t\_  
p\_\_nt \_\_t th\_t th\_ n\_w str\_\_n \_sn't \_s v\_r\_l\_nt \_s  
S\_RS. Th\_ w\_rn\_ng c\_m\_ \_ft\_r th\_ 34th c\_s\_ w\_rldw\_d\_  
c\_m\_ t\_l\_ght \_n S\_nd\_y. \_m\_n\_s \_n\_ "v\_ry s\_r\_\_s  
b\_t st\_bl\_" c\_nd\_t\_\_n \_n \_n\_nt\_ns\_v\_ c\_r\_ \_n\_t \_n  
Fr\_nc\_. \_t\_s b\_l\_\_v\_d h\_ c\_ntr\_ct\_d th\_ v\_r\_s wh\_l\_  
v\_c\_t\_\_n\_ng \_n D\_b\_\_ \_n \_pr\_l. Th\_ n\_w c\_r\_n\_v\_r\_s  
h\_s \_lr\_\_dy cl\_\_m\_d th\_ l\_v\_s \_f 18 p\_\_pl\_, 15 \_f th\_  
f\_t\_l\_t\_\_s b\_\_ng \_n S\_\_d\_ \_r\_b\_\_.

C\_r\_n\_v\_r\_s c\_\_s\_s r\_sp\_r\_t\_ry \_lln\_ss\_s \_n b\_th  
h\_m\_ns \_nd \_n\_m\_ls. \_n\_l\_k\_ S\_RS, wh\_ch spr\_\_d fr\_m  
b\_rds \_nd \_n\_m\_ls t\_ h\_m\_ns, th\_ n\_w str\_\_n c\_\_ld  
h\_v\_ m\_t\_t\_d t\_ spr\_\_d b\_tw\_\_n p\_\_pl\_. \_ WH\_  
sp\_k\_sm\_n, K\_\_j\_ F\_k\_d\_, t\_ld r\_p\_r\_t\_rs \_n th\_ S\_\_d\_  
c\_p\_t\_l R\_y\_dh \_n S\_nd\_y th\_t th\_ n\_w v\_r\_s p\_s\_d \_n  
"mp\_r\_t\_nt \_nd m\_j\_r ch\_ll\_ng\_" f\_r th\_s\_ c\_\_ntr\_\_s  
\_lr\_\_dy \_ff\_ct\_d \_nd f\_r th\_ wh\_l\_ w\_rld. H\_ str\_ss\_d  
th\_t wh\_l\_ th\_ n\_w v\_r\_s w\_s n\_t S\_RS, \_t w\_s v\_ry  
w\_rry\_ng. H\_ s\_\_d: "\_f m\_st c\_nc\_rn \_s th\_ f\_ct th\_t  
th\_ d\_ff\_r\_nt cl\_st\_rs s\_\_n \_n m\_lt\_pl\_ c\_\_ntr\_\_s  
\_ncr\_\_s ngly s\_pp\_r\_t th\_ hyp\_th\_s\_s th\_t wh\_n th\_r\_  
\_s cl\_s\_ c\_nt\_ct, th\_s c\_r\_n\_v\_r\_s c\_n tr\_nsm\_t fr\_m  
p\_rs\_n t\_ p\_rs\_n".

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130514-coronavirus.html>

the world health organisation (who) has warned that a new coronavirus strain could be passed from human to human the virus called ncov-emc looks like an offshoot of the severe acute respiratory syndrome (sars) which killed 775 people and infected 8273 between 2002-03 however the who was quick to point out that the new strain isn't as virulent as sars the warning came after the 34th case worldwide came to light on sunday a man is in a "very serious but stable" condition in an intensive care unit in france it is believed he contracted the virus while vacationing in dubai in april the new coronavirus has already claimed the lives of 18 people 15 of the fatalities being in saudi arabia

coronavirus causes respiratory illnesses in both humans and animals unlike sars which spread from birds and animals to humans the new strain could have mutated to spread between people a who spokesman keiji fukuda told reporters in the saudi capital riyadh on sunday that the new virus posed an "important and major challenge" for those countries already affected and for the whole world he stressed that while the new virus was not sars it was very worrying he said "of most concern is the fact that the different clusters seen in multiple countries increasingly support the hypothesis that when there is close contact this coronavirus can transmit from person to person"

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1305/130514-coronavirus.html>

TheWorldHealthOrganisation(WHO)haswarnedthatanewcoronavirusstraincould bepassedfromhumantohuman.Thevirus,callednCoV-EMC,lookslikeanoffshootof theSevereAcuteRespiratorySyndrome(SARS),whichkilled775peopleandinfected 8,273between2002-03.However,theWHOwasquicktopointoutthatthenew strainisn'tasvirulentasSARS.Thewarningcameafterthe34thcaseworldwidecame tolightonSunday.Amanisina"veryseriousbutstable"conditioninanintensivecare unitinFrance.ItisbelievedhecontractedtheviruswhilevacationinginDubaiinApril. Thenewcoronavirushasalreadyclaimedthelivesof18people,15ofthefatalities beinginSaudiArabia.Coronaviruscausesrespiratoryillnessesinbothhumansand animals.UnlikeSARS,whichspreadfrombirdsandanimalstohumans,thenewstrain couldhavemutatedtospreadbetweenpeople.AWHOspokesman,KeijiFukuda,told reportersintheSaudicapitalRiyadhonSundaythatthenewvirusposedan"important andmajorchallenge"forthosecountriesalreadyaffectedandforthewholeworld.He stressedthatwhilethenewviruswasnotSARS,itwasveryworrying.Hesaid:"Of mostconcernisthefactthatthedifferentclustersseeninmultiplecountries increasinglysupportthehypothesis thatwhenthereisclosecontact,thiscorona viruscantransmitfrompersontoperson".





# 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 viruses. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. CORONAVIRUS:** Make a poster about the new coronavirus. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. PERSON-TO-PERSON:** Write a magazine article about the potential spread of the coronavirus from person to person. Include imaginary interviews with doctors and worried citizens.

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 a virus. Ask him/her three questions about the coronavirus. Give him/her three of your opinions on how to stop it spreading. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

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

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. warned      | a. cautioned   |
| 2. point out   | b. indicate    |
| 3. virulent    | c. infectious  |
| 4. claimed     | d. taken       |
| 5. fatalities  | e. deaths      |
| 6. causes      | f. leads to    |
| 7. mutated     | g. transformed |
| 8. posed       | h. presented   |
| 9. cluster     | i. group       |
| 10. hypothesis | j. theory      |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. The virus passing between humans
2. It killed 775 and infected 8,273
3. He's in a very serious but stable condition
4. While on holiday in Dubai
5. 18, 15 in Saudi Arabia
6. It spreads from person to person
7. It could have mutated
8. That the new coronavirus isn't SARS
9. Every country
10. That close contact among people can spread the virus

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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