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Level 6

We may not meet aliens until the year 3500

20th June, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1606/160620-aliens.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1606/160620-aliens.html>

Scientists say it could take at least 1,500 years before humans make contact with species of aliens, or for them to communicate with or find us. Astronomers from Cornell University in the USA combined two existing theories about the possibility of life existing on other planets to form a new equation. One of these theories is the Fermi Paradox described by physicist Enrico Fermi in 1950. This states that while billions of Earth-like planets exist in our galaxy, not one has made contact with Earth yet. The other is the mediocrity principle, which suggests that because there is life on Earth, it will typically exist on Earth-like planets throughout the universe.

Study author Evan Solomonides will soon present a research paper on his theory. He said: "We haven't heard from aliens yet, as space is a big place, but that doesn't mean no one is out there." According to Solomonides, extraterrestrials could have received signals from Earth. However, he proposes that ET would not have been able to decipher them. He said they would need to decode the light waves into sounds and analyse 3,000 human languages to understand any messages. He said that signals from Earth have only reached about 8,500 stars and that the Milky Way galaxy alone contains 200 billion stars. He added: "If we stop listening or looking, we may miss the signals, so we should keep looking."

Sources: <http://www.natureworldnews.com/articles/23863/20160617/contact-aliens-1500-years.htm>
<http://www.techtimes.com/articles/165512/20160617/alien-contact-new-calculations-say-we-should-wait-it-out-for-1500-years.htm>
<http://astronomy.com/news/2016/06/it-may-take-1500-years-to-meet-et>

WARM-UPS

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

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

scientists / 1,500 years / aliens / communicate / theories / billions / planets / galaxy / research paper / space / a big place / signals / languages / messages / stars

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

3. ALIENS EXIST: Students A **strongly** believe aliens exist; Students B **strongly** believe they don't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. EARTH TOUR: What would you show an alien on Earth? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Who? / What?	Why?
People to meet		
Places to see		
Music to listen to		
Technology to look at		
History		
A sport		

5. SPACE: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "space". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. SOUVENIR: Rank these with your partner. Put the best souvenir to give an alien visiting Earth at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- a rock
- a plant
- a DVD
- a painting
- a Sony PlayStation
- an encyclopaedia
- a piano
- a book on world cooking

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1606/160620-aliens.html>

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

- a. Scientists said we will meet aliens in 1,500 years from now. **T / F**
- b. Scientists looked at 20 different theories on whether aliens exist. **T / F**
- c. One theory scientists looked at was from an Italian physicist. **T / F**
- d. Another theory said there is life on Earth so there will be on other planets. **T / F**
- e. The researcher presented his research paper last month. **T / F**
- f. The researcher said aliens could have received signals from Earth. **T / F**
- g. The researcher said aliens would need to decode 3,000 languages. **T / F**
- h. The researcher suggested we stop looking for alien life. **T / F**

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

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. at least | a. being |
| 2. communicate | b. suggests |
| 3. possibility | c. work out |
| 4. existing | d. make contact |
| 5. throughout | e. give |
| 6. present | f. got to |
| 7. proposes | g. more than |
| 8. decipher | h. comprises |
| 9. reached | i. all over |
| 10. contains | j. likelihood |

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

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. make contact with species | a. is out there |
| 2. combined | b. like planets |
| 3. billions of | c. into sounds |
| 4. it will typically exist on Earth- | d. on his theory |
| 5. throughout the | e. two existing theories |
| 6. present a research paper | f. signals from Earth |
| 7. that doesn't mean no one | g. Earth-like planets exist |
| 8. extraterrestrials could have received | h. contains 200 billion stars |
| 9. decode the light waves | i. universe |
| 10. the Milky Way galaxy alone | j. of aliens |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1606/160620-aliens.html>

Scientists say it could take at (1) _____ 1,500 years before humans make contact with (2) _____ of aliens, or for them to communicate with or find us. Astronomers from Cornell University in the USA combined two (3) _____ theories about the possibility of life existing on other planets to form a new (4) _____. One of these theories is the Fermi Paradox described by physicist Enrico Fermi in 1950. This states that while (5) _____ of Earth-like planets exist in our galaxy, not one has made (6) _____ with Earth yet. The other is the mediocrity (7) _____, which suggests that because there is life on Earth, it will typically exist on Earth-like planets (8) _____ the universe.

billions
least
principle
existing
species
throughout
contact
equation

Study author Evan Solomonides will soon (9) _____ a research paper on his theory. He said: "We haven't heard from aliens (10) _____, as space is a big place, but that doesn't mean no one is out (11) _____." According to Solomonides, extraterrestrials could have received signals from Earth. However, he (12) _____ that ET would not have been able to (13) _____ them. He said they would need to decode the light (14) _____ into sounds and analyse 3,000 human languages to understand any messages. He said that signals from Earth have only reached about 8,500 stars and that the Milky Way (15) _____ alone contains 200 billion stars. He added: "If we stop listening or looking, we may (16) _____ the signals, so we should keep looking."

there
present
decipher
galaxy
yet
miss
proposes
waves

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1606/160620-aliens.html>

- 1) it could take at least 1,500 years before humans make contact with _____
 - a. species off aliens
 - b. species for aliens
 - c. species of aliens
 - d. species from aliens
- 2) combined two existing theories about the possibility of life existing _____
 - a. on another planets
 - b. in other planets
 - c. on other planets
 - d. on other planet
- 3) One of these theories is the Fermi Paradox described _____ Fermi
 - a. by physics Enrico
 - b. by physicist Enrico
 - c. by physicists Enrico
 - d. by physical Enrico
- 4) This states that while billions of Earth-like planets _____
 - a. exist in your glacier
 - b. exists in our galaxy
 - c. exist in our glacier
 - d. exist in our galaxy
- 5) because there is life on Earth, it will typically exist on Earth-like planets _____ universe
 - a. through out the
 - b. thought out the
 - c. thorough out the
 - d. throughout the
- 6) Study author Evan Solomonides will soon present a research _____ theory
 - a. paper on his
 - b. paper in his
 - c. paper at his
 - d. paper to his
- 7) space is a big place, but that doesn't mean no _____
 - a. one be out there
 - b. one is out there
 - c. one is in there
 - d. one is out here
- 8) According to Solomonides, extraterrestrials could have received _____
 - a. cygnet from Earth
 - b. signals for Earth
 - c. signals from Earth
 - d. cygnets from Earth
- 9) He said they would need to decode the light _____
 - a. waves onto sounds
 - b. waves into sounds
 - c. waves in two sounds
 - d. waves in too sound
- 10) If we stop listening or looking, we may miss the signals, so _____ looking
 - a. he shouldn't keep
 - b. we should keeping
 - c. we should keep
 - d. he should keep

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1606/160620-aliens.html>

Scientists say it could (1) _____ 1,500 years before humans make contact with species of aliens, or for them to communicate with or find us. Astronomers from Cornell University in the USA (2) _____ theories about the possibility of life existing on other planets (3) _____ equation. One of these theories is the Fermi Paradox (4) _____ Enrico Fermi in 1950. This states that while billions of Earth-like planets (5) _____, not one has made contact with Earth yet. The other is the mediocrity principle, which suggests that because there is life on Earth, (6) _____ on Earth-like planets throughout the universe.

Study author Evan Solomonides (7) _____ a research paper on his theory. He said: "We haven't heard from aliens yet, as space is a big place, but that doesn't (8) _____ out there." According to Solomonides, extraterrestrials could have received signals from Earth. However, he (9) _____ would not have been (10) _____ them. He said they would need to decode the light waves into sounds and analyse 3,000 human languages to understand any messages. He said that signals from Earth have only reached about 8,500 stars and that the Milky Way (11) _____ 200 billion stars. He added: "If we stop listening or looking, we may (12) _____, so we should keep looking."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1606/160620-aliens.html>

1. How many years might it be before we make contact with aliens?
2. What university are the researchers from?
3. When did the Italian physicist Enrico Fermi describe his theory?
4. What is the name of the second theory mentioned in the article?
5. Where does the second theory mentioned say life "will typically exist"?
6. Who is Evan Solomonides?
7. What does Evan Solomonides say about space?
8. What did Evan Solomonides say extraterrestrials could have received?
9. How many languages would aliens need to understand?
10. What contains 200 billion stars?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1606/160620-aliens.html>

- 1) How many years might it be before we make contact with aliens?
 - a) exactly 1,500
 - b) around 1,500
 - c) more than 1,500
 - d) less than 1,500

- 2) What university are the researchers from?
 - a) Cornell
 - b) Corniche
 - c) Cornwall
 - d) Corn

- 3) When did the Italian physicist Enrico Fermi describe his theory?
 - a) 1950
 - b) 1590
 - c) 1509
 - d) 1905

- 4) What is the name of the second theory mentioned in the article?
 - a) the meritocracy principle
 - b) the mediocrity principle
 - c) the media principle
 - d) the medicinal principle

- 5) Where does the second theory mentioned say life "will typically exist"?
 - a) on Alpha Centauri
 - b) in a distant galaxy far far away
 - c) in our solar system
 - d) on Earth-like planets

- 6) Who is Evan Solomonides?
 - a) an astronaut
 - b) a researcher
 - c) an expert on alien personality
 - d) the inventor of alien language

- 7) What does Evan Solomonides say about space?
 - a) it's a big place
 - b) it's a dark place
 - c) it's a cold place
 - d) it's a nice place

- 8) What did Evan Solomonides say extraterrestrials could have received?
 - a) stars
 - b) satellites
 - c) signals
 - d) an invitation

- 9) How many languages would aliens need to understand?
 - a) 750
 - b) 1,000
 - c) 2,000
 - d) 3,000

- 10) What contains 200 billion stars?
 - a) the Milky Way
 - b) our solar system
 - c) all of space
 - d) a distant galaxy far far away

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1606/160620-aliens.html>

Role A – A rock

You think a rock is the best souvenir to give an alien. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their souvenirs aren't good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): a plant, an encyclopaedia or a Sony PlayStation.

Role B – A plant

You think a plant is the best souvenir to give an alien. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their souvenirs aren't good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): a rock, an encyclopaedia or a Sony PlayStation.

Role C – An encyclopaedia

You think an encyclopaedia is the best souvenir to give an alien. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their souvenirs aren't good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): a plant, a rock or a Sony PlayStation.

Role D – A Sony PlayStation

You think a Sony PlayStation is the best souvenir to give an alien. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their souvenirs aren't good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): a plant, an encyclopaedia or a rock.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1606/160620-aliens.html>

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

alien	planet
--------------	---------------

- 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">• least• combined• described• physicist• other• typically	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• author• big• could• decode• messages• miss
--	---

ALIENS SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1606/160620-aliens.html>

Write five GOOD questions about ALIENS 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.

ALIENS DISCUSSION

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

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What springs to mind when you hear the word 'alien'?
3. What do you think about what you read?
4. How likely is it that aliens exist?
5. What would you say to an alien if you met one?
6. What would social media reaction to an alien landing be like?
7. What would your feelings be on suddenly meeting an alien?
8. How much of a threat would aliens be?
9. What would you do with an alien for one day?
10. What will Earth be like in the year 3500?

We may not meet aliens until the year 3500 – 20th June, 2016
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ALIENS DISCUSSION

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

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. How interested are you in astronomy?
13. How far will humans go in space?
14. What would it be like to live side-by-side with aliens?
15. How similar would aliens be to humans?
16. What would you do on day one if aliens attacked Earth?
17. What is your favourite movie about aliens?
18. What would aliens like and dislike about Earth?
19. What advice do you have for aliens?
20. What questions would you like to ask the astronomers?

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. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1606/160620-aliens.html>

Scientists say it could take at least 1,500 years (1) ____ humans make contact with species of aliens, or for them to communicate with or find (2) ____ . Astronomers from Cornell University in the USA (3) ____ two existing theories about the possibility of life existing on other planets to form a new (4) ____ . One of these theories is the Fermi Paradox described by physicist Enrico Fermi in 1950. This states that (5) ____ billions of Earth-like planets exist in our galaxy, not one has made contact with Earth yet. The other is the mediocrity principle, which suggests that because there is life on Earth, it will typically exist on Earth-like planets (6) ____ the universe.

Study author Evan Solomonides will soon (7) ____ a research paper on his theory. He said: "We haven't heard from aliens yet, (8) ____ space is a big place, but that doesn't mean no one is out (9) ____ ." According to Solomonides, extraterrestrials could have received signals from Earth. However, he proposes that ET would not have been able to (10) ____ them. He said they would need to decode the light waves into sounds and analyse 3,000 human languages to understand any messages. He said that signals from Earth have only reached about 8,500 stars and that the Milky Way galaxy (11) ____ contains 200 billion stars. He added: "If we stop listening or looking, we may (12) ____ the signals, so we should keep looking."

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) from | (b) after | (c) then | (d) before |
| 2. | (a) peoples | (b) human | (c) them | (d) us |
| 3. | (a) combed | (b) combined | (c) comprised | (d) crimped |
| 4. | (a) equal | (b) equality | (c) equation | (d) equator |
| 5. | (a) while | (b) when | (c) which | (d) whatsoever |
| 6. | (a) throughout | (b) thorough | (c) thought | (d) though |
| 7. | (a) podium | (b) workshop | (c) gift | (d) present |
| 8. | (a) as | (b) while | (c) so | (d) and |
| 9. | (a) here | (b) there | (c) space | (d) universe |
| 10. | (a) design | (b) deliver | (c) decipher | (d) decider |
| 11. | (a) solitary | (b) sole | (c) alone | (d) lone |
| 12. | (a) obscure | (b) miss | (c) halt | (d) late |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1606/160620-aliens.html>

Paragraph 1

1. make contact with cepssei of aliens
2. described by cistsipyh Enrico Fermi
3. ionibsl of Earth-like planets exist
4. The other is the dtcryiomei principle
5. it will lytaicpyl exist
6. throughout the sirevnue

Paragraph 2

7. present a research paper on his etyrho
8. However, he esosoppr that ET would not
9. able to rcdeehip them
10. aselyan (UK) / alanyze (USA) 3,000 human languages
11. the Milky Way agyalx alone
12. we may miss the aislnsg

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1606/160620-aliens.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () Earth have only reached about 8,500 stars and that the Milky Way galaxy alone contains 200 billion
- () waves into sounds and analyse 3,000 human languages to understand any messages. He said that signals from
- () communicate with or find us. Astronomers from Cornell University in the USA combined two existing
- () Study author Evan Solomonides will soon present a research paper on his theory. He said: "We haven't
- () heard from aliens yet, as space is a big place, but that doesn't mean no one is out
- () stars. He added: "If we stop listening or looking, we may miss the signals, so we should keep looking."
- () there." According to Solomonides, extraterrestrials could have received signals from Earth. However, he proposes
- () of these theories is the Fermi Paradox described by physicist Enrico Fermi in 1950. This states that while billions
- () that ET would not have been able to decipher them. He said they would need to decode the light
- () yet. The other is the mediocrity principle, which suggests that because there is life on Earth, it will
- () typically exist on Earth-like planets throughout the universe.
- (**1**) Scientists say it could take at least 1,500 years before humans make contact with species of aliens, or for them to
- () of Earth-like planets exist in our galaxy, not one has made contact with Earth
- () theories about the possibility of life existing on other planets to form a new equation. One

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1606/160620-aliens.html>

1. take contact before at It humans 1,500 least could make years .
2. the life other about of on Theories possibility existing planets .
3. is Paradox theories these of One Fermi the .
4. that our billions galaxy planets of This exist Earth-like states in .
5. on like the exist - throughout Typically Earth planets universe .
6. space yet heard place is , from We a as aliens haven't big .
7. mean there no But one that is doesn't out .
8. to able been have not would ET that proposes He them decipher .
9. Way billion galaxy stars alone The contains Milky 200 .
10. keep looking We may miss the signals , so we should .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1606/160620-aliens.html>

Scientists say it could take at *last / least* 1,500 years before humans make contact with species of *aliens / alien*, or for them to communicate with or find us. Astronomers from Cornell University in the USA *combined / combed* two existing theories about the possibility of life *existence / existing* on other planets to form a new *equating / equation*. One of these theories is the Fermi Paradox described by *physicist / physics* Enrico Fermi in 1950. This states that while billions of Earth-like planets exist in our *glacier / galaxy*, not one has made *contract / contact* with Earth yet. The other is the mediocrity principle, which suggests that because there *be / is* life on Earth, it will typically exist on Earth-like planets *thorough / throughout* the universe.

Study author Evan Solomonides will soon *present / gift* a research paper *on / in* his theory. He said: "We haven't heard from aliens yet, as space is a big place, but that doesn't *mean / meaning* no one is out *here / there*." According to Solomonides, extraterrestrials could have received signals from Earth. However, he *prosperes / proposes* that ET would not have been able to decipher them. He said they would need to decode the *lit / light* waves into sounds and analyse 3,000 human languages *to / for* understand any messages. He said that *signals / signal* from Earth have only reached about 8,500 stars and that the Milky Way galaxy *alone / lone* contains 200 billion stars. He added: "If we stop listening or looking, we may miss the signals, so we should *keep / still* looking."

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/1606/160620-aliens.html>

Sc__nt__sts s_y __t c__ld t_k__ __t l__st 1,500 y__rs
b_f_r__ h_m_ns m_k__ c__nt__ct w_th sp_c__s __f_l__ns,
__r_f_r__ th_m t__ c__mm__n__c__t__ w_th __r_f__nd __s.
__str__n__m__rs fr_m C__rn__ll __n_v__rs__ty __n th__ __S__
c__mb__n__d tw__ __x__st__ng th__r__s __b__t th__
p__ss__b__l__ty __f_l__f__ __x__st__ng __n th__r pl_n_ts t__f__rm
__n_w__q__t__n. __n __f th_s th__r__s __s th__ F__rm__
P__r__d__x__d__scr__b__d by phys_c__st__nr__c__ F__rm__ __n 1950.
Th_s st_t_s th_t wh_l__ b__ll__ns __f __rth-l_k__ pl_n_ts
__x__st__n __r g_l_xy, n_t __n h_s m_d__c__nt__ct w_th
__rth y_t. Th__ th_r__s th__ m_d__cr__ty pr_nc__pl__,
wh_ch s_gg__sts th_t b_c__s th_r__s l_f__ __n __rth, __t
w_ll typ_c__lly __x__st__n __rth-l_k__ pl_n_ts thr__gh__t
th__ __n_v__rs__.

St_dy __ th_r__v__n S_l_m__n__d__s w_ll s__n pr_s__nt __
r_s__rch p_p_r__n h_s th__ry. H__s__d: "W__ h_v__n't
h__rd fr_m __l__ns y_t, __s sp_c__s __b__g pl_c__, b__t
th_t d__sn't m__n__n__ __s __t th_r__." __cc__rd__ng t__
S_l_m__n__d__s, __xtr__t__rr__str__ls c__ld h_v__r__c__v__d
s_gn__ls fr_m __rth. H_w_v__r, h__ pr_p__s__s th_t __T__
w__ld n_t h_v__b__n __bl__t__d__c__ph__r th_m. H__s__d
th_y w__ld n__d t__d__c__d th__ l_gh_t w_v__s __nt__
s__nds __nd __n_l_y_s__ 3,000 h_m__n l__ng__g__s t__
__nd_rst__nd __ny m__ss_g__s. H__s__d th_t s_gn__ls fr_m
__rth h_v__ __nly r__ch__d __b__t 8,500 st__rs __nd th_t th__
M__lky W__y g_l_xy l__n__c__nt__ns 200 b__ll__n st__rs. H__
__dd__d: " __f w__st__pl__st__n__ng __r l__k__ng, w__m__y m__ss
th__s_gn__ls, s__w__sh__ld k__pl__k__ng."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1606/160620-aliens.html>

scientists say it could take at least 1500 years before humans make contact with species of aliens or for them to communicate with or find us astronomers from cornell university in the usa combined two existing theories about the possibility of life existing on other planets to form a new equation one of these theories is the fermi paradox described by physicist enrico fermi in 1950 this states that while billions of earth-like planets exist in our galaxy not one has made contact with earth yet the other is the mediocrity principle which suggests that because there is life on earth it will typically exist on earth-like planets throughout the universe

study author evan solomonides will soon present a research paper on his theory he said "we haven't heard from aliens yet as space is a big place but that doesn't mean no one is out there" according to solomonides extraterrestrials could have received signals from earth however he proposes that et would not have been able to decipher them he said they would need to decode the light waves into sounds and analyse 3000 human languages to understand any messages he said that signals from earth have only reached about 8500 stars and that the milky way galaxy alone contains 200 billion stars he added "if we stop listening or looking we may miss the signals so we should keep looking"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1606/160620-aliens.html>

Scientists say it could take at least 1,500 years before humans make contact with species of aliens, or for them to communicate with or find us. Astronomers from Cornell University in the USA combined two existing theories about the possibility of life existing on other planets to form a new equation. One of these theories is the Fermi Paradox described by physicist Enrico Fermi in 1950. This states that while billions of Earth-like planets exist in our galaxy, not one has made contact with Earth yet. The other is the mediocrity principle, which suggests that because there is life on Earth, it will typically exist on Earth-like planets throughout the universe. Study author Evan Solomonides will soon present a research paper on his theory. He said: "We haven't heard from aliens yet, as space is a big place, but that doesn't mean no one is out there." According to Solomonides, extraterrestrials could have received signals from Earth. However, he proposes that ET would not have been able to decipher them. He said they would need to decode the light waves into sounds and analyse 3,000 human languages to understand any messages. He said that signals from Earth have only reached about 8,500 stars and that the Milky Way galaxy alone contains 200 billion stars. He added: "If we stop listening or looking, we may miss the signals, so we should keep looking."

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

3. CONTACT: Make a poster about what to do with aliens for their first day on Earth. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. DANGER: Write a magazine article about aliens. Include imaginary interviews with people who think they would be a great danger, and with people who think they wouldn't.

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 an expert on aliens. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on what to do if they made contact. 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 F c T d T e F f T g T h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. at least | a. more than |
| 2. communicate | b. make contact |
| 3. possibility | c. likelihood |
| 4. existing | d. being |
| 5. throughout | e. all over |
| 6. present | f. give |
| 7. proposes | g. suggests |
| 8. decipher | h. work out |
| 9. reached | i. got to |
| 10. contains | j. comprises |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. At least 1,500
2. Cornell University
3. 1950
4. The mediocrity principle
5. On Earth-like planets throughout the universe
6. A researcher and the study's author
7. It's a big place
8. Signals
9. 3,000
10. The Milky Way galaxy

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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