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Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

Level 5 – 27th March 2025

Researchers find way to target sound to individuals

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https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2503/250327-audio-enclaves-5.html

Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

THE READING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2503/250327-audio-enclaves-5.html

How we listen to music has changed over the centuries. Today, we have high-tech noise-cancelling ear buds that provide the highest quality experience. In the near future, we will be able to listen to music in public without headphones. New technology will aim beams of sound at us, without other people hearing. This means we will have conversations in public without others listening in. Researchers in the USA developed an innovation called "audio enclaves". The ultrasound waves used for this cannot be heard on their way to the receiver. The waves can also be bent to get around obstacles.

Lead researcher Jiaxin Zhong spoke to "The Conversation" website. He said: "We essentially created a virtual headset. Someone within an audible enclave can hear something meant only for them, enabling…quiet zones." He spoke about potential uses of the technology. Museums could give headphone-free audio guides to visitors. Car passengers could listen to music without distracting the driver. People could set up enclaves to ensure their conversations are not overheard. We could also receive personalized ads in shopping malls. Audio enclaves could also eliminate noise in offices.

Sources: https://**theconversation.com**/researchers-created-sound-that-can-bend-itself-through-space-reaching-only-your-ear-in-a-crowd-252266
https://**futurism.com**/sound-audible-enclaves
https://www.**musicradar.com**/music-tech/gear-gadgets/rip-headphones-new-tech-can-now-beam-music-into-your-ears-without-the-need-for-any-hardware

PHRASE MATCHING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2503/250327-audio-enclaves-5.html

PARAGRAPH ONE:

1. How we listen to music has changed	a. of sound at us
2. we have high-tech noise-	b. obstacles
3. In the	c. over the centuries
4. New technology will aim beams	d. near future
5. have conversations in public without	e. be bent
6. ultrasound	f. cancelling ear buds
7. The waves can also	g. others listening in
8. get around	h. waves

PARAGRAPH TWO:

1. We essentially created a virtual	a. of the technology
2. hear something meant	b. in offices
3. He spoke about potential uses	c. only for them
4. listen to music without distracting	d. up enclaves
5. People could set	e. ads
6. ensure their conversations are	f. headset
7. We could also receive personalized	g. not overheard
8. eliminate noise	h. the driver

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2503/250327-audio-enclaves-5.html

How we listen to music has changed (1) _____. Today, we have high-tech noise-cancelling ear (2) _____ the highest quality experience. In the near future, we will be able to listen to music in public without headphones. New technology will (3) _____ sound at us, without other people hearing. This means we will (4) _____ public without others listening in. Researchers in the USA developed an innovation called "audio enclaves". The (5) _____ for this cannot be heard on their way to the receiver. The waves can also be bent to (6) _____.

Lead researcher Jiaxin Zhong spoke to "The Conversation" website. He said: "We essentially (7) _____ headset. Someone within an audible enclave can hear something (8) _____ them, enabling…quiet zones." He spoke about (9) _____ the technology. Museums could give headphone-free audio guides to visitors. Car passengers could listen to music without (10) _____. People could set up enclaves to ensure their conversations are not overheard. We could also receive (11) _____ shopping malls. Audio enclaves could also (12) _____ offices.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2503/250327-audio-enclaves-5.html

Howwelistentomusichaschangedoverthecenturies.Today,wehavehi
gh-technoise-cancellingearbudsthatprovidethehighestqualityexp
erience.Inthenearfuture,wewillbeabletolistentomusicinpublicwitho
utheadphones.Newtechnologywillaimbeamsofsoundatus,withoutot
herpeoplehearing.Thismeanswewillhaveconversationsinpublicwith
outotherslisteningin.ResearchersintheUSAdevelopedaninnovationc
alled"audioenclaves".Theultrasoundwavesusedforthiscannotbehea
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ite.Hesaid:"Weessentiallycreatedavirtualheadset.Someonewithina
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ietzones."Hespokeaboutpotentialusesofthetechnology.Museumsco
uldgiveheadphone-freeaudioguidestovisitors.Carpassengerscouldli
stentomusicwithoutdistractingthedriver.Peoplecouldsetupenclaves
toensuretheirconversationsarenotoverheard.Wecouldalsoreceivep
ersonalizedadsinshoppingmalls.Audioenclavescouldalsoeliminaten
oiseinoffices.

AUDIO SURVEY

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2503/250327-audio-enclaves-4.html

Write five GOOD questions about audio 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/2503/250327-audio-enclaves-5.html

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