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**Level 4 – 14th April 2025**

## **Scientists discover new water purification microbes**

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250414-water-purification-4.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 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250414-water-purification-4.html>

Scientists have discovered a new species of microbes in an area below and above the Earth's surface called the Critical Zone. This is essential for life. The microbes have been called CSP1-3. They could be key in the process of water purification. A researcher said that while soil is responsible for the filtration of rainwater, CSP1-3 may also be important. He said CSP1-3 were scavengers that clean up "what got through the surface layer of soil".

The researchers looked at microbes living up to 200 metres beneath us. These microbes remove harmful things from our water supply. Researchers want to grow CSP1-3 to find out more about them. A researcher wants to know how the microbes break down "tough pollutants". He said: "If we could learn that, we can help solve one of the Earth's most pressing problems." A science website said this "could boost conservation efforts".

Sources: <https://scitechdaily.com/scientists-discover-bizarre-new-lifeforms-in-earths-mysterious-critical-zone/>  
<https://www.sci.news/biology/deep-soil-bacteria-13810.html>  
<https://www.earth.com/news/new-microbes-found-deep-underground-critical-zone-help-clean-our-water/>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250414-water-purification-4.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                               |                          |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Scientists have discovered | a. life                  |
| 2. microbes in an area        | b. of water purification |
| 3. above the Earth's          | c. below                 |
| 4. This is essential for      | d. layer of soil         |
| 5. The microbes have been     | e. surface               |
| 6. key in the process         | f. of rainwater          |
| 7. the filtration             | g. a new species         |
| 8. through the surface        | h. called CSP1-3         |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                          |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. The researchers       | a. problems           |
| 2. These microbes remove | b. more about them    |
| 3. water                 | c. efforts            |
| 4. find out              | d. pollutants         |
| 5. break down tough      | e. looked at microbes |
| 6. If we could           | f. supply             |
| 7. Earth's most pressing | g. harmful things     |
| 8. boost conservation    | h. learn that         |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250414-water-purification-4.html>

Scientists have discovered (1) \_\_\_\_\_ of microbes in an area below and above the Earth's (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Critical Zone. This is essential for life. The microbes have been called CSP1-3. They could (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the process of water purification. A researcher said that (4) \_\_\_\_\_ responsible for (5) \_\_\_\_\_ rainwater, CSP1-3 may also be important. He said CSP1-3 were scavengers that clean up "what got through the surface (6) \_\_\_\_\_".

The researchers looked at microbes (7) \_\_\_\_\_ 200 metres beneath us. These microbes (8) \_\_\_\_\_ from our water supply. Researchers (9) \_\_\_\_\_ CSP1-3 to find out more about them. A researcher wants to know how the microbes break (10) \_\_\_\_\_. He said: "If we could learn that, we can help (11) \_\_\_\_\_ the Earth's most pressing problems." A science website said this "(12) \_\_\_\_\_ efforts".

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250414-water-purification-4.html>

Scientists have discovered a new species of microbes in an area below and above the Earth's surface called the Critical Zone. This is essential for life. The microbes have been called CSP1-3. They could be key in the process of water purification. A researcher said that while soil is responsible for the filtration of rainwater, CSP1-3 may also be important. He said CSP1-3 were scavengers that "clean up" what got through the surface layer of soil. The researchers looked at microbes living up to 200 metres beneath the surface. These microbes remove harmful things from our water supply. Researchers want to grow CSP1-3 to find out more about them. A researcher wants to know how the microbes break down "tough pollutants". He said: "If we could learn that, we can help solve one of the Earth's most pressing problems." A science website said this "could boost conservation efforts".

# WATER PURIFICATION SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250414-water-purification-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about water purification 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*Scientists discover new water purification microbes – 14th April 2025*  
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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/2504/250414-water-purification-4.html>

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

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