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Bloom Box – Clean energy for our future

MANY FLASH AND ONLINE ACTIVITIES FOR THIS LESSON, PLUS A LISTENING, AT:

http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1002/100227-clean_energy.html

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27th February, 2010

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1002/100227-clean_energy.html

Scientists from India and the USA have invented a new type of power. It is called the 'Bloom Box'. Inventor Dr. K.R. Sirdar showed off his new invention on Wednesday. He calls it a "power plant in a box". It will provide clean electricity to homes, offices and even whole villages in the developing world. Dr. Sirdar is CEO of Bloom Energy. He said his company wants to make "reliable energy affordable for everyone in the world". His device will produce few greenhouse gases. This means it will help us reduce our carbon footprint.

The Bloom Box could be one of the greatest inventions ever. Dr. Sirdar said it could do for energy what cell phones did for communication. It is so important for us to cut down on fossil fuels. The world uses too much oil, which produces CO₂ and makes the hole in the ozone layer bigger. People in poorer countries will be very happy. I hope Bloom Energy starts producing lots of these new devices. I think the sooner the better because our world is pretty sick. Maybe Dr. Sirdar will get a Nobel Prize for his new technology.

PHRASE MATCH

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1002/100227-clean_energy.html

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. invented a new type | a. off his new invention |
| 2. Dr K.R. Sirdar showed | b. gases |
| 3. provide clean | c. world |
| 4. the developing | d. of power |
| 5. greenhouse | e. footprint |
| 6. reduce our carbon | f. electricity to homes |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. one of the greatest | a. fuels |
| 2. cell | b. better |
| 3. cut down on fossil | c. phones |
| 4. the hole in the | d. inventions ever |
| 5. the sooner the | e. sick |
| 6. our world is pretty | f. ozone layer |

LISTENING GAP FILL

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1002/100227-clean_energy.html

Scientists from India and the USA have invented _____ power. It is called the 'Bloom Box'. Inventor Dr. K.R. Sirdar _____ invention on Wednesday. He calls it a "power plant in a box". _____ electricity to homes, offices and _____ in the developing world. Dr. Sirdar is CEO of Bloom Energy. He said his company wants to make "_____ affordable for everyone in the world". His device will produce few greenhouse gases. This means it will _____ our carbon footprint.

The Bloom Box _____ the greatest inventions ever. Dr. Sirdar said _____ energy what cell phones did for communication. It is so important for us to cut down on fossil fuels. The world _____, which produces CO₂ and makes the hole in the ozone layer bigger. People _____ will be very happy. I hope Bloom Energy starts producing lots of these new devices. I think the _____ because our world _____. Maybe Dr. Sirdar will get a Nobel Prize for his new technology.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1002/100227-clean_energy.html

Scientists from India and the USA (1) _____ invented a new type of power. It is called the 'Bloom Box'. Inventor Dr. K.R. Sirdar showed (2) _____ his new invention on Wednesday. He calls it a "power plant in a box". It will provide clean electricity to homes, offices and even (3) _____ villages in the developing world. Dr. Sirdar is CEO of Bloom Energy. He said his company wants to make "reliable energy (4) _____ for everyone in the world". His device will produce few greenhouse gases. This means it will help us reduce our carbon (5) _____.

The Bloom Box could be one of the greatest inventions (6) _____. Dr. Sirdar said it could do for energy what cell phones (7) _____ for communication. It is so important for us to cut (8) _____ on fossil fuels. The world uses too much oil, which produces CO₂ and makes the hole in the ozone layer bigger. People in poorer countries will be very happy. I hope Bloom Energy starts producing lots of these new devices. I think the (9) _____ the better because our world is (10) _____ sick. Maybe Dr. Sirdar will get a Nobel Prize for his new technology.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | |
|-----|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) has | (b) have | (c) having |
| 2. | (a) on | (b) in | (c) off |
| 3. | (a) all | (b) hole | (c) whole |
| 4. | (a) affordable | (b) afford | (c) affords |
| 5. | (a) footprint | (b) hoof print | (c) paw print |
| 6. | (a) never | (b) even | (c) ever |
| 7. | (a) does | (b) did | (c) doing |
| 8. | (a) up | (b) around | (c) down |
| 9. | (a) sooner | (b) soon | (c) soonish |
| 10. | (a) cute | (b) pretty | (c) beautiful |

SPELLING

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1002/100227-clean_energy.html

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. icsniestst from India
2. Sirdar edsowh off his new invention
3. the evpeigionld world
4. rellbiea energy
5. greenhouse sesga
6. reduce our rbaocn footprint

Paragraph 2

7. the treetgas inventions
8. cut down on islofs fuels
9. the ozone raeyl
10. People in rooper countries
11. the noesor the better
12. ptryte sick

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

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Number these lines in the correct order.

- () The Bloom Box could be one of the greatest inventions ever. Dr. Sirdar said it could do for energy what cell
- () provide clean electricity to homes, offices and even whole villages in the developing world. Dr. Sirdar is CEO
- () of Bloom Energy. He said his company wants to make "reliable energy affordable for everyone in
- () very happy. I hope Bloom Energy starts producing lots of these new devices. I think the sooner the better
- () phones did for communication. It is so important for us to cut down on fossil fuels. The world uses too much
- (**1**) Scientists from India and the USA have invented a new type of power. It is called the 'Bloom Box'. Inventor
- () the world". His device will produce few greenhouse gases. This means it will help us reduce our carbon footprint.
- () oil, which produces CO₂ and makes the hole in the ozone layer bigger. People in poorer countries will be
- () because our world is pretty sick. Maybe Dr. Sirdar will get a Nobel Prize for his new technology.
- () Dr K.R. Sirdar showed off his new invention on Wednesday. He calls it a "power plant in a box". It will

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

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With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. power of type new a invented have USA the and India.

2. off new showed his invention Sirdar.

3. provide will It homes to electricity clean.

4. gases greenhouse few produce will device His.

5. footprint us reduce It our will carbon help.

6. the inventions of greatest ever One.

7. us down fuels for cut fossil Important to on.

8. world too oil The uses much.

9. very poorer happy countries will People be in.

10. I the the think sooner better.

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. _____

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. ENERGY: Search the Internet and find more information about energy. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about energy. Include imaginary interviews with the boss of an oil company and Bloom Energy CEO Dr. K.R. Sirdar. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

4. 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.

5. LETTER: Write a letter to a Bloom Energy CEO Dr. K.R. Sirdar. Ask him three questions about energy. Give him three of your opinions on energy. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.