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Level 0

The shape of eggs helps birds fly well

25th June, 2017

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1706/170625-eggs-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 <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1706/170625-eggs-0.html>

Scientists know why birds' eggs are different shapes. People once said male chicks came from rounder eggs, but that was wrong. Scientists say the shape makes birds fly better. A professor said birds have changed to lay eggs that have different shapes - from a round owl's egg to a pointy sandpiper egg.

The scientists looked at 50,000 eggs from 1,400 different bird species. They looked at the shape, length and height of the eggs. Birds with the most-oval-shaped eggs were the best fliers. Hummingbirds have the most-oval-shaped eggs; owls have the roundest eggs; and sea birds have the pointiest eggs.

Sources: <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/2017/06/bird-eggs-shapes-flight-evolution/>
http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-06/23/c_136387440.htm
<http://www.popsci.com/bird-flight-egg-shape#page-2>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1706/170625-eggs-0.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Scientists know | a. better |
| 2. birds' eggs are different | b. wrong |
| 3. male | c. egg |
| 4. that was | d. have different shapes |
| 5. the shape makes birds fly | e. shapes |
| 6. birds have | f. why |
| 7. lay eggs that | g. changed |
| 8. a pointy sandpiper | h. chicks |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. The scientists looked at | a. shaped eggs |
| 2. 1,400 different bird | b. of the eggs |
| 3. They looked | c. species |
| 4. length and height | d. shaped eggs |
| 5. Birds with the most-oval- | e. fliers |
| 6. the best | f. 50,000 eggs |
| 7. Hummingbirds have the most-oval- | g. birds |
| 8. sea | h. at the shape |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1706/170625-eggs-0.html>

Scientists (1) _____ birds' eggs are different shapes. People (2) _____ male chicks came from rounder eggs, but that (3) _____.

Scientists say the shape makes birds (4) _____.

A professor said birds have changed (5) _____ that have different shapes - (6) _____ owl's egg to a pointy sandpiper egg.

The scientists (7) _____ 50,000 eggs from 1,400 different bird species. They looked (8) _____, length and (9) _____ eggs. Birds with the most-oval-shaped eggs were (10) _____.

Hummingbirds (11) _____-oval-shaped eggs; owls have the roundest eggs; and (12) _____ have the pointiest eggs.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1706/170625-eggs-0.html>

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chicks came from rounder eggs, but that was wrong. Scientists say the
shape makes birds fly better. A professor said birds have changed to lay
eggs that have different shapes - from a round owl's egg to a pointy sandpiper
egg. The scientists looked at 50,000 eggs from 1,400 different bird species.
They looked at the shape, length and height of the eggs. Birds with the
most-oval-shaped eggs were the best fliers. Hummingbirds have the
most-oval-shaped eggs; owls have the roundest eggs; and seabirds have the
pointiest eggs.

EGGS SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1706/170625-eggs-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about eggs 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 <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1706/170625-eggs-0.html>

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