



Insert the vowels (a, e, i, o, u)

Name: _____ Date: _____

Marks: _____

Sc__nt_sts s_y th_r_ c__ld b_ s_m_th_ng __nd_r fr_z_n gr__nd th_t c__nt__ns m_ny d__dly d_s__s_s.
_nc__nt m_cr_b_s h_v_ b__n tr_pp_d f_r m_ll_nn__ _n th_ p_rm_fr_st th_t c_v_rs l_rg_ _r_s_f
__rth. P_rm_fr_st _s gr__nd th_t st_ys c_mpl_t_ly fr_z_n f_r_t l__st tw_ y__rs. _t_s c_mm_n
h_gh _n m__nt__ns __nd n__r th_ N_rth __nd S__th P_l_s. Th_ sc__nt_sts s_y th_ p_rm_fr_st _s
m_lt_ng b_c__s_f cl_m_t_ch_ng_. Th_r_s lt c__ld b_ th_r_l_s__f _nkn_wn, h_rmf_l v_r_s_s,
wh_ch sc__nt_sts _r_ c_ll_ng 'F_ct_r X'. B_rg_tt_ _v_ng_rd, __pr_f_ss_r _n _nf_ct__s d_s__s_s_t
__n_v_rs ty_n Sw_d_n, s__d w_ kn_w lttl_ _b__t F_ct_r X __nd th_ b__l_g_c_l d_ng_rs tr_pp_d
_n __rth's p_rm_fr_st.

V_r_l_g_st J__n-M_ch_l Cl_v_r__ s_ys th_r_ _r_ v_r_s_s d__p _n th_ p_rm_fr_st th_t _r_ m_r_
th_n 50,000 y__rs _ld. H_ s__d th_s_ c__ld b_ h_rmf_l t_ h_m_ns. Pr_f_ss_r Cl_v_r__ s__d
"_nc__nt v_r_s_s _p t_ __m_ll_n y__rs _ld" w__ld b_ th_m_st t_rr_fy_ng b_c__s_ th_y _r_
_nkn_wn __nd w_ h_v_ n_v_r _nc__nt_r_d th_m b_f_r_. H_ _dd_d th_t d__dly b_ct_r_l d_s__s_s
l_k_ sm_llp_x __nd _nthr_x c__ld b_ r_l_s_d _n _l_rg_sc_l_. F_ct_r X c__ld p_s__v_n b_gg_r
pr_bl_ms. H_w_v_r, m_ny sc__nt_sts _gr__ th_t _b_gg_r d_ng_r fr_m m_lt_ng p_rm_fr_st _s th_
r_l_s__f m_th_n_. Th_s_s _gr__nh__s g_s th_t_s 80 t_m_s m_r_ h_rmf_l th_n C_2.

Diseases in 'Factor X' could be next global threat

Scientists say there could be something under frozen ground that contains many deadly diseases. Ancient microbes have been being trapped for millennia in the permafrost that covers large areas of Earth. Permafrost is ground that stays completely frozen for at least / last two years. It is common high in mountains and nearly / near the North and South Poles. The scientists say the permafrost is molten / melting because of climate change. The result could be the release of unknown, harmful viruses, which scientists are calling / called 'Factor X'. Birgitta Evengard, a professor in infectious / infectious diseases at a university in Sweden, said we know little about Factor X and the biological dangers / dangers trapped in Earth's permafrost.

Virologist Jean-Michel Claverie says there are viruses deeply / deep in the permafrost that are more than 50,000 years old. He said these / them could be harmful to humans / humane. Professor Claverie said "ancient viruses up to a million years old" would be the most terrific / terrifying because they are unknown and we have never counted / encountered them before. He added that deadly / dead bacterial diseases like smallpox and anthrax could be released in / on a large scale. Factor X could pose even bigger problems. However, many scientists agree that a biggest / bigger danger from melting permafrost is the release of / of methane. This is a greenhouse gas that is 80 times more harmful / harmed than CO₂.