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**Level 2** – 29th March, 2021

## Earth safe from asteroid hit for 100 years

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210329-nasa-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/2103/210329-nasa-2.html>

Scientists from NASA confirmed that asteroids will not be a danger to Earth for 100 years. This is good news for people worried about the end of the world. NASA has been checking an asteroid called Apophis for 17 years. They found the 335-metre space rock in 2004. They thought it could be dangerous, so they put it on their list of the top asteroids that could harm Earth. They originally said the asteroid could kill over 10 million people if it hit Earth. They predicted it could hit our planet in 2068. Their latest prediction is that Earth will be safe from Apophis for the next 100 years.

The scientists used radar to predict the asteroid's orbit. A NASA scientist said: "We were able to acquire incredibly precise information about its distance to an accuracy of about 150 meters." She said Apophis is now "a safe distance of 10.6 million miles away from Earth". However, it will come closer in 2029. It will come within 20,000 miles of Earth in that year. Another scientist was glad Apophis is no longer dangerous. He said: "There's a certain sense of satisfaction to see it removed from the risk list, and we're looking forward to the science we might uncover."

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/science/2021/mar/27/much-feared-asteroid-apophis-wont-hit-earth-for-at-least-100-years-nasa-says>  
<https://edition.cnn.com/2021/03/27/world/asteroid-apophis-earth-impact-risk-scn-trnd/index.html>  
<https://www.npr.org/2021/03/27/981917655/asteroid-apophis-not-a-risk-to-earth-for-at-least-100-years-nasa-says>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210329-nasa-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                       |                       |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Scientists from NASA               | a. rock in 2004       |
| 2. asteroids will not be a            | b. news               |
| 3. This is good                       | c. Earth will be safe |
| 4. NASA has been checking an asteroid | d. confirmed that     |
| 5. They found the 335-metre space     | e. could harm Earth   |
| 6. They thought it could              | f. danger to Earth    |
| 7. the top asteroids that             | g. be dangerous       |
| 8. Their latest prediction is that    | h. called Apophis     |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                               |                     |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. predict the asteroid's     | a. of satisfaction  |
| 2. acquire incredibly precise | b. about 150 meters |
| 3. an accuracy of             | c. uncover          |
| 4. it will come               | d. dangerous        |
| 5. Apophis is no longer       | e. risk list        |
| 6. There's a certain sense    | f. information      |
| 7. removed from the           | g. closer in 2029   |
| 8. the science we might       | h. orbit            |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210329-nasa-2.html>

Scientists from NASA confirmed that asteroids will not (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to Earth for 100 years. This is good news for people worried about the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ world. NASA has been checking (3) \_\_\_\_\_ Apophis for 17 years. They found the 335-metre space rock in 2004. They thought it could be dangerous, so they put it on (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the top asteroids that could harm Earth. They originally said the asteroid (5) \_\_\_\_\_ 10 million people if it hit Earth. They predicted it could hit our planet in 2068. Their latest prediction is that Earth will (6) \_\_\_\_\_ Apophis for the next 100 years.

The scientists used (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the asteroid's orbit. A NASA scientist said: "We were (8) \_\_\_\_\_ incredibly precise information about its distance to an accuracy of about 150 meters." She said Apophis is now "(9) \_\_\_\_\_ of 10.6 million miles away from Earth". However, it will come closer in 2029. It (10) \_\_\_\_\_ 20,000 miles of Earth in that year. Another scientist was glad Apophis is no longer dangerous. He said: "There's (11) \_\_\_\_\_ of satisfaction to see it removed from the risk list, and we're (12) \_\_\_\_\_ the science we might uncover."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210329-nasa-2.html>

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# ASTEROIDS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210329-nasa-2.html>

Write five GOOD questions about asteroids 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) \_\_\_\_\_

