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Level 0 – 4th June 2026

Teenagers win Earth Prize for microplastic 'magnet'

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260604-earth-prize-0.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 1, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260604-earth-prize-0.html>

Three Indian sixteen-year-olds won this year's Earth Prize.

The award is for eco-challenges. The teenagers made a special powder made from the seeds of the tamarind fruit.

Microplastics in water stick to the powder. They are then removed from the water with a magnet. The powder is a simple way to make water safer to drink.

The teenagers were very happy to win the award. They said it was "incredibly special". Microplastics are in our drinking water. The teenagers said their powder is like a magnet for microplastics. The collected plastic is recycled "so it can't return to nature". The powder will protect our planet from microplastic pollution.

Sources: <https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/3-teens-win-global-earth-prize-for-inventing-tamarind-powder-that-easily-removes-microplastics/>
<https://www.ndtv.com/feature/indian-teenagers-win-earth-prize-2026-for-turning-tamarind-seeds-into-microplastic-filter-11579235>
<https://www.telegraphindia.com/amp/edugraph/of-tamarind-seeds-and-microplastic-prnt/cid/2163540>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260604-earth-prize-0.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Three Indian sixteen- | a. from the water |
| 2. The award is for eco- | b. powder |
| 3. The teenagers made a special | c. to the powder |
| 4. the seeds of the tamarind | d. to drink |
| 5. Microplastics in water stick | e. year-olds |
| 6. removed | f. way |
| 7. The powder is a simple | g. challenges |
| 8. make water safer | h. fruit |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. The teenagers were very | a. to nature |
| 2. They said it was incredibly | b. drinking water |
| 3. Microplastics are in our | c. planet |
| 4. their powder is like a | d. recycled |
| 5. plastic is | e. special |
| 6. it can't return | f. happy to win |
| 7. The powder will protect our | g. pollution |
| 8. microplastic | h. magnet |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260604-earth-prize-0.html>

Three Indian sixteen-year-olds (1) _____

Earth Prize. The (2) _____ eco-challenges.

The teenagers made (3) _____ made from

the (4) _____ tamarind fruit. Microplastics in

water (5) _____ powder. They are then

removed from the water with a magnet. The powder is a simple

way to make water (6) _____.

The teenagers were very (7) _____ the

award. They said (8) _____ special".

Microplastics are (9) _____ water. The

teenagers said their powder (10) _____

magnet for microplastics. The collected plastic

(11) _____ it can't return to nature". The

powder will protect (12) _____ microplastic

pollution.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260604-earth-prize-0.html>

Three Indians sixteen-year-olds won this year's Earth Prize. The award
is for a special powder made from
the seeds of the tamarind fruit. Microplastics in water stick to the powder.
They are then removed from the water with a magnet. The powder is a simple
way to make water safe to drink. The teenagers were very happy to
win the award. They said it was "incredibly special". Microplastics are in
our drinking water. The teenagers said their powder is like a magnet for
microplastics. The collected plastic is recycled "so it can't return to nature".
The powder will protect our planet from microplastic pollution.

MICROPLASTICS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260604-earth-prize-0.html>

Write five GOOD questions about microplastics 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) _____

