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Level 6 – 3rd July 2023

Microscopic handbag sells for \$63,000

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2307/230703-microscopic-handbag.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2307/230703-microscopic-handbag.html>

Miniaturization has been a pursuit of engineers and designers for decades. The trend to manufacture ever smaller products and devices has seen pocket-sized computers, mobile phones and motorbikes the size of a backpack. The latest thing to be downsized is a miniature handbag that is so small it can only be seen with the aid of a microscope. The New York-based art collective MSCHF has created a microscopic Louis Vuitton-inspired handbag. The makers say their creation is "smaller than a grain of sea salt and narrow enough to pass through the eye of a needle". It measures 657 by 222 by 700 micrometres. It has also just been sold for \$63,750 at an online auction.

The neon-green miniature was made using a high-tech manufacturing technique called two-photon polymerization. This technology uses 3D printers to make mechanical biotech components and devices like microfilters and micropumps. MSCHF utilized the technology to see how small they could make a handbag. Chief creative officer Kevin Wiesner told the New York Times that he had not asked Louis Vuitton for permission to use its logo on the handbag. He said: "We are big in the 'ask for forgiveness, not permission' school of thought." He added: "I think the bag is a funny object because it derives from something rigorously functional, but it has basically become jewellery."

Sources: <https://nypost.com/2023/06/29/microscopic-louis-vuitton-handbag-sells-for-over-63000-smaller-than-a-grain-of-salt/>
<https://edition.cnn.com/2023/06/29/style/mschf-lv-microscopic-bag-auction/index.html>
<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-12247561/Bizarre-handbag-thats-smaller-grain-salt-sells-63K.html>

WARM-UPS

1. HANDBAGS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about handbags. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

miniaturization / engineers / designers / decades / backpack / microscope / handbag / 3D printer / biotech / permission / logo / forgiveness / functional / funny / jewellery

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. SMALLER: Students A **strongly** believe smaller is better; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. MINIATURIZATION: What is good and bad about these things being miniaturized or made smaller? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Good	Bad
Handbags		
Watches		
Trees		
Cars		
Books		
Vacuum cleaners		

5. ENGINEER: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "engineer". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. LOGOS: Rank these with your partner. Put the best logos at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Louis Vuitton
- McDonald's
- Apple
- Nike
- Starbucks
- Ferrari
- Coca Cola
- Shell

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 1. miniaturization | a. An activity of a specified kind, especially a recreational or sporting one. |
| 2. pursuit | b. A group of people working together in a project or enterprise. |
| 3. decade | c. Help, usually of a practical nature. |
| 4. aid | d. A period of 10 years. |
| 5. collective | e. The process of reducing things in size to a tinier and tinier scale. |
| 6. grain | f. The small hole in a needle through which the thread is passed. |
| 7. eye | g. A small hard particle of a substance such as sand, sugar or salt. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 8. neon | h. Get something from a specified source. |
| 9. biotech | i. Very bright or fluorescent in colour. |
| 10. component | j. The action of officially allowing someone to do a particular thing. |
| 11. utilized | k. In an extremely thorough and careful way. |
| 12. permission | l. A part or element of a larger whole, especially a part of a machine or vehicle. |
| 13. derive | m. Make practical and effective use of. |
| 14. rigorously | n. The use of biological processes for industrial and other purposes. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2307/230703-microscopic-handbag.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

1. The article says engineers have miniaturized things for centuries. **T / F**
2. Designers made a motorbike with its own backpack. **T / F**
3. You need a microscope to see the tiny handbag. **T / F**
4. The handbag is a little smaller than a grain of sand. **T / F**
5. Engineers used three-photon polymerization to make the handbag. **T / F**
6. The same technology is used to make micropumps. **T / F**
7. The designers did not ask for permission to use a logo. **T / F**
8. A company spokesperson likened the handbag to jewellery. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| 1. pursuit | a. originates |
| 2. trend | b. design |
| 3. miniature | c. tendency |
| 4. aid | d. made use of |
| 5. creation | e. assistance |
| 6. technique | f. activity |
| 7. components | g. practical |
| 8. utilized | h. method |
| 9. derives | i. scaled-down |
| 10. functional | j. parts |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. a pursuit of engineers and designers | a. 3D printers |
| 2. The trend to manufacture | b. to be downsized |
| 3. The latest thing | c. the eye of a needle |
| 4. smaller than a | d. thought |
| 5. narrow enough to pass through | e. grain of sea salt |
| 6. The neon- | f. become jewellery |
| 7. This technology uses | g. for decades |
| 8. permission | h. green miniature |
| 9. school of | i. to use its logo |
| 10. it has basically | j. ever smaller products |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2307/230703-microscopic-handbag.html>

Miniaturization has been a (1) _____ of engineers and designers for decades. The trend to manufacture ever smaller products and (2) _____ has seen pocket-sized computers, mobile phones and motorbikes the size of a (3) _____. The latest thing to be downsized is a miniature handbag that is so small it can only be seen with the (4) _____ of a microscope. The New York-based art collective MSCHF has created a microscopic Louis Vuitton- (5) _____ handbag. The makers say their creation is "smaller than a (6) _____ of sea salt and narrow enough to pass through the (7) _____ of a needle". It measures 657 by 222 by 700 micrometres. It has also just been sold for \$63,750 at an (8) _____ auction.

inspired
devices
online
backpack
grain
pursuit
aid
eye

The neon-green (9) _____ was made using a high-tech manufacturing technique called two-photon polymerization. This (10) _____ uses 3D printers to make mechanical biotech components and devices like microfilters and micropumps. MSCHF (11) _____ the technology to see how small they could make a handbag. Chief (12) _____ officer Kevin Wiesner told the New York Times that he had not asked Louis Vuitton for (13) _____ to use its logo on the handbag. He said: "We are big in the 'ask for forgiveness, not permission' school of (14) _____." He added: "I think the bag is a funny object because it (15) _____ from something rigorously functional, but it has (16) _____ become jewellery."

permission
technology
derives
creative
thought
miniature
utilized
basically

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2307/230703-microscopic-handbag.html>

- 1) Miniaturization has been a pursuit of engineers and _____
 - a. designers for decadence
 - b. designers for deck aid
 - c. designers for decade
 - d. designers for decades
- 2) The trend to manufacture ever smaller _____
 - a. products and devises
 - b. products and derides
 - c. products and devices
 - d. products and the vices
- 3) a miniature handbag that is so small it can only be seen _____
 - a. wither the aid
 - b. within aid
 - c. with the aid
 - d. wit the aid
- 4) MSCHF has created a microscopic Louis _____
 - a. Vuitton-respired handbag
 - b. Vuitton-inspired handbag
 - c. Vuitton-conspired handbag
 - d. Vuitton-perspired handbag
- 5) smaller than a grain of sea salt and narrow enough to pass through the eye _____
 - a. of a needy
 - b. of a needle
 - c. of a need-all
 - d. of a knead all
- 6) The neon-green miniature was made using a high-_____
 - a. tech manufacturing technique
 - b. tech manufacturing technical
 - c. tech manufacturing tech niche
 - d. tech manufacturing tech nick
- 7) This technology uses 3D printers to make _____
 - a. mechanical biotech components
 - b. mechanical biotech componentry
 - c. mechanical biotech con pine nuts
 - d. mechanical biotech compo mints
- 8) told the New York Times that he had not asked Louis Vuitton for permission to _____
 - a. use its logo
 - b. use it slow-go
 - c. use its slow-go
 - d. use its low go
- 9) We are big in the 'ask for forgiveness, not permission' _____
 - a. school of fought
 - b. school of thoughts
 - c. school of thought
 - d. school of thawed
- 10) I think the bag is a funny object because it derives from _____
 - a. something rigorous ill-functional
 - b. something rigorously functionally
 - c. something rigorously functional
 - d. something rigorously function all

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2307/230703-microscopic-handbag.html>

Miniaturization has been (1) _____ engineers and designers for decades. The trend to manufacture ever smaller products and (2) _____ pocket-sized computers, mobile phones and motorbikes the size of a backpack. The latest thing to (3) _____ a miniature handbag that is so small it can only be seen with the aid of a microscope. The New York-based art collective MSCHF has created a microscopic Louis Vuitton-inspired handbag. The makers say their creation is "smaller (4) _____ of sea salt and narrow enough to pass through the eye (5) _____". It measures 657 by 222 by 700 micrometres. It has also just been sold for \$63,750 at (6) _____.

The (7) _____ was made using a high-tech manufacturing technique called two-photon polymerization. This technology uses 3D printers to (8) _____ components and devices like microfilters and micropumps. MSCHF utilized the technology to see how small they could make a handbag. Chief creative officer Kevin Wiesner told the New York Times that he had not asked Louis Vuitton for permission to use (9) _____ the handbag. He said: "We are big in the 'ask for forgiveness, not permission' (10) _____." He added: "I think the bag is a funny object because (11) _____ something rigorously functional, but it has (12) _____."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2307/230703-microscopic-handbag.html>

1. For how long have engineers been trying to miniaturize things?
2. What have designers made that is the size of a backpack?
3. What do people need to be able to see the handbag?
4. What do the handbag's makers say the handbag is smaller than?
5. What is the handbag small enough to pass through?
6. What colour is the handbag?
7. What components do 3D printers make with two-photon polymerization?
8. What is the job title of Kevin Wiesner?
9. What did the design company not ask Louis Vuitton for?
10. What did Kevin Wiesner say the handbag has become?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2307/230703-microscopic-handbag.html>

- 1) For how long have engineers been trying to miniaturize things?
 - a) years and years
 - b) centuries
 - c) decades
 - d) millennia
- 2) What have designers made that is the size of a backpack?
 - a) motorbikes
 - b) cars
 - c) kitchens
 - d) homes
- 3) What do people need to be able to see the handbag?
 - a) glasses
 - b) a microscope
 - c) money
 - d) permission
- 4) What do the handbag's makers say the handbag is smaller than?
 - a) a grain of truth
 - b) a grain of sand
 - c) a grain of sugar
 - d) a grain of sea salt
- 5) What is the handbag small enough to pass through?
 - a) the eye of a storm
 - b) the eye of a hurricane
 - c) the eye of a needle
 - d) the eye of a tiger
- 6) What colour is the handbag?
 - a) blood red
 - b) neon green
 - c) sky blue
 - d) hot pink
- 7) What components do 3D printers make with two-photon polymerization?
 - a) microfilters and macropumps
 - b) macrofilters and macropumps
 - c) macrofilters and micropumps
 - d) microfilters and micropumps
- 8) What is the job title of Kevin Wiesner?
 - a) chief design officer
 - b) chief creative officer
 - c) chief logo officer
 - d) chief handbag officer
- 9) What did the design company not ask Louis Vuitton for?
 - a) money
 - b) permission to use its logo
 - c) cooperation
 - d) ideas
- 10) What did Kevin Wiesner say the handbag has become?
 - a) jewellery
 - b) art
 - c) trendy
 - d) much sought after

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2307/230703-microscopic-handbag.html>

Role A – Louis Vuitton

You think Louis Vuitton has the best logo. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their logos. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): McDonald's, Apple or Coca Cola.

Role B – McDonald's

You think McDonald's has the best logo. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their logos. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): Louis Vuitton, Apple or Coca Cola.

Role C – Apple

You think Apple has the best logo. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their logos. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): McDonald's, Louis Vuitton or Coca Cola.

Role D – Coca Cola

You think Coca Cola has the best logo. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their logos. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): McDonald's, Apple or Louis Vuitton.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2307/230703-microscopic-handbag.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'microscopic' and 'handbag'.

microscopic	handbag
--------------------	----------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• pursuit• trend• size• art• pass• sold	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• neon• 3D• small• logo• school• funny
--	---

MINIATURIZATION SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2307/230703-microscopic-handbag.html>

Write five GOOD questions about miniaturization 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.

MINIATURIZATION DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'miniature'?
3. What do you think of miniaturization?
4. How important are engineers?
5. Which of the things you use are smaller now than they were in the past?
6. Would you like smartphones to be made smaller?
7. How useful is a miniature handbag?
8. Why would someone pay \$63,000 for the miniature handbag?
9. What do you think of expensive brands?
10. What kinds of bags do you like?

Microscopic handbag sells for \$63,000 – 3rd July 2023
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MINIATURIZATION DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'handbag'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you know about 3D printers?
15. What do you think of technology?
16. Should the designer have asked for permission to use the logo?
17. How creative are you?
18. An economist once said 'small is beautiful'. Do you agree?
19. Is the handbag a bag or is it jewellery?
20. What questions would you like to ask the designers?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2307/230703-microscopic-handbag.html>

Miniaturization has been a (1) _____ of engineers and designers for decades. The (2) _____ to manufacture ever smaller products and devices has seen pocket-sized computers, mobile phones and motorbikes the size of a backpack. The latest thing to be downsized is a miniature handbag that is so small it can only be seen with the (3) _____ of a microscope. The New York-based art (4) _____ MSCHF has created a microscopic Louis Vuitton-inspired handbag. The makers say their creation is "smaller than a (5) _____ of sea salt and narrow enough to pass through the (6) _____ of a needle". It measures 657 by 222 by 700 micrometres. It has also just been sold for \$63,750 at an online auction.

The neon-green (7) _____ was made using a high-tech manufacturing technique called two-photon polymerization. This technology uses 3D printers to make mechanical biotech components and devices like microfilters and micropumps. MSCHF utilized the technology to (8) _____ how small they could make a handbag. Chief creative officer Kevin Wiesner told the New York Times that he had not asked Louis Vuitton (9) _____ permission to use its logo on the handbag. He said: "We are big (10) _____ the 'ask for forgiveness, not permission' school of (11) _____." He added: "I think the bag is a funny object because it (12) _____ from something rigorously functional, but it has basically become jewellery."

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) purser | (b) pursuit | (c) virtual | (d) augmented |
| 2. | (a) frond | (b) trend | (c) blend | (d) bland |
| 3. | (a) charity | (b) benevolence | (c) assist | (d) aid |
| 4. | (a) corrective | (b) collective | (c) collaborative | (d) collated |
| 5. | (a) pod | (b) grain | (c) seed | (d) stone |
| 6. | (a) pupil | (b) lens | (c) eye | (d) iris |
| 7. | (a) mini | (b) mini-me | (c) miniature | (d) minimal |
| 8. | (a) gaze | (b) look | (c) see | (d) stare |
| 9. | (a) as | (b) by | (c) to | (d) for |
| 10. | (a) at | (b) by | (c) as | (d) in |
| 11. | (a) thought | (b) thinks | (c) think | (d) thinker |
| 12. | (a) deprives | (b) derides | (c) derives | (d) depraves |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2307/230703-microscopic-handbag.html>

Paragraph 1

1. a piruuts of engineers
2. ever smaller products and cdivees
3. a tinuierma handbag
4. Louis Vuitton-rpnside handbag
5. pass through the eye of a ldneee
6. at an online iucnato

Paragraph 2

7. a high-tech manufacturing tuheienqc
8. mechanical biotech onpcnsmteo
9. MSCHF uldiietz the technology
10. opsmrensii to use its logo
11. ask for gnirsevsfoe
12. it derives from something rirlouoygs functional

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2307/230703-microscopic-handbag.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () be seen with the aid of a microscope. The New York-based art collective MSCHF has
- () smaller products and devices has seen pocket-sized computers, mobile phones and motorbikes the size
- () polymerization. This technology uses 3D printers to make mechanical biotech components
- () make a handbag. Chief creative officer Kevin Wiesner told the New York Times that he had not asked Louis Vuitton for
- () from something rigorously functional, but it has basically become jewellery."
- () grain of sea salt and narrow enough to pass through the eye of a needle". It measures 657
- (**1**) Miniaturization has been a pursuit of engineers and designers for decades. The trend to manufacture ever
- () not permission' school of thought." He added: "I think the bag is a funny object because it derives
- () and devices like microfilters and micropumps. MSCHF utilized the technology to see how small they could
- () by 222 by 700 micrometres. It has also just been sold for \$63,750 at an online auction.
- () of a backpack. The latest thing to be downsized is a miniature handbag that is so small it can only
- () permission to use its logo on the handbag. He said: "We are big in the 'ask for forgiveness,
- () created a microscopic Louis Vuitton-inspired handbag. The makers say their creation is "smaller than a
- () The neon-green miniature was made using a high-tech manufacturing technique called two-photon

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2307/230703-microscopic-handbag.html>

1. of Miniaturization engineers . a long been pursuit has
2. to trend manufacture The ever smaller products .
3. seen be can only a It through microscope .
4. a grain than smaller salt . sea It's of
5. through a eye of the needle . Pass
6. was a made technique . It high-tech manufacturing using
7. printers to mechanical 3D components . Use biotech make
8. a how could they See make small handbag .
9. its logo on to Permission use handbag . the
10. from derives functional . rigorously something It

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2307/230703-microscopic-handbag.html>

Miniaturization has been a *persist / pursuit* of engineers and designers for decades. The *trend / tend* to manufacture ever smaller products and devices has *been / seen* pocket-sized computers, mobile phones and motorbikes the size of a backpack. The *latest / earliest* thing to be downsized is a miniature handbag that is so small it can only be seen with the *assist / aid* of a microscope. The New York-based art *corrective / collective* MSCHF has created a *macroscopic / microscopic* Louis Vuitton-inspired handbag. The makers say their creation is "smaller than a *grain / granule* of sea salt and narrow enough to pass through the *ear / eye* of a needle". It measures 657 by 222 by 700 micrometres. It has also just been sold for \$63,750 at an online *action / auction*.

The neon-green miniature was made *uses / using* a high-tech manufacturing technique called two-photon polymerization. This technology *using / uses* 3D printers to make mechanical biotech components and *devises / devices* like microfilters and micropumps. MSCHF *utilities / utilized* the technology to see how *smaller / small* they could make a handbag. Chief creative officer Kevin Wiesner told the New York Times that he had not asked Louis Vuitton *for / from* permission to use its logo on the handbag. He said: "We are *giant / big* in the 'ask for forgiveness, not permission' school of *thinker / thought*." He added: "I think the bag is a funny *subject / object* because it derives from something rigorously functional, but it has *basically / basics* become jewellery."

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2307/230703-microscopic-handbag.html>

M_n__t_r_z_t__n h_s b__n _ p_rs__t _f _ng_n__rs _nd
d_s_gn_rs f_r d_c_d_s. Th_ tr_nd t_ m_n_f_ct_r_ _v_r
sm_ll_r pr_d_cts _nd d_v_c_s h_s s__n p_ck_t-s_z_d
c_m_p_t_rs, m_b_l_ ph_n_s _nd m_t_rb_k_s th_ s_z_ _f
_ b_ckp_ck. Th_ l_t_st th_ng t_ b_ d_wns_z_d _s _
m_n__t_r_ h_ndb_g th_t _s s_ sm_ll _t c_n _nly b_
s__n w_th th_ __d _f _ m_cr_sc_p_. Th_ N_w Y_rk-
b_s_d _rt c_ll_ct_v_ MSCHF h_s cr__t_d _ m_cr_sc_p_c
L__s V__tt_n-_nsp_r_d h_ndb_g. Th_ m_k_rs s_y th__r
cr__t__n _s "sm_ll_r th_n _ gr__n _f s__ s_lt _nd
n_rr_w _n__gh t_ p_ss thr__gh th_ _y_ _f _ n__dl".
_t m__s_r_s 657 by 222 by 700 m_cr_m_tr_s. _t h_s
ls j_st b__n s_ld f_r \$63,750 _t _n _nl_n_ __ct__n.

Th_ n__n-gr__n m_n__t_r_ w_s m_d_ _s_ng _ h_gh-
t_ch m_n_f_ct_r_ng t_chn_q__ c_ll_d tw_-ph_t_n
p_lym_r_z_t__n. Th_s t_chn_l_gy _s_s 3D pr_nt_rs t_
m_k_ m_ch_n_c_l b__t_ch c_m_p_n_nts _nd d_v_c_s l_k_
m_cr_f_lt_rs _nd m_cr_p_mps. MSCHF _t_l_z_d th_
t_chn_l_gy t_ s__ h_w sm_ll th_y c__ld m_k_ _
h_ndb_g. Ch__f cr__t_v_ _ff_c_r K_v_n W__sn_r t_ld
th_ N_w Y_rk T_m_s th_t h_ h_d n_t _sk_d L__s
V__tt_n f_r p_rm_ss__n t_ _s_ _ts l_g_ _n th_
h_ndb_g. H_ s__d: "W_ _r_ b_g _n th_ '_sk f_r
f_rg_v_n_ss, n_t p_rm_ss__n' sch__l _f th__ght." H_
_dd_d: "_ th_nk th_ b_g _s _ f_nny _bj_ct b_c__s_ _t
d_r_v_s fr_m s_m_th_ng r_g_r__sly f_nct__n_l, b_t _t
h_s b_s_c_lly b_c_m_ j_w_ll_ry."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2307/230703-microscopic-handbag.html>

miniaturization has been a pursuit of engineers and designers for decades the trend to manufacture ever smaller products and devices has seen pocket-sized computers mobile phones and motorbikes the size of a backpack the latest thing to be downsized is a miniature handbag that is so small it can only be seen with the aid of a microscope the New York-based art collective msCHF has created a microscopic Louis Vuitton-inspired handbag the makers say their creation is smaller than a grain of sea salt and narrow enough to pass through the eye of a needle it measures 657 by 222 by 700 micrometres it has also just been sold for 63,750 at an online auction

The neon-green miniature was made using a high-tech manufacturing technique called two-photon polymerization this technology uses 3D printers to make mechanical biotech components and devices like microfilters and micropumps msCHF utilized the technology to see how small they could make a handbag chief creative officer Kevin Wiesner told the New York Times that he had not asked Louis Vuitton for permission to use its logo on the handbag he said we are big in the ask for forgiveness not permission school of thought he added I think the bag is a funny object because it derives from something rigorously functional but it has basically become jewellery

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2307/230703-microscopic-handbag.html>

Miniaturization has been a pursuit of engineers and designers for decades. The trend to manufacture ever smaller products and devices has seen pocket-sized computers, mobile phones and motorbikes the size of a backpack. The latest thing to be downsized is a miniature handbag that is so small it can only be seen with the aid of a microscope. The New York-based art collective MSCHF has created a microscopic Louis Vuitton-inspired handbag. The makers say their creation is "smaller than a grain of sea salt and narrow enough to pass through the eye of a needle". It measures 657 by 222 by 700 micrometres. It has also just been sold for \$63,750 at an online auction. The neon-green miniature was made using a high-tech manufacturing technique called two-photon polymerization. This technology uses 3D printers to make mechanical biotech components and devices like microfilters and micropumps. MSCHF utilized the technology to see how small they could make a handbag. Chief creative officer Kevin Wiesner told the New York Times that he had not asked Louis Vuitton for permission to use its logo on the handbag. He said: "We are big in the 'ask for forgiveness, not permission' school of thought." He added: "I think the bag is a funny object because it derives from something rigorously functional, but it has basically become jewellery."

FREE WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2307/230703-microscopic-handbag.html>

Write about **miniaturization** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

ACADEMIC WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2307/230703-microscopic-handbag.html>

Small is beautiful. Discuss.

HOMWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MINIATURIZATION: Make a poster about miniaturization. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. DESIGNER GOODS: Write a magazine article about designer goods. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on miniaturization. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your opinions on it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. e 2. a 3. d 4. c 5. b 6. g 7. f
8. i 9. n 10. l 11. m 12. j 13. h 14. k

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F 2 F 3 T 4 F 5 F 6 T 7 T 8 T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. f	2. c	3. I	4. e	5. b
6. h	7. j	8. d	9. a	10. g

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Decades
- Motorbikes
- A microscope
- A grain of sea salt
- The eye of a needle
- Neon-green
- Microfilters and micropumps
- Chief creative officer
- Permission to use its logo
- Jewellery

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- Miniaturization has long been a pursuit of engineers.
- The trend to manufacture ever smaller products.
- It can only be seen through a microscope.
- It's smaller than a grain of sea salt.
- Pass through the eye of a needle.
- It was made using a high-tech manufacturing technique.
- Use 3D printers to make mechanical biotech components.
- See how small they could make a handbag.
- Permission to use its logo on the handbag.
- It derives from something rigorously functional.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. c 2. a 3. b 4. d 5. c 6. b 7. d 8. b 9. b 10. a

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)