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Level 1 – 20th October, 2019

World's fastest ant like 580kph human

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant-1.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant-1.html>

Scientists said the Saharan silver ant is the world's fastest ant. It runs at just over 3kph. This is the ant speed of a person running 580kph. It runs 108 times its body length every second. It makes up to 50 strides a second. This almost breaks the limits of what is possible for a living thing. An Olympic 100-meter runner makes four strides a second. The ants' feet touch the ground for a very short time - just seven milliseconds before they take the next stride.

The silver ant runs fast because the desert is hot. The sand can be 60 degrees Celsius. The ant doesn't want to spend time on the hot sand. Also, the ants will sink a little and slow down if they spend too long on the sand. A professor said the ants' feet move so fast because of their sandy habitat. Their fast speed stops their feet sinking into the soft sand. He said nobody knew how fast the ants really were, and how they could run so fast.

Sources: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-7580045/Worlds-fastest-ant-hits-record-breaking-speed-TWO-miles-hour.html>
<https://edition.cnn.com/2019/10/17/world/record-breaking-ants-scli-intl-scn/index.html>
<https://www.foxnews.com/science/worlds-fastest-ant-360-mph>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. It runs at just | a. milliseconds |
| 2. body | b. is possible |
| 3. up to 50 strides | c. over 3kph |
| 4. the limits of what | d. next stride |
| 5. The ants' feet touch | e. time |
| 6. for a very short | f. a second |
| 7. just seven | g. the ground |
| 8. before they take the | h. length |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. The sand can be 60 | a. into the soft sand |
| 2. spend time on | b. so fast |
| 3. the ants' feet move | c. run so fast |
| 4. because of their sandy | d. degrees Celsius |
| 5. stops their feet sinking | e. ants really were |
| 6. nobody | f. habitat |
| 7. how fast the | g. the hot sand |
| 8. how they could | h. knew |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant-1.html>

Scientists said the Saharan silver ant is the world's fastest ant. It runs (1) _____ 3kph. This is the ant speed of a person running 580kph. It runs 108 (2) _____ length every second. It (3) _____ 50 strides a second. This almost breaks the (4) _____ is possible for a living thing. An Olympic 100-meter runner makes four (5) _____. The ants' feet touch the ground for a very short time - just seven milliseconds (6) _____ the next stride.

The silver ant runs fast because the (7) _____. The sand can be 60 degrees Celsius. The ant doesn't want to (8) _____ the hot sand. Also, the ants will sink a little (9) _____ if they spend too long on the sand. A professor said the ants' (10) _____ fast because of their sandy habitat. Their fast speed stops (11) _____ into the soft sand. He said nobody knew how fast the ants really were, and how they could (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant-1.html>

ScientistssaidtheSaharansilverantistheworld'sfastestant.Itrunsatju
stover3kph.Thisistheantspeedofapersonrunning580kph.Itruns108t
imesitsbodylengtheverysecond.Itmakesupto50stridesasecond.This
almostbreaksthelimitsofwhatispossibleforalivingthing.AnOlympic1
00-meterrunnermakesfourstridesasecond.Theants'feettouchthegr
oundforaveryshorttime-justsevenmilliseconsbeforetheytakethene
xtstride.Thesilverantrunsfastbecausethedesertishot.Thesandcanbe
60degreesCelsius.Theantdoesn'twanttospentimeonthehotsand.Al
so,theantswillsinkalittleandslowdowniftheyspendtoolongonthesand
.Aprofessorsaidtheants'feetmovesofastbecauseoftheirsandyhabitat
.Theirfastspeedstopstheirfeetsinkingintothesoftsand.Hesaidnobody
knewhowfasttheantsreallywere,andhowtheycouldrunsofast.

ANTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about ants 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) _____

