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Level 5 – 19th December 2022

Satellite launched to map Earth's water

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2212/221219-swot-water-satellite-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/2212/221219-swot-water-satellite-5.html>

A satellite has been launched with a mission to map the world's oceans, lakes, rivers and other waterways. It has been dubbed SWOT - Surface Water and Ocean Topography. It went into space just before dawn. Data from the satellite will help scientists to monitor how climate change is adversely affecting water levels. The broadcaster PBS said: "SWOT is needed more than ever, as climate change worsens droughts, flooding and coastal erosion." NASA said SWOT was of "pivotal" importance. It said: "We're going to see Earth's water like we've never seen it before."

The satellite is the size of a sports utility vehicle. It took 20 years to make and cost \$1.2 billion. High-precision radar will measure the height of water on 90 per cent of Earth's surface. It will survey millions of lakes and 2.1 million kilometres of rivers. It will identify areas of water loss that could threaten populations and coastlines. A NASA spokesperson said: "SWOT will give us a ten-fold improvement in the [accuracy] and spatial resolution of our measurements of water height." It will help scientists to understand, "the critical role the oceans play in climate change".

Sources: <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/science/u-s-french-satellite-launched-to-map-almost-all-of-the-worlds-oceans-lakes-rivers>
<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/12/16/us-france-satellite-to-map-worlds-oceans-rivers-lakes>
<https://spacenews.com/falcon-9-launches-ocean-science-mission-for-nasa-and-cnes/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2212/221219-swot-water-satellite-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. a mission to map | a. droughts |
| 2. It went into space just | b. to monitor how |
| 3. the satellite will help scientists | c. never seen it before |
| 4. SWOT is needed | d. the world's oceans |
| 5. climate change worsens | e. more than ever |
| 6. flooding and coastal | f. "pivotal" importance |
| 7. SWOT was of | g. before dawn |
| 8. see Earth's water like we've | h. erosion |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. The satellite is the size of | a. millions of lakes |
| 2. High-precision radar will | b. fold improvement |
| 3. It will survey | c. of water loss |
| 4. It will identify areas | d. play in climate change |
| 5. threaten populations | e. to understand |
| 6. SWOT will give us a ten- | f. measure the height |
| 7. It will help scientists | g. a sports utility vehicle |
| 8. the critical role the oceans | h. and coastlines |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2212/221219-swot-water-satellite-5.html>

A satellite has been launched (1) _____ to map the world's oceans, lakes, rivers (2) _____. It has been dubbed SWOT - Surface Water and Ocean Topography. It went into space (3) _____. Data from the satellite will help scientists to monitor how climate change (4) _____ water levels. The broadcaster PBS said: "SWOT is needed more than ever, as climate change (5) _____ and coastal erosion." NASA said SWOT was (6) _____. It said: "We're going to see Earth's water like we've never seen it before."

The satellite is the size of a (7) _____. It took 20 years to make and cost \$1.2 billion. High-precision radar will (8) _____ of water on 90 per cent of Earth's surface. It will survey millions of lakes and 2.1 million kilometres of rivers. It will (9) _____ water loss that could threaten populations and coastlines. A NASA spokesperson said: "SWOT will give us a (10) _____ in the [accuracy] and (11) _____ our measurements of water height." It will help scientists to understand, "the (12) _____ oceans play in climate change".

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2212/221219-swot-water-satellite-5.html>

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WATER SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2212/221219-swot-water-satellite-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about water 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) _____

