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**Level 2** – 5th May, 2022

## Gardeners urged not to cut the grass

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2205/220505-cutting-the-grass-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/2205/220505-cutting-the-grass-2.html>

A UK charity called Plantlife is asking people not to cut their grass. It is part of a project called "No Mow May". When spring arrives, gardeners mow their lawn. The charity wants to help flowers grow wild and insects to breed. It hopes to promote biodiversity. Plantlife is also asking people to count the types of wild flowers in their garden. Plantlife says not cutting the grass leaves a habitat that will help "bees, butterflies, wildlife and us". Bees are an important part of nature because they pollinate flowers. Cutting the grass means there are fewer flowers for bees to work their natural magic.

Plantlife said garden lawns can be "biodiversity hotspots". Last year, it found over 250 species of plants on people's lawns, including wild strawberry and wild garlic. Plantlife wants people to value wild lawns more. People could get a nice surprise if they did not cut their grass. One gardener spoke about the joy of wild gardens. He said people care too much about having a neat garden. He believes not mowing the lawn lets people "reconnect with the natural world". Plantlife agreed. It said a wild garden "makes you feel like you're somewhere tropical instead of your own garden".

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-61264905>  
<https://www.cambridgeindependent.co.uk/news/no-mow-may-county-council-joins-in-biodiversity-initiative-9252289/>  
<https://nomowmay.plantlife.org.uk/what-is-no-mow-may/>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2205/220505-cutting-the-grass-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                  |                      |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. asking people not to          | a. are fewer flowers |
| 2. When spring                   | b. breed             |
| 3. insects to                    | c. magic             |
| 4. bees, butterflies,            | d. cut their grass   |
| 5. Bees are an important part    | e. flowers           |
| 6. they pollinate                | f. wildlife and us   |
| 7. Cutting the grass means there | g. arrives           |
| 8. work their natural            | h. of nature         |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                               |                     |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. biodiversity               | a. value wild lawns |
| 2. it found over              | b. tropical         |
| 3. plants on people's         | c. hotspots         |
| 4. Plantlife wants people to  | d. of wild gardens  |
| 5. People could get a         | e. 250 species      |
| 6. the joy                    | f. nice surprise    |
| 7. reconnect with the         | g. lawns            |
| 8. feel like you're somewhere | h. natural world    |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2205/220505-cutting-the-grass-2.html>

A UK charity called Plantlife is (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to cut their grass. It is part of (2) \_\_\_\_\_ "No Mow May". When spring arrives, gardeners mow their lawn. The charity wants to help flowers grow wild and (3) \_\_\_\_\_. It hopes to promote biodiversity. Plantlife is also asking people to count the types (4) \_\_\_\_\_ in their garden. Plantlife says not cutting the grass leaves a habitat that will help "bees, butterflies, wildlife and us". Bees are an important (5) \_\_\_\_\_ because they pollinate flowers. Cutting the grass means there are fewer flowers for bees to work (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

Plantlife said garden lawns can (7) \_\_\_\_\_. Last year, it found over 250 (8) \_\_\_\_\_ on people's lawns, including wild strawberry and wild garlic. Plantlife wants (9) \_\_\_\_\_ wild lawns more. People could get a nice surprise if they did not cut their grass. One gardener spoke about the (10) \_\_\_\_\_ gardens. He said people care too much about having a neat garden. He believes not mowing the lawn lets people "(11) \_\_\_\_\_ natural world". Plantlife agreed. It said a wild garden "makes you feel like you're somewhere (12) \_\_\_\_\_ your own garden".

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2205/220505-cutting-the-grass-2.html>

A UK charity called Plantlife is asking people not to cut their grass. It is part of a project called "No Mow May". When spring arrives, gardeners mow their lawn. The charity wants to help flowers grow wild and insects to breed. It hopes to promote biodiversity. Plantlife is also asking people to count the types of wildflowers in their garden. Plantlife says not cutting the grass leaves a habitat that will help "bees, butterflies, wildlife and us". Bees are an important part of nature because they pollinate flowers. Cutting the grass means there are fewer flowers for bees to work their natural magic. Plantlife said garden lawns can be "biodiversity hotspots". Last year, it found over 250 species of plants on people's lawns, including wild strawberry and wild garlic. Plantlife wants people to value wild lawns more. People could get a nice surprise if they did not cut their grass. One gardener spoke about the joy of wild gardens. He said people care too much about having a neat garden. He believes not mowing the lawn lets people "reconnect with the natural world". Plantlife agreed. It said a wild garden "makes you feel like you're somewhere tropical instead of your own garden".

# GRASS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2205/220505-cutting-the-grass-2.html>

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

# WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2205/220505-cutting-the-grass-2.html>

Write about **grass** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner’s paper.

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