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Level 5 – 17th December, 2019

Scientists create plastic that repels all bacteria

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191217-self-cleaning-plastic-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191217-self-cleaning-plastic-5.html>

A revolutionary plastic could prevent bacteria and superbugs causing diseases. Scientists have developed a new, transparent, plastic wonder-wrap. They say it will greatly cut microbe transfer in hospitals, restaurants, kitchens, bathrooms and other places where bugs gather. Researchers from a university in Canada developed the plastic. They say it can repel all forms of bacteria, including superbugs. The material is like the common plastic wrap used to cover food. It can be shrink-wrapped to protect places that attract bacteria, like worktops, door handles, and hospital equipment.

The researchers said their idea came from the lotus plant. They tried to copy how lotus leaves repelled water. Drops of water either sit on the surface of the leaves or bounce off. A researcher wanted to apply that process to the plastic. She said: "We're structurally tuning that plastic. This material gives us something that can be applied to all kinds of things." Another researcher said: "We can see this technology being used in all kinds of...settings. As the world confronts the crisis of anti-microbial resistance, we hope it will become an important part of the anti-bacterial toolbox."

Sources: <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/science/self-cleaning-plastic-bacteria-repellent-mrsa-nhs-a9245811.html>
<https://news.sky.com/story/self-cleaning-surface-that-repels-superbugs-could-be-used-in-kitchens-and-hospitals-11885900>
<https://edition.cnn.com/2019/12/13/health/superbug-repelling-surface-intl-scli-scn/index.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191217-self-cleaning-plastic-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. A revolutionary | a. wrapped |
| 2. prevent bacteria and superbugs | b. equipment |
| 3. it will greatly | c. gather |
| 4. other places where bugs | d. like worktops |
| 5. the common plastic wrap used | e. plastic |
| 6. It can be shrink- | f. cut microbe transfer |
| 7. places that attract bacteria, | g. to cover food |
| 8. hospital | h. causing diseases |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. their idea came from | a. resistance |
| 2. copy how lotus leaves | b. to the plastic |
| 3. sit on the surface | c. bacterial toolbox |
| 4. apply that process | d. all kinds of things |
| 5. something that can be applied to | e. settings |
| 6. all kinds of | f. the lotus plant |
| 7. the crisis of anti-microbial | g. of the leaves |
| 8. an important part of the anti- | h. repelled water |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191217-self-cleaning-plastic-5.html>

A revolutionary (1) _____ bacteria and superbugs causing diseases. Scientists have (2) _____, transparent, plastic wonder-wrap. They say it will greatly (3) _____ in hospitals, restaurants, kitchens, bathrooms and other places (4) _____. Researchers from a university in Canada developed the plastic. They say it can (5) _____ of bacteria, including superbugs. The material is like the common plastic wrap used to cover food. It can (6) _____ protect places that attract bacteria, like worktops, door handles, and hospital equipment.

The researchers said their idea came from (7) _____. They tried to copy how lotus (8) _____. Drops of water either sit on the surface of the leaves or bounce off. A researcher wanted to apply that process to the plastic. She said: "We're (9) _____ plastic. This material gives us something that can be (10) _____ kinds of things." Another researcher said: "We can see this technology being used in all (11) _____. As the world confronts the crisis of anti-microbial resistance, we hope it will become (12) _____ of the anti-bacterial toolbox."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191217-self-cleaning-plastic-5.html>

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PLASTIC SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1912/191217-self-cleaning-plastic-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about plastic 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) _____

