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Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

Level 1 – 26th December 2024

NASA spacecraft flies closest ever to the Sun

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https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241226-parker-solar-probe-1.html

Contents

Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

THE READING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241226-parker-solar-probe-1.html

A new space record has been set by the USA's NASA space agency. In 2018, NASA sent a spacecraft to photograph the Sun. The spacecraft is called the Parker Solar Probe. It made history on Christmas Eve by going closer to the Sun than any spacecraft before. Parker holds another record. It is the fastest object ever made. In 2023, it flew at a speed of 635,266 kph. At this speed, it could go from New York to Tokyo in 1.025 minutes.

The Parker Solar Probe is named after a scientist. He spent his life studying the Sun. He wanted to know why solar flares are hotter than the Sun's surface. The temperature at the Sun's surface is 4,100ºC; while the temperature of the flares can reach 1.1 million degrees Celsius. Scientists also want to find out how solar winds originate. NASA said Parker has faced amazing 980-degree heat on its record-breaking trip.

Sources: https://www.**space.com**/nasa-parker-solar-probe-christmas-flyby
https://edition.**cnn.com**/2024/12/23/science/parker-solar-probe-sun-close-approach/index.html
https://**phys.org**/news/2024-12-nasa-probe-closest-sun.html

PHRASE MATCHING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241226-parker-solar-probe-1.html

PARAGRAPH ONE:

1. A new space record	a. photograph the Sun
2. the USA's NASA	b. spacecraft before
3. NASA sent a spacecraft to	c. of 635,266 kph
4. The spacecraft is called the	d. space agency
5. going closer to the Sun than any	e. object ever made
6. It is the fastest	f. Parker Solar Probe
7. it flew at a speed	g. in 1.025 minutes
8. go from New York to Tokyo	h. has been set

PARAGRAPH TWO:

1. named	a. degree heat
2. He spent his life	b. flares are hotter
3. He wanted to know why solar	c. surface
4. the Sun's	d. breaking trip
5. the temperature	e. winds originate
6. find out how solar	f. after a scientist
7. amazing 980-	g. of the flares
8. its record-	h. studying the Sun

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241226-parker-solar-probe-1.html

A new space record has (1) _____ the USA's NASA space agency. In 2018, NASA sent a spacecraft (2) _____ Sun. The spacecraft is called the Parker Solar Probe. It (3) _____ Christmas Eve by going closer to the Sun than any spacecraft before. Parker (4) _____. It is the fastest (5) _____. In 2023, it flew at a speed of 635,266 kph. (6) _____, it could go from New York to Tokyo in 1.025 minutes.

The Parker Solar Probe (7) _____ a scientist. He spent (8) _____ the Sun. He wanted to know why solar (9) _____ than the Sun's surface. The temperature at the Sun's surface is 4,100ºC; while (10) _____ the flares can reach 1.1 million degrees Celsius. Scientists also want to find out (11) _____ originate. NASA said Parker has faced amazing 980-degree heat on its (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/)WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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escanreach1.1milliondegreesCelsius.Scientistsalsowanttofindouth

owsolarwindsoriginate.NASAsaidParkerhasfacedamazing980-

degreeheatonitsrecord-breakingtrip.

THE SUN SURVEY

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241226-parker-solar-probe-4.html

Write five GOOD questions about the sun 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) _____

WRITING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241226-parker-solar-probe-1.html

Write about **the sun** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.