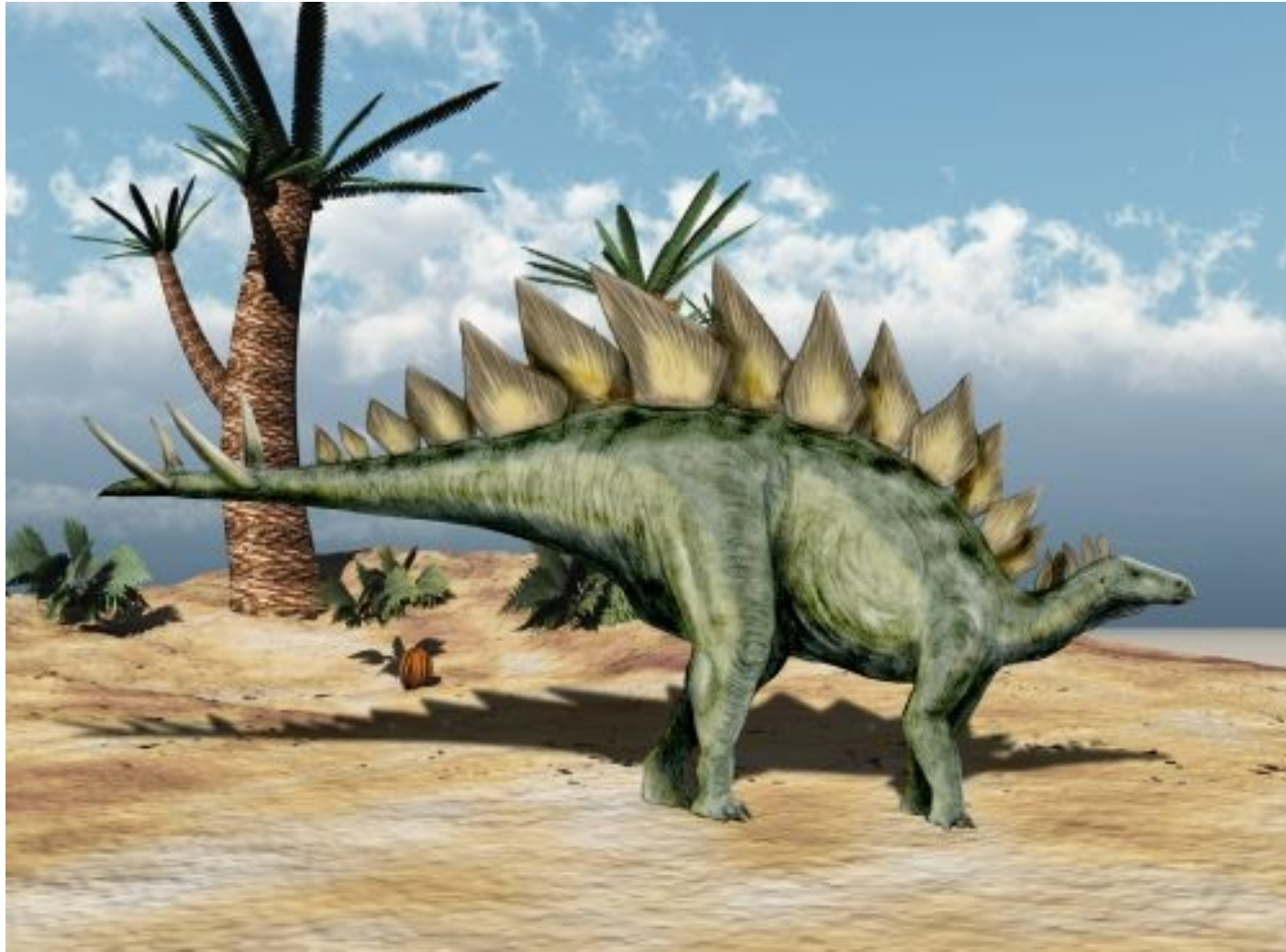



4. PALEONTOLOGY



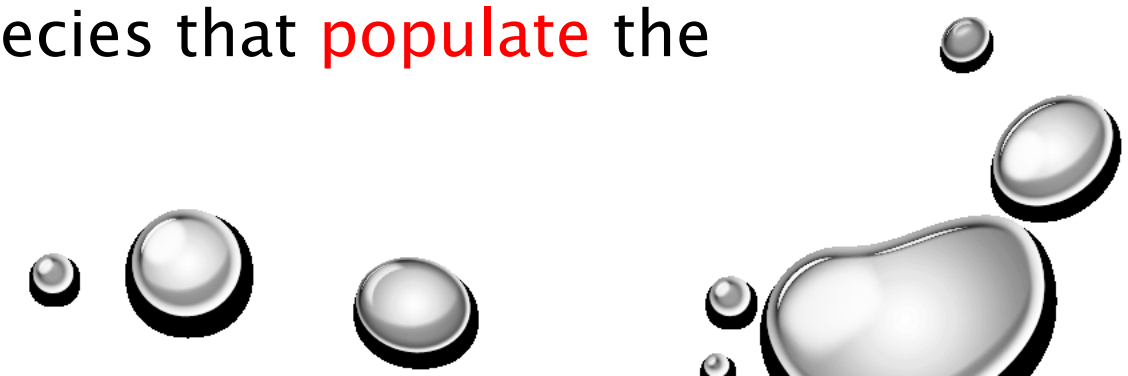


IN THIS LESSON WE ARE GOING TO:

- revise the vocabulary
 - practise reading and listening skills
 - learn how to use passive voice (revise selected tenses)
 - learn how to write a formal e-mail
 - discuss questions which might be asked by paleontologists
- 



LET'S REVISE SOME GRAMMAR BEFORE WE LEARN SOMETHING NEW!

- Scientists **have attributed** those extinctions to climate changes.
 - This **generated** a gigantic dust cloud.
 - They **pointed out** that the dinosaurs **had been** on the decline for millions of years.
 - We **do know** that climates **were changing** toward the end of the Cretaceous and dinosaur species **were decreasing**.
 - They **evolved** into the many mammal species that **populate** the earth today, including humans.
- 

PASSIVE VOICE

Who should find the crater? Who could „date“ it?

„A large meteorite crater should be found someplace on earth that could be dated as having formed around 66 million years ago.“

PASSIVE VOICE

Use the passive voice

- when „what is done“ (object) is **more important** than „who did it“ (subject)
- in formal texts when you **want to show** that „what is done“ is **more important** than „who did it“.
- if you **do not want to mention** „who did it“ (it is not important, polite or we do not know who/what it is)

STRUCTURE

- They found the crater. x The crater was found.
- They have found the crater. x_____.
- They are analysing the crater. x_____.
- They should find the crater. x_____.
- _____ x The crater had been found.
- _____ x The crater was being analysed.
- _____x The crater will be found.

Subject + (be – correct form!) + past participle + (by + subject).

TASK

- Professor Carr is coming to Masaryk University to have several lectures on the extinction of dinosaurs. You are currently writing an article related to this topic. You would like to **meet** him and **ask some questions** about it. **Write a formal e-mail** in which you will **explain** why you want to meet him, **show** your interest and **ask** if it would be possible to meet during his visit.

Discuss if the following expressions are formal or informal and where exactly you would use them (salutation, body paragraphs or closing?)

- I miss you so much!
- Hi!
- Dear Professor Johnson,
- Love ya!
- Best regards
- Sincerely
- Thank you for your time and look forward to hearing back from you.
- Please feel free to call or email me if you have any questions.
- To Whom it May Concern,
- Dear Mr./Ms. Smith
- I am sorry to inform you that I will not be able to attend class today because I am ill.

SOURCES

- <https://www.menlo.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/writing-a-formal-email.pdf> (formal x informal emails – self-study)
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tjhDV_GzTM8 (video)
- https://www.newdinosaurs.com/24_stegosaurus_nobu_tamura (pictures – dinosaurs :-))
- <https://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/passive.html> (grammar – more information)
- <https://www.flo-joe.co.uk/fce/students/strategy/transfrm/passive2.htm> (grammar – practice)