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Level 2

Scientists find a bone from Santa Claus

10th December, 2017

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171210-st-nicholas-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/1712/171210-st-nicholas-2.html>

Oxford University scientists say they have a bone that belonged to Santa Claus. The real name of Santa Claus is St Nicholas. He was a holy man who lived in the 4th century in what is now Turkey. Many stories say he did many miracles. This is why the Christian church made him a saint. A scientist said: "This bone...suggests that we could possibly be looking at remains from St Nicholas himself." St Nicholas is the saint of children. There are stories that he secretly gave presents to poor people. This is the story behind today's Santa Claus.

Santa Claus is also called Father Christmas in many countries. He brings presents to the homes of well-behaved children on the evening of the 24th of December. Badly-behaved children get a piece of coal. He uses a sleigh to deliver his presents. The sleigh is pulled through the air by flying reindeer. Santa Claus is usually seen as a fat, happy man with a white beard. He wears a red coat with a white fur collar, red trousers, a black belt and black boots. He lives in the North Pole, where he has a toy-making workshop. Today's children track his Christmas Eve journey online.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/education-42239197>
<https://www.christiantoday.com/article/is-this-father-christmass-pelvic-bone-quite-possibly/120672.htm>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Santa_Claus

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171210-st-nicholas-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. a bone that belonged | a. saint of children |
| 2. The real name of Santa Claus | b. him a saint |
| 3. a holy man who lived | c. Santa Claus |
| 4. Many stories say he did many | d. is St Nicholas |
| 5. the Christian church made | e. in the 4th century |
| 6. St Nicholas is the | f. to poor people |
| 7. he secretly gave presents | g. to Santa Claus |
| 8. the story behind today's | h. miracles |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Santa Claus is also | a. fur collar |
| 2. Badly-behaved children | b. a white beard |
| 3. He uses a sleigh to | c. online |
| 4. pulled through the air by | d. deliver his presents |
| 5. a fat, happy man with | e. making workshop |
| 6. a red coat with a white | f. called Father Christmas |
| 7. he has a toy- | g. get a piece of coal |
| 8. track his Christmas Eve journey | h. flying reindeer |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171210-st-nicholas-2.html>

Oxford University scientists say they (1) _____ that belonged to Santa Claus. The real name of Santa Claus is St Nicholas. He was (2) _____ who lived in the 4th century in what is now Turkey. Many (3) _____ did many miracles. This is why the Christian church made him a saint. A scientist said: "This bone...(4) _____ could possibly be looking at remains from St Nicholas himself." St Nicholas is the saint of children. There are stories that (5) _____ presents to poor people. This is (6) _____ today's Santa Claus.

Santa Claus is also called Father Christmas (7) _____. He brings presents to the homes of well-behaved children on (8) _____ the 24th of December. Badly-behaved children (9) _____ of coal. He uses a sleigh to deliver his presents. The sleigh is pulled through the (10) _____ reindeer. Santa Claus is usually seen as a fat, happy man with a white beard. He wears a red coat with a white (11) _____ trousers, a black belt and black boots. He lives in the North Pole, where he has a toy-making workshop. Today's (12) _____ Christmas Eve journey online.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171210-st-nicholas-2.html>

Oxford University scientists say they have a bone that belonged to Santa Claus. The real name of Santa Claus is St Nicholas. He was a holy man who lived in the 4th century in what is now Turkey. Many stories say he did many miracles. This is why the Christian church made him a saint. A scientist said: "This bone... suggests that we could possibly be looking at remains from St Nicholas himself." St Nicholas is the saint of children. There are stories that he secretly gave presents to poor people. This is the story behind today's Santa Claus. Santa Claus is also called Father Christmas in many countries. He brings presents to the homes of well-behaved children on the evening of the 24th of December. Badly behaved children get a piece of coal. He uses a sleigh to deliver his presents. The sleigh is pulled through the air by flying reindeer. Santa Claus is usually seen as a fat, happy man with a white beard. He wears a red coat with a white fur collar, red trousers, a black belt and black boots. He lives in the North Pole, where he has a toy-making workshop. Today's children track his Christmas Eve journey online.

SANTA CLAUS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171210-st-nicholas-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Santa Claus 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) _____

