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Level 2 – 31st December, 2020

2020 - A year we will never forget

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201231-the-year-2020-2.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/2012/201231-the-year-2020-2.html>

At the start of 2020, billions of people thought it would be a great year. The year sounded like it was from science fiction - 2020. Many people had big hopes. Few knew what a rollercoaster ride it would be and how the world would change. The biggest news in 2020 was the COVID-19 pandemic. Many people died, there was economic chaos, lockdowns and people wore masks. Another huge event was the death of George Floyd in the USA. This started the Black Lives Matter movement and global protests. The year ended with Joe Biden being voted as the President-elect of the USA.

People will have different memories of 2020. Some told us what they would remember. Ahmed from Lebanon said he would never forget the huge explosion in Beirut in August. He said he thanked God none of his family or friends were hurt. He was sad at the damage to his city. Lucy Baxter, a nurse, said her happiest moment was the news of the vaccines for COVID-19. She said she could see light at the end of a dark tunnel. Ayumi Miyamoto of Japan was sad that the Tokyo Olympics were postponed. She is happy they will go ahead in 2021. She said 2021 would be a good year.

Source: [BreakingNewsEnglish.com](https://breakingnewsenglish.com)

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201231-the-year-2020-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. people thought it would be | a. event |
| 2. a rollercoaster | b. chaos |
| 3. economic | c. elect of the USA |
| 4. people wore | d. a great year |
| 5. Another huge | e. protests |
| 6. started the Black Lives Matter | f. masks |
| 7. global | g. movement |
| 8. voted as the President- | h. ride |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Ahmed from Lebanon said he would | a. moment |
| 2. He was sad at the damage | b. ahead in 2021 |
| 3. her happiest | c. to his city |
| 4. news of the vaccines | d. be a good year |
| 5. see light at the end | e. never forget |
| 6. the Tokyo Olympics were | f. of a dark tunnel |
| 7. She is happy they will go | g. for COVID-19 |
| 8. She said 2021 would | h. postponed |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201231-the-year-2020-2.html>

At the start of 2020, billions of people thought it would
(1) _____ year. The year
(2) _____ was from science fiction - 2020. Many
people had big hopes. Few knew what a rollercoaster ride it would
be and (3) _____ would change. The biggest news
in 2020 was the COVID-19 pandemic. Many people died, there
(4) _____, lockdowns and people wore masks.
Another huge event (5) _____ of George Floyd in
the USA. This started the Black Lives Matter movement and global
protests. The year ended with Joe Biden (6) _____
the President-elect of the USA.

People (7) _____ memories of 2020. Some told us
what they would remember. Ahmed from Lebanon said he would
never forget (8) _____ in Beirut in August. He said
he thanked God (9) _____ family or friends were
hurt. He was sad at the damage to his city. Lucy Baxter, a nurse,
said her happiest moment was the news
(10) _____ for COVID-19. She said she could
(11) _____ the end of a dark tunnel. Ayumi
Miyamoto of Japan was sad that the Tokyo Olympics were
postponed. She is happy they will (12) _____
2021. She said 2021 would be a good year.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201231-the-year-2020-2.html>

At the start of 2020, billions of people thought it would be a great year. The year sounded like it was from science fiction - 2020. Many people had big hopes. Few knew what a roller coaster ride it would be and how the world would change. The biggest news in 2020 was the COVID-19 pandemic. Many people died, there was economic chaos, lockdowns and people wore masks. Another huge event was the death of George Floyd in the USA. This started the Black Lives Matter movement and global protests. The year ended with Joe Biden being voted as the President-elect of the USA. People will have different memories of 2020. Some told us what they would remember. Ahmed from Lebanon said he would never forget the huge explosion in Beirut in August. He said he thanked God none of his family or friends were hurt. He was sad at the damage to his city. Lucy Baxter, a nurse, said her happiest moment was the news of the vaccines for COVID-19. She said she could see light at the end of a dark tunnel. Ayumi Miyamoto of Japan was sad that the Tokyo Olympics were postponed. She is happy they will go ahead in 2021. She said 2021 would be a good year.

THE YEAR 2020 SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201231-the-year-2020-2.html>

Write five GOOD questions about the year 2020 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) _____

