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Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

Level 1 – 13th August 2026

Scientists take sharpest-ever photos of the Sun

FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:
https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2608/260813-photos-of-the-sun-1.html

Contents

Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

THE READING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2608/260813-photos-of-the-sun-1.html

Scientists have used a solar telescope to take the best-ever photos of the Sun. The photos are of the Sun's surface. They show lots of details. The scientists found hundreds of areas of activity that look like twisters of fire. They could help us know more about the Sun's energy and solar flares. An astronomer was excited about the photos. He said the Sun was a "unique laboratory". He said: "It can help us understand some very basic laws of physics."

The new photos are the closest ever to zoom in on the Sun. They show a 5,000-km-wide area. Scientists are interested in the borders between the dark and bright regions of the Sun. This is where huge spirals of fire are made. It happens when two fluids meet at different speeds. This causes lots of energy. Similar energy is created with ocean waves. Enough energy will release a solar flare. The photos will help us predict space weather one day.

Sources: https://**physics.aps.org**/articles/v19/112
https://www.**space.com**/astronomy/sun/sharpest-image-of-the-sun-ever-captured-space-photo-of-the-day-for-aug-10-2026
https://www.**bbc.com**/news/articles/c36d4376nd2o

PHRASE MATCHING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2608/260813-photos-of-the-sun-1.html

PARAGRAPH ONE:

1. Scientists have used a solar	a. laboratory
2. The photos are of the Sun's	b. areas
3. They show lots	c. the Sun's energy
4. scientists found hundreds of	d. surface
5. help us know more about	e. of physics
6. An astronomer was excited	f. telescope
7. He said the Sun was a unique	g. about the photos
8. understand some very basic laws	h. of details

PARAGRAPH TWO:

1. the closest ever to zoom	a. different speeds
2. They show a 5,000-km-	b. in on the Sun
3. the borders between the dark	c. fire are made
4. This is where huge spirals of	d. waves
5. two fluids meet at	e. wide area
6. energy is created with ocean	f. weather
7. Enough energy will release a solar	g. and bright regions
8. help us predict space	h. flare

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2608/260813-photos-of-the-sun-1.html

Scientists have (1) _____ telescope to take the best-ever photos of the Sun. The photos are of the Sun's surface. They show (2) _____. The scientists found hundreds of areas of activity that (3) _____ of fire. They could help us know more about the Sun's (4) _____ flares. An astronomer was excited about the photos. He said the Sun (5) _____ laboratory". He said: "It can help us understand some very (6) _____ physics."

The new photos are the closest ever to (7) _____ the Sun. They show a 5,000-km-wide area. Scientists (8) _____ the borders (9) _____ and bright regions of the Sun. This is where huge spirals of (10) _____. It happens when two fluids meet at different speeds. This causes lots of energy. Similar energy is created (11) _____. Enough energy will release a solar flare. The photos will help us predict (12) _____ day.

PUT A SLASH (/)WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2608/260813-photos-of-the-sun-1.html

Scientistshaveusedasolartelescopetotakethebest-everphotosofthe Sun.ThephotosareoftheSun'ssurface.Theyshowlotsofdetails.Thesci entistsfoundhundredsofareasofactivitythatlookliketwistersoffire.Th eycouldhelpusknowmoreabouttheSun'senergyandsolarflares.Anast ronomerwasexcitedaboutthephotos.HesaidtheSunwasa"uniquelab oratory".Hesaid:"Itcanhelpusunderstandsomeverybasiclawsofphys ics."ThenewphotosaretheclosestevertozoominontheSun.Theyshow a5,000-km-widearea.Scientistsareinterestedinthebordersbetwee nthedarkandbrightregionsoftheSun.Thisiswherehugespiralsoffirear emade.Ithappenswhentwofluidsmeetatdifferentspeeds.Thiscausesl otsofenergy.Similarenergyiscreatedwithoceanwaves.Enoughenerg ywillreleaseasolarflare.Thephotoswillhelpuspredictspaceweatheron eday.

THE SUN SURVEY

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2608/260813-photos-of-the-sun-4.html

Write five GOOD questions about the Sun 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/2608/260813-photos-of-the-sun-1.html

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