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3 Conv. 6

BreakingNewsEnglish - Many online quizzes at URL below

Scientists develop COVID-19 vaccine

13th November, 2020



In a year that has largely been full of bad and tragic news because of COVID-19, there is finally some good news. Scientists have announced a breakthrough in the fight against the virus. The scientists are from U.S. the drua company Pfizer and the

German pharmaceutical company BioNTech. Their researchers say they have developed a vaccine that has a 90 per cent success rate in protecting against COVID-19. The researchers also say the vaccine does not cause serious side effects. Dr. Anthony Fauci, head of the USA's National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said the vaccine was positive news. He said: "The results are really quite good, I mean extraordinary."

Health experts say it will be months before the vaccine is widely available for people to take. It needs to be stored at temperatures of -80° Celsius. However, Pfizer CEO Dr. Albert Bourla was upbeat about his company's achievement. He said: "Today is a great day for science and humanity....We are reaching this critical milestone in our vaccine development program at a time when the world needs it most." He added: "Infection rates are setting new records, hospitals are nearing overcapacity and economies are struggling to reopen. With today's news, we are a significant step closer to providing people around the world with a muchneeded breakthrough to help bring an end to this global health crisis.'

Sources: latimes.com / nature.com / pfizer.com



Writing

The world can get back to normal now there is a COVID-19 vaccine. Discuss.



Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

year / tragic / good news / breakthrough / virus / drug company / vaccine / positive health / experts / temperatures / a great day / infection rates / hospitals / global crisis

True / False

- The article said the year 2020 has been only bad news. T/F
- b) There is a COVID-19 vaccine from German and American companies. T/F
- The article said the vaccine has a 90.2% c) success rate. T / F
- d) A doctor of infectious diseases called the vaccine extraordinary. T / F
- Health experts say the vaccine will be available within weeks. T / F
- The vaccine has to be stored in temperatures just below freezing. T / F
- A drug company CEO said it was a great day for science and humanity. T/F
- The CEO said the global health crisis is now over. T/F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- 1. largely
- 2. finally
- 3. drug
- developed
- 5. extraordinary
- experts
- 7. stored
- upbeat
- significant
- 10. crisis

- a. amazing
- b. created
- c. positive
- d. at last
- e. specialists
- f. emergency
- g. mainly
- important h.
- i. pharmaceutical
- j. kept

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) Who should be among the first people to get the vaccine?
- c) How big an achievement is the vaccine?
- How has COVID-19 affected your country's d) economy?
- e) What will you do once the COVID-19 crisis is
- f) What three adjectives best describe this story?
- What should the world learn from the g) COVID-19 pandemic?
- h) What questions would you like to ask the scientists?

Scientist develop COVID-19 vaccine

- 1. What's a breakthrough?
- 2. Where are these scientists from?
- 3. What's the success rate of this vaccine? Does it cause any <u>side effects?</u>
- 4. Who is Dr. Anthony Fauci? What did he say?
- 5. When will the vaccine be available? At what temperature should it be stored?
- 6.Who is the Pfizer CEO? What did he say?
- 7. What do you plan to do once the COVID-19 crisis is over?
- 8. Are you optimistic or pessimistic about the future?(and why?)