

LISTEN A MINUTE.com

The Universe

<http://www.listenAminute.com/u/universe.html>



One minute a day is all you need to improve your listening skills.
Focus on new words, grammar and pronunciation in this short text.
Doing the online activities, discussion, survey and writing will help.
Listen many times – enough for you to you understand everything.

Follow me: <http://twitter.com/SeanBanville>

THE LISTENING TAPESCRIPT

From: <http://www.listenAminute.com/u/universe.html>

The universe is a big place. I don't think anyone can understand just how big. The universe never, ever ends. It is infinite in size. It's funny when scientists say they want to unlock the secrets of the universe. That's impossible. There are way too many secrets out there. The universe has given us an adjective in English that is misused. When we say something is universal, it doesn't make sense. That's because we're saying it takes place or happens all around the universe, when in fact, it only happens on Earth. Another strange use of the word universe is that people talk about their universe. Sometimes they say their universe collapsed when something sad happened. Scientists even call our brain a mini universe.



LISTENING GAP FILL

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The universe is a big place. I _____ can understand just how big. The universe never, ever ends. It _____ size. It's funny when scientists say they want to _____ of the universe. That's impossible. There are _____ secrets out there. The universe has given us an adjective in English _____. When we say something is universal, it doesn't make sense. That's because we're saying _____ happens all around the universe, when in fact, it only happens on Earth. Another _____ the word universe is that people talk about their universe. Sometimes they say their _____ when something sad happened. Scientists even call our brain a mini universe.



CORRECT THE SPELLING

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UNJUMBLE THE WORDS

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big a is universe The place. I don't think anyone can understand just how big. The universe never, ever ends. It is infinite in size. funny It's they say scientists when want of universe unlock secrets the to the. That's impossible. there out secrets many too way are There. The universe has given us an adjective in English that is misused. something say we When universal is, it doesn't make sense. takes That's we're it place because saying or happens all around the universe, when in fact, it only happens on Earth. of use strange Another word the universe is that people talk about their universe. collapsed say Sometimes universe they their when something sad happened. Scientists even call our brain a mini universe.



 **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. _____

STUDENT THE UNIVERSE SURVEY

From: <http://www.listenAminute.com/u/universe.html>

Write five GOOD questions about the universe 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.

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

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about the universe. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

4. THE UNIVERSE POSTER Make a poster about the universe. Show it to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your posters.

5. MY UNIVERSE LESSON: Make your own English lesson on the universe. Make sure there is a good mix of things to do. Find some good online activities. Teach the class / another group when you have finished.

6. ONLINE SHARING: Use your blog, wiki, Facebook page, MySpace page, Twitter stream, Del-icio-us / StumbleUpon account, or any other social media tool to get opinions on the universe. Share your findings with the class.

