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## Level 6 – 23rd September 2024

### 'Third state' exists beyond life and death, says study

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state.html>

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

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state.html>

A thought-provoking study from scientists in the USA has suggested a "third state" that exists after life and death. This somewhat mind-blowing concept posits a phenomenon in which the cells in the organs of a deceased body adopt new functions after the body dies. Biologist Peter Nobel and bioinformatics researcher Alex Pozhitkov explained how cells transform after their host organism dies. The scientists wrote: "These findings demonstrate the inherent plasticity of cellular systems and challenge the idea that cells and organisms can evolve only in predetermined ways." They added: "The third state suggests that organismal death may play a significant role in how life transforms over time."

The scientists suggested the existence of two kinds of "biobot" that are integral in the mechanics of the third state. Wiktionary.org defines a biobot as: "A robot that is partly or wholly biological in nature, as for example...plant cells or animal cells that can perform tasks such as moving and reacting." The researchers termed one biobot as a "xenobot". This reorganizes cells into a new multi-cellular organism. Other biobots are "anthrobots". These are capable of self-assembling cells and moving around. The scientists said xenobots exist "beyond the traditional boundaries of life and death". They added the bots offer "prospects for new treatments" and personalized and preventive medicine.

Sources: <https://www.popularmechanics.com/science/health/a62244774/biobots-third-state/>  
<https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/biobot>  
<https://www.sciencealert.com/these-creatures-occupy-third-state-beyond-life-and-death-scientists-say>  
<https://metro.co.uk/2024/09/16/bodies-dont-die-scientists-discover-third-state-life-21614609/>

# WARM-UPS

**1. BODILY CELLS:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about bodily cells. 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?

thought-provoking / scientists / third state / life / death / organism / plasticity / time / biobots / plant cells / animal cells / tasks / researchers / treatments / medicine

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

**3. DEATH:** Students A **strongly** believe there is life after death; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. LIFE AND DEATH:** What would you like to do in life? How would you like to be remembered in death? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Life	Death
Hobbies		
Exercise		
Friends		
Job		
English		
Achievements		

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

**6. NEW TREATMENTS:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best treatments at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Baldness
- No teeth decay
- Bigger muscles
- Perfect vision
- No headaches
- No wrinkles
- No hay fever
- Better concentration

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. thought-provoking | a. Something that is really, really, really surprising or amazing. |
| 2. mind-blowing      | b. An animal or plant on or in which a parasite or organism lives. |
| 3. phenomenon        | c. Something that is decided or fixed before it happens.           |
| 4. host (noun)       | d. An unusual event or thing that you can see or experience.       |
| 5. inherent          | e. To change and develop slowly over time.                         |
| 6. evolve            | f. Something that makes you think a lot about an idea or question. |
| 7. predetermined     | g. A quality or feature that is a natural part of something.       |

## Paragraph 2

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 8. integral    | h. To explain the meaning of a word or idea.               |
| 9. define      | i. Any living thing, like a plant, animal, or person.      |
| 10. organism   | j. Something that helps stop something bad from happening. |
| 11. capable    | k. To be real or to be present in the world.               |
| 12. exist      | l. Having the ability to do something.                     |
| 13. boundary   | m. An important part of something that is necessary.       |
| 14. preventive | n. A line or limit that separates two areas.               |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state.html>

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

1. The article says a study from America will make people think. **T / F**
2. The writer says the concept of a third state could blow people's minds. **T / F**
3. Scientists say some cells are made from plastic. **T / F**
4. The death of organs could play a role in our evolution. **T / F**
5. The scientists say two kinds of biobot are active in the third state. **T / F**
6. Biobots are all wholly biological in nature. **T / F**
7. Anthrobots reorganize cells into new multi-cellular organisms. **T / F**
8. Anthrobots and xenobots could lead to personalized medicines. **T / F**

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

- |                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. <b>suggested</b>     | a. fundamental    |
| 2. <b>somewhat</b>      | b. set            |
| 3. <b>adopt</b>         | c. dividing lines |
| 4. <b>predetermined</b> | d. relatively     |
| 5. <b>significant</b>   | e. named          |
| 6. <b>integral</b>      | f. remedies       |
| 7. <b>termed</b>        | g. argued         |
| 8. <b>boundaries</b>    | h. possibilities  |
| 9. <b>prospects</b>     | i. take on        |
| 10. <b>medicine</b>     | j. crucial        |

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

- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1. A thought-                             | a. of cellular systems     |
| 2. the cells in the organs of a           | b. of life and death       |
| 3. the inherent plasticity                | c. a significant role      |
| 4. cells and organisms can evolve only in | d. preventive medicine     |
| 5. organismal death may play              | e. predetermined ways      |
| 6. the existence of two                   | f. perform tasks           |
| 7. animal cells that can                  | g. provoking study         |
| 8. This reorganizes cells into a new      | h. kinds of "biobot"       |
| 9. beyond the traditional boundaries      | i. multi-cellular organism |
| 10. new treatments and personalized and   | j. deceased body           |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state.html>

A thought-provoking study from scientists in the USA has suggested a "third state" that (1) \_\_\_\_\_ after life and death. This somewhat mind-blowing concept (2) \_\_\_\_\_ a phenomenon in which the cells in the (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of a deceased body adopt new functions after the body dies. Biologist Peter Nobel and bioinformatics (4) \_\_\_\_\_ Alex Pozhitkov explained how cells transform after their host (5) \_\_\_\_\_ dies. The scientists wrote: "These findings demonstrate the inherent (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of cellular systems and challenge the idea that cells and organisms can evolve only in predetermined (7) \_\_\_\_\_." They added: "The third state suggests that organismal death may play a significant (8) \_\_\_\_\_ in how life transforms over time."

*researcher*  
*posits*  
*organism*  
*ways*  
*exists*  
*role*  
*organs*  
*plasticity*

The scientists suggested the existence of two kinds of "biobot" that are (9) \_\_\_\_\_ in the mechanics of the third state. Wiktionary.org (10) \_\_\_\_\_ a biobot as: "A robot that is partly or wholly biological in nature, as for example...plant cells or animal cells that can perform (11) \_\_\_\_\_ such as moving and reacting." The researchers (12) \_\_\_\_\_ one biobot as a "xenobot". This reorganizes cells into a new multi-cellular (13) \_\_\_\_\_. Other biobots are "anthrobots". These are (14) \_\_\_\_\_ of self-assembling cells and moving around. The scientists said xenobots exist "beyond the traditional (15) \_\_\_\_\_ of life and death". They added the bots offer "prospects for new treatments" and personalized and preventive (16) \_\_\_\_\_.

*termed*  
*defines*  
*medicine*  
*tasks*  
*capable*  
*integral*  
*boundaries*  
*organism*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state.html>

- 1) a phenomenon in which the cells in the organs of a deceased body \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. adopt new functional
  - b. adopt new function
  - c. adopt new functions
  - d. adopt new functioned
- 2) Alex Pozhitkov explained how cells transform after their \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. host organism dies
  - b. hosed organism dies
  - c. hots organism dies
  - d. ghost organism dies
- 3) The scientists wrote: "These findings demonstrate \_\_\_\_\_"
  - a. the inherent plaster city
  - b. the inherent plausibility
  - c. the inherent plastic city
  - d. the inherent plasticity
- 4) challenge the idea that cells and organisms can evolve only \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. in predeterminate ways
  - b. in predetermined ways
  - c. in predetermined weighs
  - d. in predeterminate whys
- 5) The third state suggests that organismal death may play \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. a significant role
  - b. a significant roll
  - c. a significant troll
  - d. a significant rule
- 6) Wiktionary.org defines a biobot as: "A robot that is partly or wholly \_\_\_\_\_"
  - a. biological in nature
  - b. biological on nature
  - c. biological immature
  - d. biological in mature
- 7) plant cells or animal cells that can perform tasks such as \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. moving and react tin
  - b. moving and reactive
  - c. moving and reaction
  - d. moving and reacting
- 8) researchers termed one biobot as a "xenobot". This reorganizes cells into a new \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. multi-cell yule are organism
  - b. multi-cellular organics
  - c. multi-cellular organism
  - d. multi-cellular organizing
- 9) The scientists said xenobots exist beyond \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the traditionally boundaries
  - b. the traditional boundaries
  - c. the tradition all boundaries
  - d. the traditionally boundaries
- 10) "prospects for new treatments" and personalized \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. and prevented medicine
  - b. and prevention medicine
  - c. and preventive medicine
  - d. and preventable medicine

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state.html>

A thought-provoking study from scientists in the USA has suggested a "third state" (1) \_\_\_\_\_ life and death. This somewhat mind-blowing concept posits a phenomenon in which the cells in the organs of a deceased body (2) \_\_\_\_\_ after the body dies. Biologist Peter Nobel and bioinformatics researcher Alex Pozhitkov explained how cells transform after (3) \_\_\_\_\_ dies. The scientists wrote: "These findings demonstrate (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of cellular systems and challenge the idea that cells and (5) \_\_\_\_\_ only in predetermined ways." They added: "The third state suggests that organismal death may play a (6) \_\_\_\_\_ how life transforms over time."

The scientists suggested (7) \_\_\_\_\_ two kinds of "biobot" that are integral in the mechanics of the third state. Wiktionary.org defines a biobot as: "A robot that is partly (8) \_\_\_\_\_ in nature, as for example...plant cells or animal cells that can perform tasks such as (9) \_\_\_\_\_." The researchers termed one biobot as a "xenobot". This reorganizes cells into a new multi-cellular organism. Other biobots are "anthrobots". These (10) \_\_\_\_\_ self-assembling cells and moving around. The scientists said xenobots exist "(11) \_\_\_\_\_ boundaries of life and death". They added the bots offer "prospects for new treatments" and (12) \_\_\_\_\_ medicine.



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state.html>

1. What adjective did the writer use to describe the study from the USA?
2. What might the cells in organs adopt after the body dies?
3. What's the job of Alex Pozhitkov?
4. What did the researchers say was inherent about cellular systems?
5. What kind of role might the death of organs play in transforming life?
6. How many kinds of biobots did the researchers write about?
7. What tasks do biobots perform?
8. What new thing do xenobots create?
9. What do xenobots exist beyond the boundaries of?
10. What might biobots lead to in the future?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state.html>

- 1) What adjective did the writer use to describe the study from the USA?
  - a) explosive
  - b) thought-provoking
  - c) revolutionary
  - d) suggestive
- 2) What might the cells in organs adopt after the body dies?
  - a) DNA
  - b) a nucleus
  - c) surrogates
  - d) new functions
- 3) What's the job of Alex Pozhitkov?
  - a) bioinformatics researcher
  - b) a biologist
  - c) a member of the Nobel committee
  - d) a robotics engineer
- 4) What did the researchers say was inherent about cellular systems?
  - a) their pliability
  - b) circularity
  - c) plasticity
  - d) networking
- 5) What kind of role might the death of organs play in transforming life?
  - a) a transformative role
  - b) a significant role
  - c) an unexplained role
  - d) a minor role
- 6) How many kinds of biobots did the researchers write about?
  - a) 4
  - b) 3
  - c) 2
  - d) 1
- 7) What tasks do biobots perform?
  - a) repairing and consolidating
  - b) reproducing and regenerating
  - c) doubling and trebling
  - d) moving and reacting
- 8) What new thing do xenobots create?
  - a) multi-cellular organisms
  - b) platelets
  - c) anti-bodies
  - d) life
- 9) What do xenobots exist beyond the boundaries of?
  - a) life and death
  - b) plausibility
  - c) existence
  - d) science
- 10) What might biobots lead to in the future?
  - a) peace
  - b) new treatments and medicines
  - c) eternal life
  - d) cyborgs

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state.html>

## **Role A – Baldness**

You think baldness is the thing we need a treatment for most. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why treatments for their things aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): perfect vision, no wrinkles or better concentration.

## **Role B – Perfect Vision**

You think perfect vision is the thing we need a treatment for most. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why treatments for their things aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): baldness, no wrinkles or better concentration.

## **Role C – No Wrinkles**

You think no wrinkles is the thing we need a treatment for most. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why treatments for their things aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): perfect vision, baldness or better concentration.

## **Role D – Better Concentration**

You think better concentration is the thing we need a treatment for most. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why treatments for their things aren't as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): perfect vision, no wrinkles or baldness.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look online / in your dictionary to find collocates, information on, synonyms for... the words 'life' and 'death'.

life	death

- 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"><li>• thought</li><li>• concept</li><li>• host</li><li>• findings</li><li>• evolve</li><li>• role</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• two</li><li>• partly</li><li>• nature</li><li>• new</li><li>• beyond</li><li>• medicine</li></ul>
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# BODILY CELLS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state.html>

Write five GOOD questions about bodily cells 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.

# BODILY CELLS 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 'life'?
3. What do you think of life and death?
4. What happens after we die?
5. What do you know about cells?
6. Would you like to live longer?
7. What kind of science would you like to get into?
8. How mind-blowing is it that there is a third state?
9. How does life transform over time?
10. What age would you like to live to be?

*'Third state' exists beyond life and death, says study – 23rd September 2024*  
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# BODILY CELLS 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 'death'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Is there life after death?
15. What would you think if medicine enabled us to live to be 200?
16. What do you think of biobots?
17. What will medicine be like in 100 years from now?
18. What do you think of science?
19. How great is life?
20. What questions would you like to ask the researchers?

# 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/2409/240923-the-third-state.html>

A thought-(1) \_\_\_\_\_ study from scientists in the USA has suggested a "third state" that (2) \_\_\_\_\_ after life and death. This somewhat mind-blowing concept posits a phenomenon (3) \_\_\_\_\_ which the cells in the organs of a deceased body adopt new functions after the body dies. Biologist Peter Nobel and bioinformatics researcher Alex Pozhitkov explained how cells transform after their (4) \_\_\_\_\_ organism dies. The scientists wrote: "These findings demonstrate the inherent (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of cellular systems and challenge the idea that cells and organisms can evolve only in predetermined ways." They added: "The third state suggests that organismal death may play a significant role (6) \_\_\_\_\_ how life transforms over time."

The scientists suggested the existence of two kinds of "biobot" that are integral (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the mechanics of the third state. Wiktionary.org defines a biobot as: "A robot that is partly or wholly biological in nature, (8) \_\_\_\_\_ for example...plant cells or animal cells that can perform tasks such as moving and reacting." The researchers (9) \_\_\_\_\_ one biobot as a "xenobot". This reorganizes cells into a new multi-cellular organism. Other biobots are "anthrobots". These are (10) \_\_\_\_\_ of self-assembling cells and moving around. The scientists said xenobots exist "(11) \_\_\_\_\_ the traditional boundaries of life and death". They added the bots offer "prospects for new treatments," and personalized and (12) \_\_\_\_\_ medicine.

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

- |     |                 |                 |                 |                   |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1.  | (a) provocative | (b) provoking   | (c) provocation | (d) provocatively |
| 2.  | (a) exerts      | (b) exists      | (c) exits       | (d) exacts        |
| 3.  | (a) to          | (b) on          | (c) as          | (d) in            |
| 4.  | (a) ghost       | (b) host        | (c) hostess     | (d) haste         |
| 5.  | (a) claylike    | (b) plasticity  | (c) ironed      | (d) earthy        |
| 6.  | (a) of          | (b) as          | (c) in          | (d) if            |
| 7.  | (a) at          | (b) to          | (c) in          | (d) on            |
| 8.  | (a) this        | (b) by          | (c) as          | (d) to            |
| 9.  | (a) tamed       | (b) teemed      | (c) teamed      | (d) termed        |
| 10. | (a) capable     | (b) culpable    | (c) copiable    | (d) capacity      |
| 11. | (a) beyond      | (b) yonder      | (c) yon         | (d) bedeck        |
| 12. | (a) prevention  | (b) preventable | (c) preventive  | (d) prevented     |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. A thought-nripogkvo study
2. mind-blowing concept posits a ponoeenmhn
3. the organs of a sdeadeec body
4. the ihnenert plasticity
5. evolve only in depdetreinemr ways
6. play a ntsfiaciign role

## Paragraph 2

7. the snxceieet of two kinds of "biobot"
8. gaierlnt in the mechanics
9. a new multi-luaellrc organism
10. capable of self-lbesgamsni cells
11. traditional nedbuorsai of life and death
12. eitvpevnre medicine

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) and reacting." The researchers termed one biobot as a "xenobot". This reorganizes cells into a new multi-cellular
- ( ) researcher Alex Pozhitkov explained how cells transform after their host organism
- ( ) the bots offer "prospects for new treatments" and personalized and preventive medicine.
- ( ) dies. The scientists wrote: "These findings demonstrate the inherent plasticity of cellular systems and challenge
- ( ) organism. Other biobots are "anthrobots". These are capable of self-assembling cells and moving
- ( ) and death. This somewhat mind-blowing concept posits a phenomenon in which the cells in the organs
- ( ) "The third state suggests that organismal death may play a significant role in how life transforms over time."
- ( ) of a deceased body adopt new functions after the body dies. Biologist Peter Nobel and bioinformatics
- ( ) around. The scientists said xenobots exist "beyond the traditional boundaries of life and death". They added
- ( ) The scientists suggested the existence of two kinds of "biobot" that are integral in the
- ( ) mechanics of the third state. Wiktionary.org defines a biobot as: "A robot that is partly or wholly biological in
- ( ) the idea that cells and organisms can evolve only in predetermined ways." They added:
- ( **1** ) A thought-provoking study from scientists in the USA has suggested a "third state" that exists after life
- ( ) nature, as for example...plant cells or animal cells that can perform tasks such as moving

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state.html>

bodies . cells organs of in the The deceased

cells after transform their organism How dies . host

inherent plasticity cellular demonstrate Findings of systems . the

ways . in organisms predetermined The evolve can only

significant a transforms . Play how role life in

kinds . the Scientists two of existence suggested

robot biological . is A partly wholly that or

can perform that Cells such moving . as tasks

termed "xenobot" . The as researchers a biobot one

life of Beyond death . and boundaries traditional the

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state.html>

A thought-*provoking* / *provocation* study from scientists in the USA has suggested a "third state" that *exits* / *exists* after life and death. This somewhat mind-blowing concept *posts* / *posits* a phenomenon in which the cells in the organs of a deceased body *adopt* / *adept* new functions after the body *demise* / *dies*. Biologist Peter Nobel and bioinformatics researcher Alex Pozhitkov explained *how* / *thus* cells transform after their host organism dies. The scientists wrote: "These findings demonstrate the inherent plasticity *of* / *for* cellular systems and challenge the idea *that* / *what* cells and organisms can evolve only *on* / *in* predetermined ways." They added: "The third state suggests that organismal death may play a *significance* / *significant* role in how life transforms over time."

The scientists suggested the *exits* / *existence* of two kinds of "biobot" that are *integral* / *integers* in the mechanics of the third state. Wiktionary.org defines a biobot as: "A robot that is partly or *whole* / *wholly* biological in nature, as for example...plant cells or animal cells that can perform tasks such *was* / *as* moving and reacting." The researchers *termed* / *teemed* one biobot as a "xenobot". This *reorganizing* / *reorganizes* cells into a new multi-cellular organism. Other biobots are "anthrobots". These are *culpable* / *capable* of self-assembling cells and moving *abound* / *around*. The scientists said xenobots exist "*beyond* / *yonder* the traditional boundaries of life and death". They added the bots offer "prospects *for* / *at* new treatments" and personalized and preventive medicine.

**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/2409/240923-the-third-state.html>

\_ th\_\_ght-pr\_v\_k\_ng st\_dy fr\_m sc\_\_nt\_sts \_n th\_ \_S\_ h\_s s\_gg\_st\_d \_ "th\_rd st\_t\_" th\_t \_x\_sts \_ft\_r l\_f\_ \_nd d\_\_th. Th\_s s\_m\_wh\_t m\_nd-bl\_w\_ng c\_nc\_p\_t p\_s\_ts \_ ph\_n\_m\_n\_n \_n wh\_ch th\_ c\_lls \_n th\_ \_rg\_n\_s \_f \_ d\_c\_\_s\_d b\_dy \_d\_pt n\_w f\_nct\_\_ns \_ft\_r th\_ b\_dy d\_\_s. B\_\_l\_g\_st P\_t\_r N\_b\_l \_nd b\_\_nf\_rm\_t\_cs r\_s\_\_rch\_r \_l\_x P\_zh\_tk\_v \_xpl\_\_nd h\_w c\_lls tr\_nsf\_rm \_ft\_r th\_\_r h\_st \_rg\_n\_sm d\_\_s. Th\_ sc\_\_nt\_sts wr\_t\_: "Th\_s\_ f\_nd\_ngs d\_m\_nstr\_t\_ th\_ \_nh\_r\_nt pl\_st\_c\_ty \_f c\_ll\_l\_r syst\_ms \_nd ch\_ll\_ng\_ th\_ \_d\_\_ th\_t c\_lls \_nd \_rg\_n\_sms c\_n \_v\_lv\_ \_nly \_n pr\_d\_t\_rm\_n\_d w\_ys." Th\_y \_dd\_d: "Th\_ th\_rd st\_t\_ s\_gg\_sts th\_t \_rg\_n\_sm\_l d\_\_th m\_y pl\_y \_ s\_gn\_f\_c\_nt r\_l\_ \_n h\_w l\_f\_ tr\_nsf\_rms \_v\_r t\_m\_."

Th\_ sc\_\_nt\_sts s\_gg\_st\_d th\_ \_x\_st\_nc\_ \_f tw\_ k\_nds \_f "b\_\_b\_t" th\_t \_r\_ \_nt\_gr\_l \_n th\_ m\_ch\_n\_cs \_f th\_ th\_rd st\_t\_. W\_kt\_\_n\_ry.\_rg d\_f\_n\_s \_ b\_\_b\_t \_s: "\_r\_b\_t th\_t \_s p\_r\_tly \_r wh\_lly b\_\_l\_g\_c\_l \_n n\_t\_r\_, \_s f\_r \_xmpl...pl\_nt c\_lls \_r \_n\_m\_l c\_lls th\_t c\_n p\_rf\_rm t\_sks s\_ch \_s m\_v\_ng \_nd r\_\_ct\_ng." Th\_ r\_s\_\_rch\_rs t\_rm\_d \_n\_ b\_\_b\_t \_s \_ "x\_n\_b\_t". Th\_s r\_\_rg\_n\_z\_s c\_lls \_nt\_ \_ n\_w m\_lt\_-c\_ll\_l\_r \_rg\_n\_sm. \_th\_r b\_\_b\_ts \_r\_ "n\_thr\_b\_ts". Th\_s\_ \_r\_ c\_p\_bl\_ \_f s\_lf-\_ss\_mbl\_ng c\_lls \_nd m\_v\_ng \_r\_\_nd. Th\_ sc\_\_nt\_sts s\_\_d x\_n\_b\_ts \_x\_st "b\_y\_nd th\_ tr\_d\_t\_\_n\_l b\_\_nd\_r\_\_s \_f l\_f\_ \_nd d\_\_th". Th\_y \_dd\_d th\_ b\_ts \_ff\_r "pr\_sp\_cts f\_r n\_w tr\_\_tm\_nts" \_nd p\_rs\_n\_l\_z\_d \_nd pr\_v\_nt\_v\_ m\_d\_c\_n\_.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state.html>

a thoughtprovoking study from scientists in the usa has suggested a third state that exists after life and death this somewhat mindblowing concept posits a phenomenon in which the cells in the organs of a deceased body adopt new functions after the body dies biologist peter nobel and bioinformatics researcher alex pozhitkov explained how cells transform after their host organism dies the scientists wrote these findings demonstrate the inherent plasticity of cellular systems and challenge the idea that cells and organisms can evolve only in predetermined ways they added the third state suggests that organismal death may play a significant role in how life transforms over time

the scientists suggested the existence of two kinds of biobot that are integral in the mechanics of the third state wiktory.org defines a biobot as a robot that is partly or wholly biological in nature as for example plant cells or animal cells that can perform tasks such as moving and reacting the researchers termed one biobot as a xenobot this reorganizes cells into a new multicellular organism other biobots are anthrobots these are capable of selfassembling cells and moving around the scientists said xenobots exist beyond the traditional boundaries of life and death they added the bots offer prospects for new treatments and personalized and preventive medicine

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state.html>

A thought-provoking study from scientists in the USA has suggested a "third state" that exists after life and death. This somewhat mind-blowing concept posits a phenomenon in which the cells in the organs of a deceased body adopt new functions after the body dies. Biologist Peter Nobel and bioinformatics researcher Alex Pozhitkov explained how cells transform after their host organism dies. The scientists wrote: "These findings demonstrate the inherent plasticity of cellular systems and challenge the idea that cells and organisms can evolve only in predetermined ways." They added: "The third state suggests that organismal death may play a significant role in how life transforms over time." The scientists suggested the existence of two kinds of "biobot" that are integral in the mechanics of the third state. Wiktionary.org defines a biobot as: "A robot that is partly or wholly biological in nature, as for example... plant cells or animal cells that can perform tasks such as moving and reacting." The researcher termed a biobot as a "xenobot". This reorganizes cells into a new multi-cellular organism. Other biobots are "anthrobots". These are capable of self-assembling cells and moving around. The scientists said xenobots exist "beyond the traditional boundaries of life and death". They added the bots offer "prospects for new treatments" and personalized and preventive medicine.





# ACADEMIC WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state.html>

There is life after death. Discuss.

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# HOMework

**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. BODILY CELLS:** Make a poster about bodily cells. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. THE THIRD STATE:** Write a magazine article about the third state. Include imaginary interviews with people who believe and disbelieve 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 bodily cells. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your opinions of a third state. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Thought-provoking
- New functions
- Bioinformatics researcher
- Plasticity
- A significant role
- Two
- Moving and reacting
- New multi-cellular organisms
- Life and death
- New treatments and personalized and preventive medicine

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- The cells in the organs of deceased bodies.
- How cells transform after their host organism dies.
- Findings demonstrate the inherent plasticity of cellular systems.
- The organisms can evolve only in predetermined ways.
- Play a significant role in how life transforms.
- Scientists suggested the existence of two kinds.
- A robot that is partly or wholly biological.
- Cells that can perform tasks such as moving.
- The researchers termed one biobot as a xenobot.
- Beyond the traditional boundaries of life and death.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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