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Level 5 – 4th January, 2021

2021 to be huge for space exploration

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration-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/2101/210104-space-exploration-5.html>

Astronomers are predicting that 2021 will be great for space exploration. More countries and companies are investing in technology to venture into the heavens. Entrepreneurs like SpaceX's Elon Musk are setting their sights on space tourism and on sending astronauts to Mars. What once seemed like science fiction is now becoming space fact. There are many advances in technology that no longer surprise us. These include things like asteroids being mined, Mars being colonised, or holidays and weekend breaks to the Moon.

This year will start with a project to help scientists better understand the universe. NASA will launch a probe to study the collision of small particles in space. This will help us understand how planets formed. A month later, a NASA rover will land on Mars. This will test for signs of past microbial life. NASA said: "Returning samples of Mars to Earth has been a goal of planetary scientists since the early days of the space age." In October, the James Webb Space Telescope will launch into space. Its mission is to observe the first galaxies that formed in the early universe.

Sources: <https://www.salon.com/2020/12/29/all-the-space-missions-to-look-forward-to-in-2021/>
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2020/12/30/2021-space-events-plan/>
<https://newatlas.com/space/year-space-2020-retrospective/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Astronomers are | a. the heavens |
| 2. great for space | b. space fact |
| 3. companies are investing | c. to the Moon |
| 4. venture into | d. in technology |
| 5. setting their | e. predicting that |
| 6. science fiction is now becoming | f. colonised |
| 7. Mars being | g. sights on space |
| 8. weekend breaks | h. exploration |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. the collision of small | a. universe |
| 2. help us understand how | b. scientists |
| 3. signs of past microbial | c. planets formed |
| 4. a goal of planetary | d. that formed |
| 5. since the early days | e. particles |
| 6. launch | f. of the space age |
| 7. observe the first galaxies | g. into space |
| 8. in the early | h. life |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration-5.html>

Astronomers are predicting that 2021 ⁽¹⁾ _____ for space exploration. More countries and companies are investing in technology ⁽²⁾ _____ the heavens. Entrepreneurs like SpaceX's Elon Musk are ⁽³⁾ _____ on space tourism and on sending astronauts to Mars. What once seemed like ⁽⁴⁾ _____ now becoming space fact. There are many advances in technology that no ⁽⁵⁾ _____. These include things like asteroids being mined, Mars being colonised, or holidays and ⁽⁶⁾ _____ the Moon.

This year will start with a ⁽⁷⁾ _____ scientists better understand the universe. NASA will ⁽⁸⁾ _____ to study the collision of small particles in space. This will help us understand ⁽⁹⁾ _____. A month later, a NASA rover will land on Mars. This will test for signs ⁽¹⁰⁾ _____ life. NASA said: "Returning samples of Mars to Earth has been a goal ⁽¹¹⁾ _____ since the early days of the space age." In October, the James Webb Space Telescope will launch into space. ⁽¹²⁾ _____ to observe the first galaxies that formed in the early universe.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration-5.html>

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SPACE EXPLORATION SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2101/210104-space-exploration-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about space exploration 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) _____

