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Level 0 – 8th January 2026

Moss is effective in solving crimes, says study

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260108-moss-and-forensics-0.html>

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Please try Levels 1, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260108-moss-and-forensics-0.html>

The police use fingerprints, CCTV, and DNA to find criminals. A new study shows that moss is also useful. In the study, scientists looked at when the police used moss to help solve crimes. One scientist said he wanted the police to understand more about how important and useful moss was.

Moss first helped the police in 1929. In 2013, moss on a man's shoes helped the police to find where the man's baby was buried. The baby's father was put in prison for murdering his baby. Another scientist said she wanted the police to understand more about how moss can help them in their work.

Sources: <https://www.greenmatters.com/pn/this-overlooked-plant-has-been-quietly-helping-forensic-experts-solve-crimes-new-study-reveals>
<https://www.goodnewsnetwork.org/moss-is-so-unique-its-acted-like-fingerprints-to-help-solve-a-dozen-crimes/>
<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2025/12/251225080738.htm>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260108-moss-and-forensics-0.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. The police use | a. understand more |
| 2. CCTV | b. useful |
| 3. A new study | c. moss was |
| 4. moss is also | d. shows that |
| 5. scientists looked | e. solve crimes |
| 6. the police used moss to help | f. fingerprints |
| 7. he wanted the police to | g. at when |
| 8. how important and useful | h. and DNA |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Moss first helped | a. how |
| 2. moss on a | b. understand |
| 3. helped the | c. in their work |
| 4. find where the man's baby | d. in prison |
| 5. The baby's father was put | e. man's shoes |
| 6. she wanted the police to | f. police |
| 7. understand more about | g. the police in 1929 |
| 8. help them | h. was buried |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260108-moss-and-forensics-0.html>

The (1) _____, CCTV, and DNA

(2) _____. A new study shows that moss

(3) _____. In the study, scientists looked at

when (4) _____ moss to help solve crimes.

One scientist (5) _____ the police to

understand more about how important and

(6) _____.

Moss (7) _____ police in 1929. In 2013, moss

on a man's shoes helped the police (8) _____

the man's (9) _____. The baby's father was

(10) _____ for murdering his baby. Another

scientist said she wanted the (11) _____ more

about how moss can help them (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260108-moss-and-forensics-0.html>

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lice to understand more about how important and useful moss was. Moss f

irst helped the police in 1929. In 2013, moss on a man's shoes helped the p

olice to find where the man's baby was buried. The baby's father was put in

prison for murdering his baby. Another scientist said she wanted the polic

et to understand more about how moss can help them in their work.

MOSS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260108-moss-and-forensics-0.html>

Write five GOOD questions about moss 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) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260108-moss-and-forensics-0.html>

Write about **moss** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.

[illegible]