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Level 2 – 20th October, 2019

World's fastest ant like 580kph human

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant-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/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant-2.html>

Scientists have found the world's fastest ant - the Saharan silver ant. It runs at just over 3kph. This is the ant speed of a human running 580kph. The ant runs 108 times the length of its own body every second. An Olympic 100-meter runner runs using 4 strides a second. The Saharan silver ant uses up to 50 strides a second. Scientists say this movement almost breaks the physical limits of what is possible for a living thing. The ants' feet make contact with the ground for a very short time - just seven milliseconds before they take the next stride.

The silver ant runs so fast because it lives in the hot desert. The sand can reach temperatures of 60 degrees Celsius. The ant doesn't want to spend time with its feet on the hot sand. Another reason is that if the ants' feet spend a long time on the sand, they will sink a little and slow them down. A professor wrote about why the ants' feet move so fast. He said it could be because of the sand dune habitat. Their fast speed could stop the ants' feet sinking into the soft sand. He said: "We knew these ants would be fast, but nobody knew how fast exactly, and how they would achieve that speed."

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-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. It runs at just | a. what is possible |
| 2. 108 times the length of its | b. milliseconds |
| 3. up to 50 strides | c. over 3kph |
| 4. breaks the physical limits of | d. stride |
| 5. a living | e. a second |
| 6. make contact | f. own body |
| 7. just seven | g. thing |
| 8. before they take the next | h. with the ground |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| 1. it lives in the hot | a. down |
| 2. temperatures of | b. fast |
| 3. another | c. soft sand |
| 4. slow them | d. that speed |
| 5. sinking into the | e. 60 degrees |
| 6. We knew these ants | f. desert |
| 7. nobody knew how | g. reason |
| 8. how they would achieve | h. would be fast |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant-2.html>

Scientists (1) _____ world's fastest ant - the Saharan silver ant. It runs (2) _____ 3kph. This is the ant speed of a human running 580kph. The ant runs 108 times (3) _____ its own body every second. An Olympic 100-meter runner runs using 4 strides a second. The Saharan silver ant uses up to 50 (4) _____. Scientists say this movement almost breaks the physical limits of what is possible for a living thing. The ants' feet (5) _____ the ground for a very short time - just seven milliseconds before they (6) _____ stride.

The silver ant (7) _____ because it lives in the hot desert. The sand can reach temperatures of 60 degrees Celsius. The ant doesn't want to (8) _____ its feet on the hot sand. Another reason is that if the ants' feet spend a long time on the sand, they will sink a little and (9) _____. A professor wrote about why the ants' feet (10) _____. He said it could be because of the sand dune habitat. Their fast speed could stop the ants' feet sinking into (11) _____. He said: "We knew these ants would be fast, but nobody knew (12) _____, and how they would achieve that speed."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant-2.html>

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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) _____

