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**Level 2** – 13th August, 2020

## Bus-sized crocodiles once roamed the Earth

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200813-giant-crocodiles-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200813-giant-crocodiles-2.html>

Giant "terror crocodiles" as large as buses once roamed Earth. A study published this week in the "Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology" described the crocodiles. Researchers who are experts in paleontology - the study of dinosaurs - studied old bones found in North America. They said the dinosaurs lived along the Pacific and Atlantic coasts. The giant beasts preyed on other dinosaurs. They were up to ten metres long. The researchers found that the prehistoric crocodiles had razor-sharp teeth the size of large bananas.

A co-author of the study detailed how he thought the crocodiles lived. He said they lived around 75 million years ago. They are the ancestors of today's crocodiles. He wrote about his research on the bone parts. He said: "Until now, the complete animal was unknown. These new specimens we've examined reveal a bizarre, monstrous predator with teeth the size of bananas." He said it "must have terrorised other dinosaurs that came to the water's edge to drink." Another author described how scary it was. She wrote: "It was so enormous, almost everything in its habitat was on the menu."

Sources: <https://edition.cnn.com/2020/08/11/us/deinosuchus-crocodile-science-trnd/index.html>  
[https://www.eurekalert.org/pub\\_releases/2020-08/tfg-nsc081020.php](https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2020-08/tfg-nsc081020.php)  
<https://phys.org/news/2020-08-power-deinosuchus-teeth-size-bananas.html>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200813-giant-crocodiles-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                |                       |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. as large                    | a. of dinosaurs       |
| 2. Researchers who are experts | b. on other dinosaurs |
| 3. the study                   | c. in paleontology    |
| 4. along the Pacific and       | d. of large bananas   |
| 5. The giant beasts preyed     | e. Atlantic coasts    |
| 6. They were up to             | f. crocodiles         |
| 7. prehistoric                 | g. as buses           |
| 8. teeth the size              | h. ten metres long    |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                |                       |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. A co-author                 | a. its habitat        |
| 2. detailed how he thought the | b. examined           |
| 3. They are the ancestors of   | c. of the study       |
| 4. new specimens we've         | d. predator           |
| 5. a bizarre, monstrous        | e. crocodiles lived   |
| 6. came to the water's         | f. menu               |
| 7. almost everything in        | g. edge to drink      |
| 8. on the                      | h. today's crocodiles |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200813-giant-crocodiles-2.html>

Giant "terror crocodiles" (1) \_\_\_\_\_ buses once roamed Earth. A study (2) \_\_\_\_\_ in the "Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology" described the crocodiles. Researchers who (3) \_\_\_\_\_ paleontology - the study of dinosaurs - studied old bones found in North America. They said the dinosaurs (4) \_\_\_\_\_ Pacific and Atlantic coasts. The giant beasts (5) \_\_\_\_\_ dinosaurs. They were up to ten metres long. The researchers found that the prehistoric crocodiles had (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the size of large bananas.

A co-author of the study (7) \_\_\_\_\_ thought the crocodiles lived. He said they lived around 75 million years ago. They are (8) \_\_\_\_\_ today's crocodiles. He wrote about his research on (9) \_\_\_\_\_. He said: "Until now, the complete animal was unknown. These new specimens we've examined (10) \_\_\_\_\_, monstrous predator with teeth the size of bananas." He said it "must have terrorised other dinosaurs that came to (11) \_\_\_\_\_ to drink." Another author described how scary it was. She wrote: "It was so enormous, almost everything (12) \_\_\_\_\_ was on the menu."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200813-giant-crocodiles-2.html>

Giant "terror crocodiles" as large as buses once roamed Earth. A study published this week in the "Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology" described the crocodiles. Researchers who are experts in paleontology - the study of dinosaurs - studied old bones found in North America. They said the dinosaurs lived along the Pacific and Atlantic coasts. The giant beasts preyed on other dinosaurs. They were up to ten metres long. The researchers found that the prehistoric crocodiles had razor-sharp teeth the size of large bananas. A co-author of the study detailed how he thought the crocodiles lived. He said they lived around 75 million years ago. They are the ancestors of today's crocodiles. He wrote about his research on the bone parts. He said: "Until now, the complete animal was unknown. These new specimens we've examined reveal a bizarre, monstrous predator with teeth the size of bananas." He said it "must have terrorised other dinosaurs that came to the water's edge to drink." Another author described how scary it was. She wrote: "It was so enormous, almost everything in its habitat was on the menu."

# CROCODILES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200813-giant-crocodiles-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about crocodiles 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*Bus-sized crocodiles once roamed the Earth – 13th August, 2020*  
More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

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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) \_\_\_\_\_

