

DAY 226 Mysterious space object could be monitoring us



Scientists believe there is a possibility that aliens are listening to us on Earth. Astronomers from a program called Breakthrough Listen are excited about a giant, mysterious space object that has passed close to our planet. Breakthrough Listen

scientists search for evidence of civilizations beyond Earth. The scientists work at the University of Hawaii. They described the object as an 800-meter-long, 80-meter-wide, cigar-shaped rock. Some scientists believe the rock has too many straight lines on it for it to be formed naturally. This suggests it could have been designed by some form of extra-terrestrial life. The scientists have dubbed the rock Oumuamua, which means 'first messenger' in the Hawaiian language.

The astronomers first spotted Oumuamua in October. It was travelling at great speed through the solar system and passed Earth at about 85 times the distance to the Moon. This is just a hair's breadth relative to the vast expanses of the universe. Oumuamua is the first object spotted in the solar system that appears to originate from another star system. The astronomers say its high speed of over 300,000 kph suggests it is outside the gravitational pull of the Sun and is instead travelling on its own path that originated in another galaxy. The scientists said it was highly unlikely that

Oumuamua was a sign that aliens exist, but the huge rock and its journey was a unique event that possibly offered new secrets.

WORD CHECK UP

1. Breakthrough
2. Mysterious
3. Originate

GIVE YOUR BEST ANSWER

A group of scientists called Breakthrough Listen found the space object. T / F

The scientists work at a university in Hawaii. T / F

The rock has no straight lines and is totally curved. T / F

The rock was given a nickname that means 'Solar Friend'. T / F

What is the name of the program the scientists are on?

What are the astronomers searching for?

How wide is the rock from space?

What did scientists say the rock contains too many of?

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DAY 227

Some wiseacre kept making comments !!!

Sidonie	How did your talk go last night ? It was on renewable energy technologies wasn't it ?
Eugene	Yes it was. And it didn't go as well as I had hoped.
Sidonie	Sorry to hear that. was the audience hostile ?
Eugene	No, not at all, but some wiseacre at the back kept making clever comments about the drawbacks of some of the technologies.
Sidonie	Was he some kind of expert ?
Eugene	Not really, but he knew enough to make things difficult at times.

Explanation :

Wiseacre - An upstart who makes conceited, sardonic, insolent comments.

Example : No wonder many people in the office don't like Martin, because he is such a Wiseacre.

KEY WORDS AND PHRASE

1. Conceited
2. Sardonic
3. Insolent

DAY 228 Social media 'destroying how society works'



A former Facebook executive has said social media is doing great harm to society around the world. The executive is a man called Chamath Palihapitiya. He joined Facebook in 2007 and became a vice president. He was responsible for increasing the number of users Facebook had. Mr Palihapitiya

said he feels very guilty about getting more people to use social networks. He said the networks are destroying society because they are changing people's behavior. Twenty years ago, people talked to each other face to face. Today, people message each other and do not talk. People also really care about what other people think of them. They post photos and wait to see how many people like the photo. They get very sad if people do not like the photo.

Mr Palihapitiya said people should take a long break from social media so they can experience real life. He wants people to value each other instead of valuing online "hearts, likes, and thumbs-up". Palihapitiya also points out how fake news is affecting how we see the world. It is becoming easier for large websites to spread lies. It is also becoming easier to hurt other people online. Anyone can hide behind a fake user name and post lies about other people. Palihapitiya said this was a global problem. He is worried about

social media so much that he has banned his children from using it. However, he did state that Facebook was a good company. He said: "Of course, it's not all bad. Facebook overwhelmingly does good in the world."

WORD CHECK UP

Executive

Overwhelm

Guilty

GIVE YOUR BEST ANSWER

An ex-Facebook boss said social media is damaging society. T / F

The ex-boss feels guilty about getting more people to use social media. T / F

The ex-boss said social media does not change our behaviour. T / F

People message each other today instead of talking face to face. T / F

When did Chamath Palihapitiya join Facebook?

How does Chamath Palihapitiya feel about increasing Facebook's users?

What did Chamath Palihapitiya say social media is changing?

What did Chamath Palihapitiya say people care about?

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Day 229

He was a complete ignoramus !!!

Cathy	I thought the new manager was supposed to know everything about sales and marketing.
Walter	So did I. But there were a lot of questions he couldn't answer.
Cathy	That's right. He didn't seem to know very much about telesales for example.
Walter	And he was a complete ignoramus as far as the internet was concerned.
Cathy	Yes, he didn't know a thing about it. No wonder the MD started to get impatient with him.
Walter	He'd better do his homework before the next meeting, otherwise he'll be in trouble.

Explanation:

Ignoramus - A person who knows nothing

Example: Do not be such an Ignoramus if you want to succeed in life.

KEY WORDS AND PHRASE

- 1. Impatient
- 2. Convey
- 3. Outdo

DAY 230 Video of starving polar bear goes viral



A video of a starving and emaciated polar bear collapsing in Canada's wilderness has gone viral on the Internet. The video shows the bear in search of food, wandering across land with no snow or ice. The creature is

all skin and bones and is seen foraging for food in rusty waste containers. It is at times too weak to support its own body weight and has difficulty standing. Paul Nicklen, the photographer who took the video footage, stated the polar bear's plight was a clear sign of the devastating impact of climate change. He said filming the animal had been heart-wrenching. He explained his team were, "pushing through their tears and emotions while documenting this dying polar bear".

Mr Nicklen is part of the environmental group Sea Legacy. His team was on Canada's Baffin Island to shoot a documentary on conservation. He said the bear they filmed was not old and probably died within hours. He said: "This is what starvation looks like. The muscles atrophy. No energy. It's a slow, painful death." He blamed the bear's sad plight on global warming. He said: "As temperatures rise and sea ice melts, polar bears lose access to

the main staple of their diets - seals." Climate change is the biggest threat to the world's 26,000 polar bears. The video explains that bears are, "starving, and running out of energy" and are "forced to wander into human settlements for any source of food."

WORD CHECK UP

1. Starving
2. Emaciated
3. Heart-wrenching

Give your best answer

A starving polar bear was filmed wandering around a Canadian city. T / F

The bear is seen foraging for food in old market stalls. T / F

A photographer said the starving bear was a sign of climate change. T / F

The video crew showed very little emotion as they filmed the bear. T / F

What kind of Canadian environment was the bear wandering through?

What did the article say the bear was besides all skin?

What could the bear not support?

What did the photographer say the bear's plight was a sign of?

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