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Level 4 – 27th November 2023

Bacteria pass 'memories' to future generations

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231127-bacteria-memories-4.html>

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Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231127-bacteria-memories-4.html>

Scientists thought knew they most things about bacteria. However, they have just found that bacteria can pass on memories to future generations. The research was on the well-studied E. coli bacteria. Researchers said these bacteria can form memories even though they have no brain. Bacteria can get information from their environment. They can store memory of this and can quickly access it for later use.

Bacterial memory is different from human memory. It is more like our muscle memory. Our muscles have a sense of what to do next. Bacterial memory is because of levels of iron. A researcher said early life used iron for many cellular processes. Iron was essential for the evolution of life. A researcher said his research could help to fight bacterial diseases. He said the more we know about bacterial behaviour, the easier it is to combat disease.

Sources: <https://www.earth.com/news/bacteria-form-memories-and-pass-them-on-to-future-generations/>
<https://www.unilad.com/technology/space/whats-inside-earth-core-696460-20231123>
<https://www.sciencealert.com/in-a-first-bacteria-seen-storing-memories-and-passing-them-on-for-generations>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231127-bacteria-memories-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Scientists thought | a. E. coli bacteria |
| 2. most things | b. found that |
| 3. they have just | c. environment |
| 4. bacteria can pass | d. about bacteria |
| 5. the well-studied | e. no brain |
| 6. even though they have | f. for later use |
| 7. get information from their | g. on memories |
| 8. quickly access it | h. they knew |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Bacterial memory is different | a. of iron |
| 2. It is more | b. many cellular processes |
| 3. Our muscles have | c. evolution of life |
| 4. what to do | d. like our muscle memory |
| 5. levels | e. next |
| 6. early life used iron for | f. from human memory |
| 7. essential for the | g. disease |
| 8. the easier it is to combat | h. a sense |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231127-bacteria-memories-4.html>

Scientists (1) _____ most things about bacteria.

However, they (2) _____ that bacteria can pass on

memories to future generations. The research was

(3) _____-studied E. coli bacteria. Researchers said

these bacteria can form memories (4) _____ have no

brain. (5) _____ information from their environment.

They can store memory of this and can (6) _____ for

later use.

Bacterial memory is different (7) _____. It is more like

our muscle memory. Our muscles have a sense of what

(8) _____. Bacterial memory is because of levels of

iron. A researcher said early life used iron for (9) _____.

Iron was essential for (10) _____. A researcher said his

research could help to (11) _____. He said the more we

know about bacterial behaviour, the easier it is (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231127-bacteria-memories-4.html>

Scientists thought they knew most things about bacteria. However, they have just found that bacteria can pass on memories to future generations. This research was on the well-studied E. coli bacteria. Researchers said these bacteria can form memories even though they have no brain. Bacteria can get information from their environment. They can store memory of this and can quickly access it for later use. Bacterial memory is different from human memory. It is more like our muscle memory. Our muscles have a sense of what to do next. Bacterial memory is because of levels of iron. As researchers said, early life used iron for many cellular processes. Iron was essential for the evolution of life. As researchers said, his research could help to fight bacterial diseases. He said the more we know about bacterial behaviour, the easier it is to combat disease.

MEMORIES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231127-bacteria-memories-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about memories 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) _____

