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Level 2 – 17th April, 2020

50,000-year-old piece of string found

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200417-piece-of-string-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/2004/200417-piece-of-string-2.html>

Archaeologists have found the world's oldest piece of string. They are very happy about this. One reason is the string is around 50,000 years old. The second reason is the string shows that an early species of humans called Neanderthals were more intelligent than we thought. Neanderthals became extinct about 35,000 years ago but the string shows they had a good understanding of plants and textiles. The Neanderthals may have used the string to make clothes, bags, rope, mats and other things. They were probably as intelligent as modern humans.

The piece of string is tiny but it shows a lot about how people lived 50,000 years ago. A researcher said: "We were able to uncover details about the fibres and we observed that they're different, twisted fibres. It is not possible to find these kinds of fibres in nature." She added that in her opinion, the Neanderthals had the ability to make rope. She also said they knew many things about trees. They also knew about vegetables, plants and trees. The researcher said the Neanderthals had the intelligence, "to use different parts of the environment".

Sources: <https://uk.news.yahoo.com/oldest-string-neanderthal-181822003.html>
<https://metro.co.uk/2020/04/13/oldest-piece-string-found-neanderthal-dwelling-12548889/>
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/neanderthals-string-discovery-50000-years-old-france-scientists-abri-du-maras-a9462706.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200417-piece-of-string-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. They are very | a. and other things |
| 2. an early | b. happy about this |
| 3. became extinct about | c. humans |
| 4. they had a good understanding | d. to make clothes |
| 5. used the string | e. as intelligent |
| 6. bags, rope, mats | f. 35,000 years ago |
| 7. They were probably | g. species of humans |
| 8. modern | h. of plants |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. The piece | a. about trees |
| 2. uncover details | b. of string is tiny |
| 3. find these kinds of fibres | c. of the environment |
| 4. in her | d. in nature |
| 5. the ability | e. trees |
| 6. they knew many things | f. about the fibres |
| 7. vegetables, plants and | g. to make rope |
| 8. use different parts | h. opinion |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200417-piece-of-string-2.html>

Archaeologists have found the world's (1) _____ string. They are very happy about this. One (2) _____ string is around 50,000 years old. The second reason is the string shows that (3) _____ of humans called Neanderthals were more intelligent than we thought. Neanderthals (4) _____ 35,000 years ago but the string shows they had a good understanding (5) _____ textiles. The Neanderthals may have used the string to make clothes, bags, rope, mats and other things. They were probably as intelligent (6) _____.

The piece of string (7) _____ it shows a lot about how people lived 50,000 years ago. A researcher said: "We were (8) _____ details about the fibres and we observed that they're different, twisted fibres. It is not (9) _____ these kinds of fibres in nature." She added that in her opinion, the Neanderthals had (10) _____ make rope. She also said they knew many things about trees. They also knew about vegetables, (11) _____. The researcher said the Neanderthals had the intelligence, "to use different (12) _____ environment".

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200417-piece-of-string-2.html>

Archeologists have found the world's oldest piece of string. They are very happy about this. One reason is the string is around 50,000 years old. The second reason is the string shows that a nearly species of humans called Neanderthals were more intelligent than we thought. Neanderthals became extinct about 35,000 years ago but the string shows they had a good understanding of plants and textiles. The Neanderthals may have used the string to make clothes, bags, rope, mats and other things. They were probably as intelligent as modern humans. The piece of string is tiny but it tells a lot about how people lived 50,000 years ago. A researcher said: "We were able to uncover details about the fibres and we observed that they're different, twisted fibres. It is not possible to find these kinds of fibres in nature." She added that in her opinion, the Neanderthal had the ability to make rope. She also said they knew many things about trees. They also knew about vegetables, plants and trees. The researcher said the Neanderthal had the intelligence, "to use different parts of the environment".

STRING SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200417-piece-of-string-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about string 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) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200417-piece-of-string-2.html>

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