

NAME: _____

DATE: _____



Grammar in the News



22-year-old Student Discovers 4 New Planets

- **Complete the paragraph by circling the correct words.**

MAY 2009: NASA's Kepler space telescope (1)_____ Earth on May 7, 2009. Its goal is to (2)_____ new planets (exoplanets) that circle other stars – planets that are similar to (3)_____ own Earth (and that could one day be a new home for (4)_____). In the past seven years it (5)_____ discovered thousands of new planets. So far, scientists have discovered 2,327 new planets. The telescope has collected lots of information. There is so much information that, sometimes, scientists (6)_____ have enough time to study it.

MAY 2016: Michelle Kunimoto is 22 years old, likes to (7)_____ Star Trek, and lives in Canada. She studies at the University of British Columbia. She is like other young students (8)_____ age. However, more people now know Michelle (9)_____ of her possible discovery: four new exoplanets. Two of the four planets may (10)_____ about the same size as Earth, and one of the planets may have water – and maybe even life. (11)_____ did she find the planets? She used information that was collected by the Kepler space telescope, (12)_____ never studied before. Michelle described her discovery as “just an amazing moment.”

1.

- (A) left
- (B) leaves
- (C) leaving

2.

- (A) discovery
- (B) discovered
- (C) discover

3.

- (A) our
- (B) we
- (C) us

4.

- (A) us
- (B) our
- (C) we

5.

- (A) having
- (B) have
- (C) has

6.

- (A) aren't
- (B) don't
- (C) doesn't

7.

- (A) watches
- (B) watch
- (C) watched

8.

- (A) hers
- (B) her
- (C) she

9.

- (A) but
- (B) so
- (C) because

10.

- (A) be
- (B) are
- (C) were

11.

- (A) When
- (B) Who
- (C) How

12.

- (A) so
- (B) but
- (C) because

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Student Discovers Planets



Vocabulary Practice

- *Match the words on the left with the meanings on the right.*

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------|--|
| 1. telescope | <u> E </u> | A. how long a person has lived |
| 2. exoplanet | _____ | B. may be true |
| 3. similar | _____ | C. surprising; wonderful |
| 4. collect | _____ | D. a short period of time |
| 5. possible | _____ | E. a tool that makes far away things look near |
| 6. age | _____ | F. to bring together many things |
| 7. amazing | _____ | G. a planet that circles another sun |
| 8. moment | _____ | H. almost the same |

- *Use the above words to complete the sentences.*

1. I'm tired. Let's rest for a _____ before we continue to work.
2. Mars is not an _____ because it goes around our sun.
3. William and George almost look the same. They look _____.
4. My classmate can speak twenty languages. She's _____!
5. My brother likes to find and _____ coins from other countries.
6. You can see stars and planets with a _____.
7. My grandmother got married at a very young _____, only 18.
8. I think there might be life on other planets. I think it's _____.

- *Choose any two of the above words and write your own sentences.*

1. _____
2. _____

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Student Discovers Planets



How Much Do You Understand?

● **Write 'T' (True) or 'F' (False) next to each statement.**

1. _____ Michelle was born in 2009.
2. _____ NASA's space telescope has discovered 2,327 new stars.
3. _____ NASA scientists are too busy to study all of the information from Kepler.
4. _____ The news story says two of the planets may have life.
5. _____ Michelle used information from the Kepler telescope.
6. _____ Michelle was surprised by her discovery.

Discuss

● **Discuss the following questions with your classmates.**

1. Is it important to find planets that are similar to Earth? Why? / Why not?
2. What do you think alien life on exoplanets might be like?
3. Can you think of four names for the four new exoplanets?

Write

● **Choose one of the above discussion questions. Write a short paragraph to explain your answer.**

Headline '22-year-old Student Discovers 4 New Planets'**Grammar** Mixed (includes present perfect and possessive adjectives)**Level** Pre-Intermediate to Intermediate (CEFR A2 to B1)**ANSWER KEY** Page 1*My Notes*

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. A | 7. B |
| 2. C | 8. B |
| 3. A | 9. C |
| 4. A | 10. A |
| 5. C | 11. C |
| 6. B | 12. B |

ANSWER KEY Page 2● **Vocabulary Match**

- | | |
|------|--------------|
| 1. E | 1. moment |
| 2. G | 2. exoplanet |
| 3. H | 3. similar |
| 4. F | 4. amazing |
| 5. B | 5. collect |
| 6. A | 6. telescope |
| 7. C | 7. age |
| 8. D | 8. possible |

● **How Much Do You Understand?**

1. F (*She was 15 in 2009.*)
2. F (*To date, it has discovered 2,327 new planets.*)
3. T
4. F (*It says only one of the planets may have life.*)
5. T
6. T

News Sources:

- <http://kepler.nasa.gov/>
- <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/ubc-student-discovers-planets-1.3608375>
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kepler_%28spacecraft%29
- http://new.www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/ubc-michelle-kunimoto-discovery-exoplanet_us_5759d2b3e4b0e39a28ad076f?ir=Science§ion=us_science&utm_hp_ref=science