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## **Level 0**

### **Vegetable gardens tested for Mars**

**10th October, 2016**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1610/161010-gardens-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/1610/161010-gardens-0.html>

Scientists want to get humans to Mars. Getting to Mars will take two-and-a-half years. Scientists are trying to find out what can grow on Mars. Astronauts will grow their own food on the Red Planet from seeds. This may be difficult because Mars doesn't have good soil. It just has red dust.

Humans could be on Mars by 2030. NASA has tested "Martian gardens". They used volcanic dust. This is similar to Mars dust.

The scientists grew lettuce in it. The lettuce tasted normal, but it had weaker roots and it took longer to grow. NASA said testing 'Martian gardens' on Earth would help to grow food on Mars in the future.

Sources: <http://www.csmonitor.com/Science/2016/1006/NASA-s-Martian-gardens-What-kinds-of-veggies-can-we-grow-on-Mars>  
<http://www.techtimes.com/articles/181178/20161007/martian-gardens-key-to-surviving-mars-colonization-nasa.htm>  
<http://www.natureworldnews.com/articles/29858/20161008/survival-in-mars-nasa-scientists-developing-martian-garden.htm>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1610/161010-gardens-0.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| 1. Scientists want to get                | a. on Mars        |
| 2. Getting to                            | b. find out       |
| 3. take two-and-                         | c. be difficult   |
| 4. Scientists are trying to              | d. Mars           |
| 5. what can grow                         | e. from seeds     |
| 6. grow their own food on the Red Planet | f. humans to Mars |
| 7. This may                              | g. soil           |
| 8. Mars doesn't have good                | h. a-half years   |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                              |                    |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Humans could be           | a. to Mars dust    |
| 2. NASA has tested "Martian  | b. in the future   |
| 3. They used volcanic        | c. gardens"        |
| 4. This is similar           | d. lettuce in it   |
| 5. The scientists grew       | e. grow            |
| 6. The lettuce tasted        | f. on Mars by 2030 |
| 7. it took longer to         | g. dust            |
| 8. help to grow food on Mars | h. normal          |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1610/161010-gardens-0.html>

Scientists (1) \_\_\_\_\_ humans to Mars. Getting to Mars (2) \_\_\_\_\_ -and-a-half years. Scientists are trying (3) \_\_\_\_\_ what can grow on Mars. Astronauts will (4) \_\_\_\_\_ food on the Red Planet from seeds. This (5) \_\_\_\_\_ because Mars doesn't have good soil. It just (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

Humans (7) \_\_\_\_\_ Mars by 2030. NASA has tested "Martian gardens". They (8) \_\_\_\_\_ dust. This (9) \_\_\_\_\_ Mars dust. The scientists grew lettuce in it. The lettuce (10) \_\_\_\_\_, but it had weaker roots and (11) \_\_\_\_\_ to grow. NASA said testing 'Martian gardens' on Earth would help to grow food on Mars (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1610/161010-gardens-0.html>

Scientists want to get human to Mars. Getting to Mars will take two-and-a-half years. Scientists are trying to find out what can grow on Mars. Astronauts will grow their own food on the Red Planet from seeds. This may be difficult because Mars doesn't have good soil. It just has red dust. Humans could be on Mars by 2030. NASA has tested "Mars gardens". They used volcanic dust. This is similar to Mars dust. The scientists grew lettuce in it. The lettuce tasted normal, but it had weaker roots and it took longer to grow. NASA said testing 'Mars gardens' on Earth would help to grow food on Mars in the future.

# VEGETABLE GARDENS SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1610/161010-gardens-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about vegetable gardens 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*Vegetable gardens tested for Mars – 10th October, 2016*  
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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) \_\_\_\_\_

# WRITING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1610/161010-gardens-0.html>

Write about **vegetable gardens** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.

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