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**Level 6 – 25th May 2026**

## Scientists discover why gold doesn't 'rust'

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2605/260525-gold.html>

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

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2605/260525-gold.html>

Gold has held an enduring allure for thousands of years. This precious metal has remained a symbol of elegance and wealth. Scientists have discovered how it stays in such pristine condition and never loses its shine. Researchers from Tulane University in New Orleans found that gold does not rust or change colour because of the structure of atoms on its surface. Dr Matthew Montemore wrote that the atoms naturally rearrange themselves into unique zigzag patterns that minimize chemical reactions with oxygen. He said: "This makes the gold much more resistant to oxidation." As a result, it does not become discoloured, even after centuries of exposure to the elements.

A low level of reactivity to oxygen is called chemical nobility. Gold is the most noble of all metals. Its resistance to bonding with oxygen means it maintains its shininess for thousands of years. It is also one of the most malleable metals, which means it can easily be hammered into thin sheets. Gold can be beaten to a thickness of less than 0.1 micrometres — a hundred times thinner than a human hair. Its pure form is why humans have used gold for jewellery and currency for more than 5,000 years. It also has important uses in electronics, dentistry, spacecraft technology, and medicine. The researchers believe it will continue to be integral in industrial applications.

Sources: <https://www.sciencealert.com/scientists-found-the-atomic-reason-that-gold-refuses-to-rust>  
<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/scientists-discover-why-gold-doesnt-rust/>  
<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/physics-explains-gold-shiny-oxidize>

# WARM-UPS

**1. GOLD:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about gold. 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?

gold / allure / precious metal / elegance / wealth / shine / atoms / chemical reactions  
reactivity / bonding / thousands of years / gold leaf / jewellery / dentistry / medicine

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

**3. SILENCE:** Students A **strongly** believe in the idiom, "silence is golden"; Students B **strongly** believe it isn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. INVESTMENTS:** How good are these things to invest in? Why? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

Investments	How Good?	Why?
Gold		
Elon Musk's companies		
Art		
Cryptocurrency		
Real Estate		
Classic cars		

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

**6. MADE OF GOLD:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best things made of gold at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- A gold ring
- A gold medal
- A smartphones
- A gold toilet
- gold shoes
- a gold ingot (bar)
- gold teeth
- gold sunglasses

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 1. enduring    | a. Very clean and fresh.  |
| 2. allure      | b. Lasting for a long time.   |
| 3. elegance    | c. A beautiful and simple style.  |
| 4. pristine    | d. A line with many sharp turns to the left, then right, then left, then right... |
| 5. atoms       | e. A change caused by air or oxygen.  |
| 6. zigzag      | f. A strong and attractive quality.   |
| 7. oxidization | g. Very small parts of everything on Earth.                                       |

## Paragraph 2

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 8. nobility      | h. Easy to bend or change into another shape.               |
| 9. resistance    | i. Money used in a country.                                 |
| 10. bonding      | j. Very important and necessary.                            |
| 11. malleable    | k. The joining together of things.                          |
| 12. currency     | l. Ways something can be used.                              |
| 13. integral     | m. High class or social rank.                               |
| 14. applications | n. The power or ability to stop or fight against something. |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2605/260525-gold.html>

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

1. The article says gold has fascinated humans for millions of years. **T / F**
2. The researchers are from a university in New Orleans. **T / F**
3. A zigzag pattern that atoms make on gold help keep the metal shiny. **T / F**
4. Researchers say gold is very prone to oxidation. **T / F**
5. The article says gold is the most notable of all metals. **T / F**
6. The article says gold is one of the hardest metals. **T / F**
7. Gold can be beaten to be a hundred times thinner than a human hair. **T / F**
8. Gold is used in dentistry and medicine. **T / F**

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

- |                         |                |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| <b>1. enduring</b>      | a. distinctive |
| <b>2. elegance</b>      | b. unmixed     |
| <b>3. pristine</b>      | c. stylishness |
| <b>4. unique</b>        | d. uses        |
| <b>5. the elements</b>  | e. key         |
| <b>6. maintains</b>     | f. lasting     |
| <b>7. malleable</b>     | g. keeps       |
| <b>8. pure</b>          | h. immaculate  |
| <b>9. essential</b>     | i. soft        |
| <b>10. applications</b> | j. the weather |

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

- |   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1. Gold has held an enduring            | a. and wealth                |
| 2. a symbol of elegance                 | b. less than 0.1 micrometres |
| 3. discovered how it stays in           | c. rust                      |
| 4. gold does not                        | d. in electronics            |
| 5. even after centuries of exposure     | e. such pristine condition   |
| 6. It is also one of the most malleable | f. thin sheets               |
| 7. it can easily be hammered into       | g. industrial applications   |
| 8. beaten to a thickness of             | h. allure                    |
| 9. It also has important uses           | i. metals                    |
| 10. it will continue to be integral in  | j. to the elements           |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2605/260525-gold.html>

Gold has held an (1) \_\_\_\_\_ allure for thousands of years. This precious metal has remained a symbol of elegance and (2) \_\_\_\_\_. Scientists have discovered how it stays in such (3) \_\_\_\_\_ condition and never loses its shine. Researchers from Tulane University in New Orleans found that gold does not (4) \_\_\_\_\_ or change colour because of the structure of (5) \_\_\_\_\_ on its surface. Dr Matthew Montemore wrote that the atoms naturally rearrange themselves into unique zigzag (6) \_\_\_\_\_ that minimize chemical reactions with oxygen. He said: "This makes the gold much more resistant to (7) \_\_\_\_\_." As a result, it does not become discoloured, even after centuries of exposure to the (8) \_\_\_\_\_.

*pristine*  
*atoms*  
*elements*  
*enduring*  
*rust*  
*oxidation*  
*wealth*  
*patterns*

A low (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of reactivity to oxygen is called chemical nobility. Gold is the most noble of all (10) \_\_\_\_\_. Its resistance to bonding with oxygen means it maintains its shininess for thousands of years. It is also one of the most (11) \_\_\_\_\_ metals, which means it can easily be hammered into thin sheets. Gold can be (12) \_\_\_\_\_ to a thickness of less than 0.1 micrometres — a hundred times (13) \_\_\_\_\_ than a human hair. Its pure form is why humans have used gold for jewellery and (14) \_\_\_\_\_ for more than 5,000 years. It also has important uses in electronics, dentistry, spacecraft technology, and (15) \_\_\_\_\_. The researchers believe it will continue to be integral in (16) \_\_\_\_\_ applications.

*thinner*  
*metals*  
*industrial*  
*level*  
*medicine*  
*beaten*  
*malleable*  
*currency*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2605/260525-gold.html>

- 1) Gold has held an enduring allure for \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. thousand of years
  - b. thousands off years
  - c. thousands of years
  - d. thousands of year
- 2) This precious metal has remained a symbol of \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. elegant and wealth
  - b. elegance and wealth
  - c. elegance and wealthy
  - d. elegant and wealthy
- 3) gold does not rust or change colour because of the structure of atoms \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. on its surf face
  - b. on its suffice
  - c. on its surface
  - d. on its sir face
- 4) rearrange themselves into unique zigzag patterns that minimize chemical \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. reactions with oxygen
  - b. reaction with oxygen
  - c. react tin with oxygen
  - d. reactions without oxygen
- 5) As a result, it does not become discoloured, even after centuries of exposure \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. two the elements
  - b. too the elements
  - c. to the elements
  - d. to the element
- 6) A low level of reactivity to oxygen is \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. scold chemical nobility
  - b. called chemical nobility
  - c. scald chemical nobility
  - d. cold chemical nobility
- 7) Its resistance to bonding with oxygen means it \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. maintains its shiny mess
  - b. maintains its shimmy mess
  - c. maintains its shining nest
  - d. maintains its shininess
- 8) Its pure form is why humans have used gold for \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. jewellery and currents
  - b. jewellery and currency
  - c. jewellery and current sea
  - d. dual rear and currency
- 9) It also has important uses in electronics, dentistry, spacecraft \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. technology, and medicine
  - b. technology end medicine
  - c. technology end medicinal
  - d. technological, and medicine
- 10) The researchers believe it will continue to be integral \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. on industrial applications
  - b. at industrial applications
  - c. of industrial applications
  - d. in industrial applications

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2605/260525-gold.html>

Gold has held (1) \_\_\_\_\_ for thousands of years. This precious metal has remained a symbol of elegance and wealth. Scientists have discovered how it stays (2) \_\_\_\_\_ condition and never loses its shine. Researchers from Tulane University in New Orleans found that gold does not (3) \_\_\_\_\_ colour because of the structure of atoms on its surface. Dr Matthew Montemore wrote that the atoms naturally rearrange themselves (4) \_\_\_\_\_ patterns that minimize chemical reactions with oxygen. He said: "This makes the gold (5) \_\_\_\_\_ to oxidation." As a result, it does not become discoloured, even after centuries of exposure (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

A low (7) \_\_\_\_\_ to oxygen is called chemical nobility. Gold is the most noble of all metals. Its resistance to bonding with oxygen means it (8) \_\_\_\_\_ for thousands of years. It is also one of the most malleable metals, which means it can (9) \_\_\_\_\_ into thin sheets. Gold can be beaten to a thickness of less than 0.1 micrometres — a hundred times thinner than a human hair. Its (10) \_\_\_\_\_ why humans have used gold for jewellery and currency for more than 5,000 years. It also has important uses (11) \_\_\_\_\_, spacecraft technology, and medicine. The researchers believe it will continue to be (12) \_\_\_\_\_ applications.

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2605/260525-gold.html>

1. What has gold held for thousands of years?
2. What kind of condition does the article say gold stays in?
3. What does the article say does not happen to gold?
4. What kind of patterns do atoms on the surface of gold make?
5. What is gold exposed to for centuries?
6. What is a low level of reactivity to oxygen called?
7. What does gold's malleability mean it can be hammered into?
8. What can gold that has been beaten be a hundred times thinner than?
9. For how long have humans used gold as a currency?
10. What will gold continue to be an integral part of?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2605/260525-gold.html>

- 1) What has gold held for thousands of years?
  - a) records
  - b) jewellery
  - c) an enduring allure
  - d) currencies
- 2) What kind of condition does the article say gold stays in?
  - a) in pristine condition
  - b) in golden condition
  - c) in reasonable condition
  - d) in pretty good condition
- 3) What does the article say does not happen to gold?
  - a) It does not break.
  - b) It does not rust.
  - c) It does not lose its value.
  - d) It does not crumble.
- 4) What kind of patterns do atoms on the surface of gold make?
  - a) psychedelic patterns
  - b) circular patterns
  - c) abstract patterns
  - d) zigzag patterns
- 5) What is gold exposed to for centuries?
  - a) foreign exchange markets
  - b) people
  - c) the elements
  - d) thefts
- 6) What is a low level of reactivity to oxygen called?
  - a) chemical ability
  - b) chemical nobility
  - c) chemist's nobility
  - d) chemical knobs
- 7) What does gold's malleability mean it can be hammered into?
  - a) bars
  - b) rings
  - c) nails
  - d) thin sheets
- 8) What can gold that has been beaten be a hundred times thinner than?
  - a) paper
  - b) a human hair
  - c) a micron
  - d) a credit card
- 9) For how long have humans used gold as a currency?
  - a) 3,000 years
  - b) 5,000 years
  - c) 8,000 years
  - d) 10,000 years
- 10) What will gold continue to be an integral part of?
  - a) industrial applications
  - b) weddings
  - c) bathrooms
  - d) investments

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2605/260525-gold.html>

## **Role A – A Gold Ring**

You think a ring is the most desirable thing to have that is made of gold. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least desirable of these (and why): gold medal, gold toilet or gold teeth.

## **Role B – A Gold Medal**

You think a medal is the most desirable thing to have that is made of gold. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least desirable of these (and why): ring, gold toilet or gold teeth.

## **Role C – A Gold Toilet**

You think a toilet is the most desirable thing to have that is made of gold. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least desirable of these (and why): gold medal, ring or gold teeth.

## **Role D – Gold Teeth**

You think teeth are the most desirable things to have that is made of gold. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least desirable of these (and why): gold medal, gold toilet or ring.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2605/260525-gold.html>

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

<b>gold</b>	<b>rust</b>
-------------	-------------

- 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>• allure</li><li>• pristine</li><li>• structure</li><li>• patterns</li><li>• resistant</li><li>• elements</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• level</li><li>• noble</li><li>• malleable</li><li>• thickness</li><li>• pure</li><li>• integral</li></ul>
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# GOLD SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2605/260525-gold.html>

Write five GOOD questions about gold 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.

# **GOLD 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 'gold'?
3. What do you think of gold?
4. Is gold the best metal?
5. What other precious metals are very useful?
6. What do you think of the colour of gold?
7. What do you know about the carat system for gold?
8. What uses of gold from thousands of years ago do you know of?
9. How much gold do you have?
10. Do you have a heart of gold?

*Scientists discover why gold doesn't 'rust' – 25th May 2026*  
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# **GOLD 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 'rust'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Which do you like better, gold or diamonds?
15. How important is gold in your culture?
16. What is gold leaf used for?
17. What do you think of using gold in dentistry?
18. What do you think of people who order gold toilets?
19. Do you think silence is golden?
20. What questions would you like to ask the scientists?

# 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/2605/260525-gold.html>

Gold has held an enduring (1) \_\_\_\_\_ for thousands of years. This precious metal has remained a symbol (2) \_\_\_\_\_ elegance and wealth. Scientists have discovered how it stays in such pristine condition and never loses its (3) \_\_\_\_\_. Researchers from Tulane University in New Orleans found that gold does not rust or change colour because of the structure of atoms on its (4) \_\_\_\_\_. Dr Matthew Montemore wrote that the atoms naturally rearrange themselves into unique (5) \_\_\_\_\_ patterns that minimize chemical reactions with oxygen. He said: "This makes the gold much more resistant to oxidation." As a result, it does not become discoloured, even after centuries of exposure to the (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

A low level of reactivity to oxygen is called chemical nobility. Gold is the most noble of (7) \_\_\_\_\_ metals. Its resistance to bonding with oxygen means it maintains its shininess for thousands of years. It is also one of the most malleable metals, which means it can easily be (8) \_\_\_\_\_ into thin sheets. Gold can be (9) \_\_\_\_\_ to a thickness of less than 0.1 micrometres – a hundred times thinner than a human hair. Its (10) \_\_\_\_\_ form is why humans have used gold for jewellery and currency for more than 5,000 years. It also has important uses in electronics, (11) \_\_\_\_\_, spacecraft technology, and medicine. The researchers believe it will continue to be integral (12) \_\_\_\_\_ industrial applications.

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

- |     |              |                |               |             |
|-----|--------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1.  | (a) allergy  | (b) allegation | (c) alliance  | (d) allure  |
| 2.  | (a) by       | (b) on         | (c) at        | (d) of      |
| 3.  | (a) brine    | (b) shine      | (c) twine     | (d) canine  |
| 4.  | (a) waist    | (b) level      | (c) surface   | (d) band    |
| 5.  | (a) zip      | (b) zebra      | (c) zigzag    | (d) zoom    |
| 6.  | (a) elements | (b) parts      | (c) traces    | (d) basics  |
| 7.  | (a) whole    | (b) all        | (c) every     | (d) total   |
| 8.  | (a) hammered | (b) nailed     | (c) sawed     | (d) sanded  |
| 9.  | (a) attacked | (b) beaten     | (c) punched   | (d) whacked |
| 10. | (a) lure     | (b) sure       | (c) pure      | (d) azure   |
| 11. | (a) dental   | (b) denture    | (c) dentistry | (d) dented  |
| 12. | (a) by       | (b) of         | (c) at        | (d) in      |

# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2605/260525-gold.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. Gold has held an enduring lerlau
2. this prsuieoc metal
3. how it stays in such pniesirt condition
4. cmclihea reactions
5. much more ensttasir to oxidation
6. centuries of exposure to the emeslnet

## Paragraph 2

7. A low level of vtrictaeiy to oxygen
8. one of the most alelblaem metals
9. less than 0.1 rtceimmreos
10. used gold for jewellery and rurneccy
11. spacecraft technology and encdeiim
12. tuasilrdin applications

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2605/260525-gold.html>

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

- ( ) A low level of reactivity to oxygen is called chemical nobility. Gold is the most noble of all
- ( ) atoms naturally rearrange themselves into unique zigzag patterns that minimize chemical reactions
- ( ) colour because of the structure of atoms on its surface. Dr Matthew Montemore wrote that the
- ( ) currency for more than 5,000 years. It also has important uses in electronics, dentistry, spacecraft
- ( **1** ) Gold has held an enduring allure for thousands of years. This precious metal has remained a symbol
- ( ) hair. Its pure form is why humans have used gold for jewellery and
- ( ) metals. Its resistance to bonding with oxygen means it maintains its shininess for thousands of years. It is also one of
- ( ) of elegance and wealth. Scientists have discovered how it stays in such pristine condition and never loses its
- ( ) result, it does not become discoloured, even after centuries of exposure to the elements.
- ( ) shine. Researchers from Tulane University in New Orleans found that gold does not rust or change
- ( ) technology, and medicine. The researchers believe it will continue to be integral in industrial applications.
- ( ) the most malleable metals, which means it can easily be hammered into thin sheets. Gold can be beaten
- ( ) to a thickness of less than 0.1 micrometres — a hundred times thinner than a human
- ( ) with oxygen. He said: "This makes the gold much more resistant to oxidation." As a

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2605/260525-gold.html>

1. a has metal precious remained symbol This .
2. condition How in pristine stays such it .
3. Atoms into naturally patterns rearrange themselves unique zigzag .
4. a As become discoloured does it not result .
5. after centuries elements Even exposure of the to .
6. A level low of oxygen reactivity to .
7. all Gold is metals most noble of the .
8. also It's malleable metals most of one the .
9. a A hair hundred human than thinner times .
10. also electronics has important in It uses .

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2605/260525-gold.html>

Gold has held an *enduring* / *daring* allure for thousands of years. This precious metal has remained a *symbolic* / *symbol* of elegance and *wealth* / *wealthy*. Scientists have discovered how it stays in such pristine condition and never loses *their* / *its* shine. Researchers from Tulane University in New Orleans found that gold does not *lust* / *rust* or change colour because of the structure *of* / *at* atoms on its surface. Dr Matthew Montemore wrote that the atoms naturally rearrange *itself* / *themselves* into unique zigzag patterns that *minimal* / *minimize* chemical reactions with oxygen. He said: "This makes the gold much more resistant *to* / *for* oxidation." As a result, it does not become discoloured, even after centuries of exposure *at* / *to* the elements.

A low level *at* / *of* reactivity to oxygen is called chemical nobility. Gold is the most noble of *every* / *all* metals. Its resistance to bonding with oxygen means *it* / *that* maintains its shininess for thousands of years. It is also one of the most *malleable* / *able* metals, which means it can easily be hammered into thin sheets. Gold can be beaten *to* / *of* a thickness of less than 0.1 micrometres — a hundred times thinner than a *humane* / *human* hair. Its pure form is why humans have used gold for jewellery and *currents* / *currency* for more than 5,000 years. It also has important *issues* / *uses* in electronics, dentistry, spacecraft technology, and *medicine* / *medicinal*. The researchers believe it will continue to be integral *in* / *on* industrial applications.

**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/2605/260525-gold.html>

Gold has held on during all the thousands of years. This precious metal has remained a symbol of elegance and wealth. Scientists have discovered how it stays in such pristine condition and never loses its shine. Researchers from Tilburg University in the Netherlands found that gold does not react or change colour because of the structure of atoms in its surface. Dr Matthew Mantmore wrote that these naturally occurring elements are not quite zigzag patterns that minimize chemical reactions with oxygen. He said: "This makes the gold much more resistant to oxidation." So, as a result, it does not become discoloured, even after centuries of exposure to the elements.

The low level of reactivity to oxygen is called chemical nobility. Gold is the most noble of all metals. Its resistance to bonding with oxygen means that monuments that shine for thousands of years. It is also one of the most malleable metals, which means it can easily be hammered into thin sheets. Gold can be beaten to a thickness of less than 0.1 micrometres – a hundred times thinner than a human hair. Its price from \$ why humans have used gold for jewellery and currency for more than 5,000 years. It is also important in electronics, dentistry, spacecraft technology, and medicine. The researchers believe that will continue to be a bright light in industrial applications.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2605/260525-gold.html>

gold has held an enduring allure for thousands of years this precious metal has remained a symbol of elegance and wealth scientists have discovered how it stays in such pristine condition and never loses its shine researchers from tulane university in new orleans found that gold does not rust or change colour because of the structure of atoms on its surface dr matthew montemore wrote that the atoms naturally rearrange themselves into unique zigzag patterns that minimize chemical reactions with oxygen he said this makes the gold much more resistant to oxidation as a result it does not become discoloured even after centuries of exposure to the elements

a low level of reactivity to oxygen is called chemical nobility gold is the most noble of all metals its resistance to bonding with oxygen means it maintains its shininess for thousands of years it is also one of the most malleable metals which means it can easily be hammered into thin sheets gold can be beaten to a thickness of less than 0.1 micrometres a hundred times thinner than a human hair its pure form is why humans have used gold for jewellery and currency for more than 5000 years it also has important uses in electronics dentistry spacecraft technology and medicine the researchers believe it will continue to be integral in industrial applications

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2605/260525-gold.html>

Gold has held an enduring allure for thousands of years. This precious metal has remained a symbol of elegance and wealth. Scientists have discovered how it stays in such pristine condition and never loses its shine. Researchers from Tulane University in New Orleans found that gold does not rust or change colour because of the structure of atoms on its surface. Dr Matthew Montemorewrote that the atoms naturally rearrange themselves into a unique zigzag pattern that minimizes chemical reactions with oxygen. He said: "This makes the gold much more resistant to oxidation." As a result, it does not become discoloured, even after centuries of exposure to the elements. A low level of reactivity to oxygen is called chemical nobility. Gold is the most noble of all metals. Its resistance to bonding with oxygen means it maintains its shininess for thousands of years. It is also one of the most malleable metals, which means it can be easily hammered into thin sheets. Gold can be beaten to a thickness of less than 0.1 micrometres — a hundred times thinner than a human hair. Its pure form is why humans have used gold for jewellery and currency for more than 5,000 years. It also has important uses in electronics, dentistry, spacecraft technology, and medicine. The researchers believe it will continue to be integral in industrial applications.





# 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. GOLD:** Make a poster about gold. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. GOLD IDIOMS:** What do these idioms containing the word "gold" mean? How do they relate to your life?

- Have a heart of gold
- Worth its weight in gold
- As good as gold
- All that glitters is not gold
- A golden opportunity
- The golden rule
- Silence is golden
- Go for gold

**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 gold. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. An enduring allure
2. Pristine condition
3. It does not rust.
4. Zigzag patterns
5. The elements
6. Chemical nobility
7. Thin sheets
8. A human hair
9. 5,000 years
10. Industrial applications

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

1. This precious metal has remained a symbol.
2. How it stays in such pristine condition.
3. Atoms naturally rearrange themselves into unique zigzag patterns.
4. As a result, it does not become discoloured.
5. Even after centuries of exposure to the elements.
6. A low level of reactivity to oxygen.
7. Gold is the most noble of all metals.
8. It's also one of the most malleable metals.
9. A hundred times thinner than a human hair.
10. It also has important uses in electronics.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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