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Level 5 – 26th July, 2019

Man proposes beneath once-in-6,800-year comet

FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200726-marriage-proposal-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/2007/200726-marriage-proposal-5.html>

A man proposed to his fiancée during an event that occurs just once every 6,800 years or so. John Nicotera, 33, popped the question to his girlfriend Erica Pendrak, 26, while the Neowise comet passed over their heads. It will be 7,000 years before anyone else can get down on one knee and propose while the comet flies overhead. Mr Nicotera loves studying about space. He knew the rare comet would pass by for a limited time. He planned his proposal to coincide with the comet being in the night sky. The couple drove to a campsite last week and John waited for the comet to appear.

Ms Pendrak immediately accepted the proposal. She told reporters that she was going to see the once-in-a-lifetime event. She got the surprise of her life when John got on one knee. She said: "I was just completely shocked - tears and everything. I felt instant chills and pure happiness." A friend went with the couple to capture the proposal as the comet whizzed by across the heavens. John and Erica are both teachers. They like experiencing historical events together. John said: "Every single star was out. It was too special to let it go. I thought, 'I'm massively in love with this girl.'"

Sources: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-8557803/Man-propose-Neowise-comet-appears-6-800-years.html>
<https://edition.cnn.com/2020/07/21/us/neowise-comet-engagements-trnd/index.html>
<https://fox6now.com/2020/07/23/couple-captures-stellar-engagement-photos-under-comet-neowise/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200726-marriage-proposal-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. just once every 6,800 years | a. comet to appear |
| 2. popped the | b. on one knee |
| 3. It will be 7,000 years before | c. for a limited time |
| 4. get down | d. anyone else can |
| 5. propose while the comet | e. question |
| 6. pass by | f. flies overhead |
| 7. coincide with the comet | g. or so |
| 8. John waited for the | h. being in the night sky |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Ms Pendrak immediately accepted | a. to let it go |
| 2. see the once-in-a- | b. of her life |
| 3. She got the surprise | c. love with this girl |
| 4. I felt instant chills and pure | d. lifetime event |
| 5. as the comet whizzed by | e. events together |
| 6. They like experiencing historical | f. across the heavens |
| 7. It was too special | g. the proposal |
| 8. 'I'm massively in | h. happiness |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200726-marriage-proposal-5.html>

A man proposed to his fiancée during an (1) _____ just once every 6,800 years or so. John Nicotera, 33, (2) _____ to his girlfriend Erica Pendrak, 26, while the Neowise comet passed over their heads. It will be 7,000 years before anyone else can get down (3) _____ and propose while the comet flies overhead. Mr Nicotera loves studying about space. He knew the rare comet (4) _____ for a limited time. He planned his proposal (5) _____ the comet being in the night sky. The couple drove to a campsite last week and John waited for the (6) _____.

Ms Pendrak immediately (7) _____. She told reporters that she was going to see the (8) _____ event. She got (9) _____ her life when John got on one knee. She said: "I was just completely shocked - tears and everything. I felt instant (10) _____ happiness." A friend went with the couple to capture the proposal as the comet whizzed by (11) _____. John and Erica are both teachers. They like experiencing historical events together. John said: "Every single star was out. It was too special to let it go. I thought, 'I'm (12) _____ with this girl.'"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200726-marriage-proposal-5.html>

Aman proposed to his fiancée during an event that occurs just once every 6,800 years or so. John Nicotera, 33, popped the question to his girlfriend Erica Pendrak, 26, while the Neowise comet passed over their heads. It will be 7,000 years before anyone else can get down on one knee and propose while the comet flies overhead. Mr Nicotera loves studying about space. He knew the rare comet would pass by for a limited time. He planned his proposal to coincide with the comet being in the night sky. The couple drove to a campsite last week and John waited for the comet to appear. Ms Pendrak immediately accepted the proposal. She told reporters that she was going to see the once-in-a-lifetime event. She got the surprise of her life when John got on one knee. She said: "I was just completely shocked - tears and everything. I felt instant chills and pure happiness." A friend went with the couple to capture the proposal as the comet whizzed by across the heavens. John and Erica are both teachers. They like experiencing historical events together. John said: "Every single star was out. It was too special to let it go. I thought, 'I'm massively in love with this girl.'"

MARRIAGE PROPOSAL SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2007/200726-marriage-proposal-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about marriage proposal 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) _____

