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Level 6 – 10th March 2025 Scientists find new part of our immune system

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

https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2503/250310-immune-system.html

Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	15
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	16
Vocabulary	4	Spelling	17
Before Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	18
Gap Fill	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	19
Match The Sentences And Listen	7	Circle The Correct Word	20
Listening Gap Fill	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	21
Comprehension Questions	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	22
Multiple Choice - Quiz	10	Put A Slash (/) Where The Spaces Are	23
Role Play	11	Free Writing	24
After Reading / Listening	12	Academic Writing	25
Student Survey	13	Homework	26
Discussion (20 Questions)	14	Answers	27

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

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THE ARTICLE

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2503/250310-immune-system.html

Scientists have discovered a previously unknown part of our immune system. They say their discovery could be important in helping our body fight diseases. The researchers are from the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel. Professor Yifat Merbl told the BBC that her team's finding "could provide an untapped source of natural antibiotics". The team wrote in the journal "Nature": "These findings pave the way for previously undescribed diagnostic and therapeutic strategies in the fight against infectious diseases." The "new" part of the immune system is from a bodily function that recycles proteins. The scientists say it is capable of producing a multitude of chemicals that can kill bacteria and viruses.

The researchers focused on peptides in their study. These are compounds that consist of two or more amino acids that help to keep our immune system strong. The scientists wrote that peptides could provide "biotechnological applications and therapeutic interventions in infectious diseases and immunocompromised conditions". Peptides help the immune system to create defences against bacteria and help to halt their growth. Professor Merbl said: "We discovered a novel mechanism of immunity that is allowing us to have a defence against bacterial infection." She added: "It's happening throughout our body, in all the cells, and generates a whole new class of potential natural antibiotics."

Sources: https://www.the-independent.com/news/health/immune-system-antibiotics-discovery-

b2709988.html

https://www.**bbc.com**/news/articles/cpv4jww3r4eo https://www.**nature.com**/articles/s41586-025-08615-w

WARM-UPS

- **1. OUR IMMUNE SYSTEM:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about our immune system. 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?

scientists / immune system / diseases / antibiotics / journal / therapeutic strategies / acids / applications / defences / bacteria / growth / mechanism / infection / cells

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

- **3. STRONG BODIES:** Students A **strongly** believe our bodies and immune systems will become stronger in the future; Students B **strongly** believe otherwise. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.
- **4. FIGHTING DISEASES:** What do you know about these diseases? How can we fight them? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What I Know	How We Can Fight Them?
Malaria		
Cholera		
Influenza		
Heart disease		
Cancer		
Diabetes		

- **5. IMMUNE:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "immune". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.
- **6. IMMUNITY HELP:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best things to help our immunity at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.
 - Sleep and rest
 - Vitamin D
 - Vaccines
 - Exercise

- Food
- Oxygen
- Stress management
- No smoking

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- 1. institute a. Not used yet, but available to use.
- 2. untapped b. Helping to find out what is wrong with someone or something.
- 3. pave the way c. A place where people study or do research, like a school or university.
- 4. diagnostic d. Helping to make someone feel better or healthier.
- 5. journal e. A book where people write about their thoughts or studies.
- 6. therapeutic f. A very large number of people or things.
- 7. multitude g. To make something easier for the future.

Paragraph 2

- 8. compounds h. Medicines that kill bacteria and help people get better from infections.
- 9. amino acids i. Can spread from one person to another, like a cold or virus.
- 10. applications j. To stop something from continuing.
- 11. infectious k. Things made by mixing two or more different things together.
- 12. halt I. Small parts that join together to make proteins in the body.
- 13. novel m. New and different from what was before.
- 14. antibiotics n. Ways something is used to help in healthcare or treatment.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2503/250310-immune-system.html

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

- 1. Scientists say a new part of our immune system will not fight disease. T / F
- 2. The new part of our immune system will fight antibiotics. T / F
- 3. The research has been published in a journal called "Nature". T / F
- 4. The new part of the immune system centres around proteins. **T/F**
- 5. Peptides in our body are formed from amino acids. **T/F**
- 6. Peptides can help to stop the growth of bacteria. T/F
- 7. A professor will write about the immunity mechanism in a novel. **T/F**
- 8. A new mechanism of immunity happens throughout our cells. **T / F**

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

- 1. discovered
- 2. fight
- 3. pave the way
- 4. therapeutic
- 5. multitude
- 6. consist
- 7. applications
- 8. halt
- 9. novel
- 10. potential

- a. stop
- b. healing
- c. be made up
- d. combat
- e. uses
- f. new
- g. found
- h. possible
- i. get ready for
- j. large quantity

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

- 1. important in helping our
- 2. provide an untapped source
- 3. pave the
- 4. diagnostic and therapeutic
- 5. producing a multitude
- 6. compounds that consist
- 7. help to keep our immune
- 8. help to halt
- 9. defence against
- 10. It's happening throughout our body,

- a. of two or more amino acids
- b. way for
- c. of chemicals
- d. bacterial infection
- e. body fight diseases
- f. their growth
- g. strategies
- h. in all the cells
- i. of natural antibiotics
- j. system strong

GAP FILL

Scientists have discovered a (1) unknown part of	journal
our immune system. They say their (2) could be	bodily
important in helping our body fight diseases. The researchers are	antibiotics
from the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel. Professor Yifat	discovery
Merbl told the BBC that her team's (3) "could	•
provide an untapped source of natural (4)". The	multitude
team wrote in the (5) "Nature": "These findings	strategies
pave the way for previously undescribed diagnostic and	previously
therapeutic (6) in the fight against infectious	finding
diseases." The "new" part of the immune system is from a	
(7) function that recycles proteins. The scientists	
say it is capable of producing a (8) of chemicals	
that can kill bacteria and viruses.	
The researchers (9) on peptides in their study.	applications
These are compounds that consist of two or more amino acids that	novel
help to keep our immune system (10) The	focused
scientists wrote that peptides could provide "biotechnological	
and therapeutic interventions in infectious	potential
diseases and immunocompromised conditions". Peptides help the	halt
immune system to create defences against bacteria and help to	cells
their growth. Professor Merbl said: "We	strong
discovered a (13) mechanism of immunity that is	infection
allowing us to have a defence against bacterial	
." She added: "It's happening throughout our	
body, in all the (15), and generates a whole new	
class of (16) natural antibiotics."	

LISTENING — Guess the answers. Listen to check.

1)	They say their discovery could be important in helping our a. bodily fight diseases b. bodied fight diseases c. embody fight diseases
2)	d. body fight diseases Yifat Merbl told the BBC that her team's finding could provide a. an untapped sauce b. an untapped source c. an untapped sores d. an untapped saws
3)	undescribed diagnostic and therapeutic strategies in the fight a. against infectious diseases b. against infectious diseased c. against infectious disease d. against infectious desist
4)	The "new" part of the immune system is from a bodily function a. what recycles proteins b. these recycles proteins c. that recycles proteins d. that're cycles proteins
5)	The scientists say it is capable of producing a a. rectitude of chemicals b. multitude of chemicals c. yuletide of chemicals d. amplitude of chemicals
6)	The scientists wrote that peptides could a. divide biotechnological applications b. provision biotechnological applications c. prove ad biotechnological applications d. provide biotechnological applications
7)	therapeutic interventions in infectious diseases a. end immunocompromised conditions b. sand immunocompromised conditions c. send immunocompromised conditions d. and immunocompromised conditions
8)	the immune system to create defences against bacteria and help toa. halt their grow b. halt their growth c. halt their grown d. halt their glows
9)	 a novel mechanism of immunity that is allowing us to have a defence a. against bacterial infection b. for bacterial infection c. again bacterial infection d. aghast bacterial infection
10	and generates a whole new class of
	a. potential natural ant biotics
	b. potential natural antibioticsc. potent shall natural antibiotics
	d. potential nature all antibiotics

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

 $\textbf{From} \quad \underline{\text{https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2503/250310-immune-system.html}}$

Scientists have discovered (1)		part of our
immune system. They say their o	discovery could be in	nportant in helping our
(2)	The researchers ar	e from the Weizmann
Institute of Science in Israel. Pr	ofessor Yifat Merbl	told the BBC that her
team's finding "could provide a	n (3)	natural
antibiotics". The team wrote in t	he journal "Nature"	: "These findings pave
the way for previously unde	escribed (4)	
strategies in the fight against ir	fectious diseases."	The "new" part of the
immune system is from a bodily	(5)	proteins.
The scientists say it is capable o	of producing a multi	tude of chemicals that
can kill (6)		
The management focused on	pontidos in thei	r study These are
The researchers focused on		
(7)	of two or more am	ino acids that help to
keep our immune system strong	. The scientists wro	te that peptides could
provide "biotechnological	applications	and therapeutic
(8)	diseases and	immunocompromised
conditions". Peptides help the in	nmune system to ci	reate defences against
bacteria and help to (9)		. Professor Merbl said:
"We discovered a novel (10)		that is allowing us
to have a defence (11)		" She added: "It's
happening throughout our body,	in all the cells, and	generates a whole new
(12)	natural antibiotics."	

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1.	What could the new discovery help to fight?
2.	What kind of source might "natural antibiotics" come from?
3.	What is the name of the journal the research is in?
4.	What does the newly-found part of the immune system recycle?
5.	How many chemicals can the new part of the immune system produce?
6.	What kinds of acids do peptides consist of?
7.	What kinds of applications could peptides provide?
8.	What could peptides halt the growth of?
9.	Where in the body is the newly-found form of immunity happening?
10.	What might the newly-found form of immunity generate a new class of?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

- 1) What could the new discovery help to fight?
- a) baldness
- b) dementia
- c) obesity
- d) diseases
- 2) What kind of source might "natural antibiotics" come from?
- a) a surprising source
- b) an untapped source
- c) an original source
- d) a source of all knowledge
- 3) What is the name of the journal the research is in?
- a) Amino Times
- b) Immunity
- c) Nature
- d) Weizmann
- 4) What does the newly-found part of the immune system recycle?
- a) proteins
- b) carbohydrates
- c) vitamins
- d) nutrients
- 5) How many chemicals can the new part of the immune system produce?
- a) billions
- b) gazillions
- c) a multitude
- d) bazillions

- 6) What kind of acid do peptides consist of?
- a) citric acid
- b) amino acid
- c) nitric acid
- d) sulfuric acid
- 7) What kinds of applications could peptides provide?
- a) immunocompromised applications
- b) computer applications
- c) real-life applications
- d) biotechnological applications
- 8) What could peptides halt the growth of?
- a) bacteria
- b) bones
- c) hair
- d) chemicals
- 9) Where in the body is the newlyfound form of immunity happening?
- a) largely in the organs
- b) in the brain
- c) throughout the body
- d) the cardiovascular system
- 10) What might the newly-found form of immunity generate a new class of?
- a) diseases
- b) potential natural antibiotics
- c) viruses
- d) possible new senses

ROLE PLAY

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2503/250310-immune-system.html

Role A - Vaccines

You think vaccines are the best way of boosting the immune system. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): exercise, good food or stress management.

Role B - Exercise

You think exercise is the best way of boosting the immune system. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): vaccines, good food or stress management.

Role C - Good Food

You think good food is the best way of boosting the immune system. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): exercise, vaccines or stress management.

Role D – Stress Management

You think stress management is the best way of boosting the immune system. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): exercise, good food or vaccines.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2503/250310-immune-system.html

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

immune	virus

- 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:

unknown	focused
important	• consist
finding	• provide
journal	• halt
• pave	• novel
• capable	• whole

OUR IMMUNE SYSTEM SURVEY

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2503/250310-immune-system.html

Write five GOOD questions about our immune system 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.

OUR IMMUNE SYSTEM 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 'immunity'?
- 3. What do you know about our immune system?
- 4. How strong is your immune system?
- 5. How interested are you in scientific discoveries?
- 6. What do you think of medicine?
- 7. How interested are you in reading scientific magazines?
- 8. What do you know about infectious diseases?
- 9. What are the differences between bacteria and viruses?
- 10. What medical breakthrough would you like to see?

Scientists find new part of our immune system – 10th March 2025 Thousands more free lessons at breakingnewsenglish.com

OUR IMMUNE SYSTEM 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 'virus'?
- 13. What do you think about what you read?
- 14. What can you do to boost your immune system?
- 15. How often do you take medicine?
- 16. What biotechnological applications should scientists research?
- 17. What three adjectives best describe this article?
- 18. What do you do to keep infections away?
- 19. How healthy will we be in the future?
- 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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DIG	SCUSSION (Write your own questions)
	SCUSSION (Write your own questions) DENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)
<u>STUE</u> 1.	
STUE	
<u>STUC</u> 1. 2.	
<u>STUE</u> 1. 2. 3.	

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

say rese Merl natu the agai func	their of arche of told iral ar way fo nst (5) tion th	have discover discovery could rs are from the the BBC that attibiotics. The previously up disease that recycles prof chemicals the	I be im he Weiz her te team hdescri s." The oteins.	portant (2) zmann Institu am's (3) wrote in the (ibed diagnost e "new" part The scientist	hell hell hell hell held held held held	ping our body Science in Is d provide an _ "Nature": " therapeutic so immune syst it is capable (y fight rael. F untap These trategi em is	diseases. The Professor Yifat ped source of findings pave es in the fight from a bodily
strong appl imm defe "We defe in a antil	ng. Tication unocco nces disco nce a all the	archers focused two or ect words	more wrote ondition in and more I infect	amino acids that pept intervent s". Peptides help to (9) echanism of tion." She add tes a whole	that hides ions help thimmurded: "I	elp to keep of could provided in infection the immune eir growth. Point that is all t's happening (12)	our ime "bi us de syste rofesse lowing (11) _ of pot	imune system otechnological iseases and em to create or Merbl said: us to have a our body, ential natural
1.	(a)	previous	(b)	previously	(c)	impervious	(d)	imperviously
2.	(a)	on	(b)	in	(c)	of	(d)	at
3.	(a)	fondling	(b)	funding	(c)	fending	(d)	finding
4.	(a)	diary	(b)	journal	(c)	note	(d)	notebook
5.	(a)	infection	(b)	infectious	(c)	infect	(d)	infectiously
6.	(a)	at	(b)	in	(c)	of	(d)	to
7.	(a)	at	(b)	in	(c)	of	(d)	to
8.	(a)	therapy	(b)	therapies	(c)	therapeutic	(d)	therapist
9.	(a)	shalt	(b)	holt	(c)	hilt	(d)	halt
10.	(a)	novel	(b)	novelty	(c)	novella	(d)	novelly
11.	(a)	throughout	(b)	thoroughly	(c)	though	(d)	thorough
12.	(a)	cohort	(b)	division	(c)	class	(d)	column

SPELLING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2503/250310-immune-system.html

Paragraph 1

- 1. a <u>lveiprousy</u> unknown part of our immune system
- 2. an untapped source of natural tbicsoianti
- 3. in the ruonalj "Nature"
- 4. <u>uaphtteicre</u> strategies
- 5. a bodily function that recycles <u>rsteopni</u>
- 6. producing a <u>dutemulti</u> of chemicals

Paragraph 2

- 7. These are <u>nsmcduopo</u>
- 8. biotechnological cplaitiponas
- 9. <u>tsfiecinou</u> diseases
- 10. We discovered a novel mnsceiham
- 11. a defence against <u>rlaeiatcb</u> infection
- 12. <u>aesqteenr</u> a whole new class

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2503/250310-immune-system.html

Number these lines in the correct order.

()	The researchers focused on peptides in their study. These are compounds that consist of two or
()	more amino acids that help to keep our immune system strong. The scientists wrote that peptides could
()	provide "biotechnological applications and therapeutic interventions in infectious diseases and
()	immunocompromised conditions". Peptides help the immune system to create defences against bacteria and help to halt
()	their growth. Professor Merbl said: "We discovered a novel mechanism of immunity that is allowing
()	us to have a defence against bacterial infection." She added: "It's happening throughout
()	our body, in all the cells, and generates a whole new class of potential natural antibiotics."
(1)	Scientists have discovered a previously unknown part of our immune system. They say their
()	discovery could be important in helping our body fight diseases. The researchers are from the Weizmann Institute
()	of Science in Israel. Professor Yifat Merbl told the BBC that her team's finding "could provide an untapped
()	source of natural antibiotics". The team wrote in the journal "Nature": "These findings pave the
()	way for previously undescribed diagnostic and therapeutic strategies in the fight against infectious
()	diseases." The "new" part of the immune system is from a bodily function that recycles proteins. The scientists say it is
(

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2503/250310-immune-system.html

1. Scientists part unknown a discovered have previously . 2. It's diseases fight body our helping in important . 3. It source an antibiotics natural untapped provides of . Therapeutic diseases infectious against fight the in strategies . 4. 5. A bacteria kill can that chemicals of multitude . 6. Acids strong system immune our keep to help . 7. Peptides defences create to system immune the help . 8. We immunity of mechanism novel a discovered . 9. Allowing infection bacterial against defences have to us . 10. Generates antibiotics natural of class new whole a .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2503/250310-immune-system.html

Scientists have discovered a *previously / previous* unknown part of our immune *system / systemic*. They say their discovery could be important *in / of* helping our body fight diseases. The researchers are from the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel. Professor Yifat Merbl told the BBC that her team's *funding / finding* "could provide an untapped *sauce / source* of natural antibiotics". The team wrote in the *journal / diary* "Nature": "These findings *pave / tarmac* the way for previously undescribed diagnostic and therapeutic strategies in the fight *against / for* infectious diseases." The "new" part of the immune system is from a bodily *friction / function* that recycles proteins. The scientists say it is capable of producing a multitude of chemicals that can kill bacteria and *viruses / virus*.

The researchers focused *in / on* peptides in their study. These are compounds that *consist / consists* of two or more amino acids that help to keep our immune *systems / system* strong. The scientists wrote that peptides could provide "biotechnological *supplications / applications* and therapeutic interventions in infectious diseases and immunocompromised *conditions / conditionals*". Peptides help the immune system to create *defences / offences* against bacteria and help to *halt / hilt* their growth. Professor Merbl said: "We discovered a *novelty / novel* mechanism of immunity that is allowing *them / us* to have a defence against bacterial infection." She added: "It's happening throughout our body, in all the cells, and generates a whole new *class / cohort* of potential natural antibiotics."

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/2503/250310-immune-system.html

Sc__nt_sts h_v_ d_sc_v_r_d _ pr_v__sly _nkn_wn p_rt _f __r _mm_n_ syst_m. Th_y s_y th__r d_sc_v_ry c__ld b_ mp_rt_nt _n h_lp_ng __r b_dy f_ght d_s_s_s. Th_ r_s__rch_rs _r_ fr_m th_ W__zm_nn _nst_t_t_ _f Sc__nc_ _n _sr__l. Pr_f_ss_r Y_f_t M_rbl t_ld th_ BBC th_t h_r t__m's f_nd_ng "c__ld pr_v_d_ _n _nt_pp_d s__rc_ _f n_t_r_l _nt_b__t_cs". Th_ t__m wr_t_ _n th_ j__rn_l "N_t_r_": "Th_s_ f_nd_ngs p_v_ th_ w_y f_r pr_v__sly _nd_scr_b_d d__gn_st_c _nd th_r_p__t_c str_t_g__s _n th_ f_ght _g__nst _nf_ct___s d_s__s_s." Th_ "n_w" p_rt _f th_ _mm_n_ syst_m _s fr_m _ b_d_ly f_nct__n th_t r_cycl_s pr_t__ns. Th_ sc__nt_sts s_y _t _s c_p_bl_ _f pr_d_c_ng _ m_lt_t_d_ _f ch_m_c_ls th_t c_n k_ll b_ct_r__ _nd v_r_s_s. Th_ r_s_rch_rs f_c_s_d _n p_pt_d_s _n th__r st_dy. Th_s_ _r_ c_mp__nds th_t c_ns_st _f tw_ _r m_r_ $_{\rm m_n_}$ $_{\rm c_ds}$ th_t h_lp t_ k__p __r _mm_n_ syst_m str_ng. Th_ sc__nt_sts wr_t_ th_t p_pt_d_s c__ld $pr_v_d_ \ \ "b__t_chn_l_g_c_l \ \ _ppl_c_t__ns \ \ _nd \ \ th_r_p__t_c$ $_{\rm nt_rv_nt_ns}$ $_{\rm n}$ $_{\rm nf_ct__s}$ $_{\rm d_s_s_s}$ $_{\rm nd}$ _mm_n_c_mpr_m_s_d c_nd_t__ns". P_pt_d_s h_lp th_ _mm_n_ syst_m t_ cr__t_ d_f_nc_s _g__nst b_ct_r__ _nd h_lp t_ h_lt th__r gr_wth. Pr_f_ss_r M_rbl s__d: "W_ d_sc_v_r_d _ n_v_l m_ch_n_sm _f _mm_n_ty th_t _s _ll_w_ng _s t_ h_v_ _ d_f_nc_ _g__nst b_ct_r__l _nf_ct__n." Sh_ _dd_d: "_t's h_pp_n_ng thr__gh__t __r $b_dy, \quad \underline{ \ \, } n \quad \underline{ \ \, } ll \quad th_ \quad c_lls, \quad \underline{ \ \, } \underline{ \ \, } nd \quad \underline{ \ \, } \underline{ \ \,$ cl_ss _f p_t_nt__l n_t_r_l _nt_b__t_cs."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2503/250310-immune-system.html

scientists have discovered a previously unknown part of our immune system

they say their discovery could be important in helping our body fight

diseases the researchers are from the weizmann institute of science in israel

professor yifat merbl told the bbc that her teams finding could provide an

untapped source of natural antibiotics the team wrote in the journal nature

these findings pave the way for previously undescribed diagnostic and

therapeutic strategies in the fight against infectious diseases the new part of

the immune system is from a bodily function that recycles proteins the

scientists say it is capable of producing a multitude of chemicals that can kill

bacteria and viruses

the researchers focused on peptides in their study these are compounds that

consist of two or more amino acids that help to keep our immune system

strong the scientists wrote that peptides could provide biotechnological

applications and therapeutic interventions in infectious diseases and

immunocompromised conditions peptides help the immune system to create

defences against bacteria and help to halt their growth professor merbl said

we discovered a novel mechanism of immunity that is allowing us to have a

defence against bacterial infection she added its happening throughout our

body in all the cells and generates a whole new class of potential natural

antibiotics

Level 6 Scientists find new part of our immune system – 10th March 2025

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PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2503/250310-immune-system.html

Scientistshavediscoveredapreviouslyunknownpartofourimmunesys tem. They say their discovery could be important in helping our body fight diseases. Theresearchersare from the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel.ProfessorYifatMerbltoldtheBBCthatherteam'sfinding"couldpr ovideanuntappedsourceofnaturalantibiotics". Theteamwroteinthejo urnal"Nature": "Thesefindingspavethewayforpreviouslyundescribed diagnosticandtherapeuticstrategiesinthefightagainstinfectiousdise ases."The "new" part of the immune system is from a bodily function that r ecyclesproteins. The scientists say it is capable of producing a multitude ofchemicalsthatcankillbacteriaandviruses. Theresearchers focusedo npeptidesintheirstudy. These are compounds that consist of two or mor eaminoacidsthathelptokeepourimmunesystemstrong. Thescientists wrotethatpeptidescouldprovide"biotechnologicalapplicationsandth erapeuticinterventionsininfectious diseases and immuno compromise dconditions". Peptideshelptheimmunesystemtocreatedefencesagai nstbacteriaandhelptohalttheirgrowth.ProfessorMerblsaid:"Wedisco veredanovelmechanismofimmunitythatisallowingustohaveadefenc eagainstbacterialinfection."Sheadded:"It'shappeningthroughoutou rbody, in all the cells, and generates a wholenew class of potential natural antibiotics."

FREE WRITING

Write about our immune system for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

ACADEMIC WRITING

We should f	fight disease	instead of	fighting e	ach other.	Discuss.	

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. OUR IMMUNE SYSTEM:** Make a poster about our immune system. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?
- **4. FIGHTING DISEASE:** Write a magazine article about requiring all governments to spend more money on fighting diseases than on weapons and arms. 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 our immune system. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to boost our immune system. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

2. 3. 5. 1. С а g 4. b 7. 8. 9. k 10. 11. 12. i 13. 14. n m h

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1.	Diseases	1.	Scientists have discovered a previously unknown part.
2.	An untapped source	2.	It's important in helping our body fight diseases.
3.	Nature	3.	It provides an untapped source of natural antibiotics.
4.	Proteins	4.	Therapeutic strategies in the fight against infectious diseases.
5.	A multitude	5.	A multitude of chemicals that can kill bacteria.
6.	Amino acids	6.	Acids help to keep our immune system strong.
7.	Biotechnological applications	7.	Peptides help the immune system to create defences.
8.	Bacteria	8.	We discovered a novel mechanism of immunity.
9.	Throughout the body	9.	Allowing us to have defences against bacterial infection.
10.	Potential natural antibiotics	10.	Generates a whole new class of natural antibiotics.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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