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Level 5 – 23rd September 2024

'Third state' exists beyond life and death, says study

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state-5.html>

An interesting study from the USA has suggested a "third state" exists after life and death. This mind-blowing concept suggests the cells in the organs of deceased bodies adopt new functions after the body dies. Scientists Peter Nobel and Alex Pozhitkov explained how cells transform after the host organism dies. They wrote: "These findings demonstrate the inherent plasticity of cellular systems and challenge the idea that cells and organisms can evolve only in predetermined ways." They added that the third state, "may play a significant role in how life transforms over time".

The scientists say there are two kinds of "biobot" in the functioning of the third state. Wiktionary.org says a biobot is: "A robot that is partly or wholly biological in nature [like] plant cells or animal cells that can perform tasks such as moving and reacting." One biobot is called a "xenobot". This divides cells into new multi-cellular organisms. Other biobots are "anthrobots". These self-assemble cells and move around. The scientists said xenobots exist "beyond the traditional boundaries of life and death". They added the bots could lead to personalized medicine in the future.

Sources: <https://www.popularmechanics.com/science/health/a62244774/biobots-third-state/>
<https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/biobot>
<https://www.sciencealert.com/these-creatures-occupy-third-state-beyond-life-and-death-scientists-say>
<https://metro.co.uk/2024/09/16/bodies-dont-die-scientists-discover-third-state-life-21614609/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. This mind- | a. cellular systems |
| 2. the cells in the organs of | b. over time |
| 3. cells transform after the | c. blowing concept |
| 4. the inherent plasticity of | d. ways |
| 5. challenge | e. host organism dies |
| 6. evolve only in predetermined | f. role |
| 7. play a significant | g. deceased bodies |
| 8. how life transforms | h. the idea |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1. The scientists say there are two | a. move around |
| 2. the functioning | b. biological |
| 3. A robot that is partly or wholly | c. medicine |
| 4. cells that can perform | d. organisms |
| 5. This divides cells into new multi-cellular | e. of the third state |
| 6. These self-assemble cells and | f. life and death |
| 7. beyond the traditional boundaries of | g. kinds of biobot |
| 8. the bots could lead to personalized | h. tasks |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state-5.html>

An interesting study from the USA (1) _____
"third state" exists after life and death. This mind-blowing concept
suggests the cells in (2) _____ deceased
bodies adopt new functions after the body dies. Scientists Peter
Nobel and Alex Pozhitkov explained (3) _____
after the host organism dies. They wrote: "These findings
demonstrate (4) _____ of cellular systems and
challenge the idea that cells and organisms can
(5) _____ predetermined ways." They added
that the third state, "may (6) _____ role in
how life transforms over time".

The scientists say there are two kinds of "biobot"
(7) _____ of the third state. Wiktionary.org
says a biobot is: "A robot that is partly or
(8) _____ nature [like] plant cells or animal
cells that can (9) _____ as moving and
reacting." One biobot is called a "xenobot". This
(10) _____ new multi-cellular organisms.
Other biobots are "anthrobots". These self-assemble cells and move
around. The scientists said xenobots exist "beyond
(11) _____ of life and death". They added the
bots could (12) _____ medicine in the future.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state-5.html>

An interesting study from the USA has suggested a "third state" exists after life and death. This mind-blowing concept suggests the cells in the organs of deceased bodies adopt new functions after the body dies. Scientists Peter Nobel and Alex Pozhitkov explained how cells transform after the host organism dies. They wrote: "These findings demonstrate the inherent plasticity of cellular systems and challenge the idea that cells and organisms can evolve only in predetermined ways." They added that the "third state" may play a significant role in how life transforms over time. The scientists say there are two kinds of "biobot" in the functioning of the third state. Wiktionary.org says a biobot is: "A robot that is partly or wholly biological in nature [like] plant cells or animal cells that can perform tasks such as moving and reacting." One biobot is called a "xenobot". This divides cells into new multi-cellular organisms. Other biobots are "anthrobots". These self-assemble cells and move around. The scientists said xenobots exist "beyond the traditional boundaries of life and death". They added the biobots could lead to personalized medicine in the future.

BODILY CELLS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2409/240923-the-third-state-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about bodily cells 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) _____

