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Level 0

Zealandia – The eighth continent?

19th February, 2017

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1702/170219-zealandia-0.html>

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Please try Levels 1, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1702/170219-zealandia-0.html>

There used to be nine planets, but now there are eight. We are taught there are seven continents, but maybe there are eight. Geologists say Zealandia is number eight. It is in the Pacific Ocean. Six per cent of it is above water and is New Zealand. About 94 per cent is under the ocean. Scientists say it is big enough to be a continent.

Geologists said Zealandia does not have to be above water to be a continent. It is a lot higher than the area around it, it has a special geology, its shape is easy to see, and it is thicker than the ocean floor. It would be easy to see Zealandia is a continent if you could pull a plug and let the water out of the world's oceans.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-39000936>
<https://www.tvnz.co.nz/one-news/new-zealand/its-just-cool-isnt-scientists-excited-gigantic-new-global-continent-zealandia>
<http://www.nature.com/news/geologists-spy-an-eighth-continent-zealandia-1.21503>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1702/170219-zealandia-0.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. There used to be | a. Ocean |
| 2. We are taught there are seven | b. are eight |
| 3. maybe there | c. the ocean |
| 4. Geologists say Zealandia is | d. nine planets |
| 5. It is in the Pacific | e. enough |
| 6. Six per cent of it is | f. number eight |
| 7. About 94 per cent is under | g. continents |
| 8. it is big | h. above water |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Zealandia does not have to | a. around it |
| 2. It is a lot | b. to see |
| 3. the area | c. higher |
| 4. it has a special | d. plug |
| 5. its shape is easy | e. be above water |
| 6. thicker | f. out |
| 7. pull a | g. geology |
| 8. let the water | h. than the ocean floor |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1702/170219-zealandia-0.html>

There (1) _____ planets, but now there are eight. We are (2) _____ seven continents, but maybe there are eight. Geologists say Zealandia (3) _____. It is in the Pacific Ocean. Six per cent (4) _____ water and is New Zealand. About 94 per cent (5) _____ ocean. Scientists say it (6) _____ to be a continent.

Geologists said Zealandia does (7) _____ above water to be a continent. It (8) _____ than the area around it, it has a (9) _____, its shape is (10) _____, and it is thicker than the ocean floor. It would (11) _____ Zealandia is a continent if you could pull a plug and (12) _____ of the world's oceans.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1702/170219-zealandia-0.html>

There used to be nine planets, but now there are eight. We are taught that there are seven continents, but maybe there are eight. Geologists say Zealandia is number eight. It is in the Pacific Ocean. Six percent of it is above water and is New Zealand. About 94 percent is under the ocean. Scientists say it is big enough to be a continent. Geologists said Zealandia does not have to be above water to be a continent. It is a lot higher than the area around it, it has a special geology, its shape is easy to see, and it is thicker than the ocean floor. It would be easy to see Zealandia is a continent if you could pull a plug and let the water out of the world's oceans.

CONTINENTS SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1702/170219-zealandia-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about continents 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) _____

