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Level 3 – 17th November, 2019

Scientists warn insect apocalypse is coming

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse.html>

Scientists say that global warming isn't the only serious threat to humans. Another major threat is the falling numbers of insects and the extinction of many species. Scientists say that half of all insects worldwide have been declining since the 1970s. A new warning is that over 40 per cent of insect species could die out in our lifetime. Researchers said the number of insects is decreasing by 2.5 per cent every year. The scientists are calling it an "insect apocalypse". Many species of butterflies, bees and other bugs are now extinct. In the U.K. researchers say 23 bee and wasp species have gone extinct in the past century. Scientists say the apocalypse could trigger, "a catastrophic collapse of Earth's ecosystems".

Lead researcher Professor Dave Goulson said a lot of insects are being killed by pesticides used for farming and gardening. He said fewer numbers of insects might mean we cannot feed people. He told reporters: "Three quarters of our crops depend on insect pollinators. Crops will begin to fail. We won't have things like strawberries. We can't feed 7.5 billion people without insects." He said one of the most worrying trends is the decline of honeybees. In the USA, the number of honeybee colonies dropped from six million in 1947 to just 2.5 million in 2014. Professor Goulson warned people that: "We can't wait another 25 years before we do anything because it will be too late."

Sources: <https://edition.cnn.com/2019/11/13/europe/insect-apocalypse-report-scn/index.html>
<https://www.natureworldnews.com/articles/42563/20191114/insect-apocalypse-coming-heres-what-during-breakout.htm>
<https://www.businessinsider.com/insect-apocalypse-ecosystem-collapse-food-insecurity-2019-11>

WARM-UPS

1. INSECT APOCALYPSE: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about an insect apocalypse. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

scientists / global warming / threat / humans / extinction / species / century / Earth / researcher / pesticide / farming / gardening / crops / honeybee / trends / six million

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. ILLEGAL: Students A **strongly** believe it should be illegal to kill mosquitos; Students B **strongly** believe it shouldn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. SPECIES: How can we protect these species and save them from extinction? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How?	Would It Work?
Bees		
Pandas		
Rhino		
Hummingbirds		
Giant tortoise		
Whales		

5. EXTINCT: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "extinct". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. INSECTS: Rank these with your partner. Put the best insects at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- honeybees
- ants
- worms
- butterflies
- cockroaches
- spiders
- ladybirds / Ladybugs
- praying mantis

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. threat | a. Going down in number, size, quality, etc. |
| 2. major | b. Having or causing sudden great damage or suffering. |
| 3. extinction | c. A statement to cause pain, injury, damage, or other bad action to someone. |
| 4. species | d. Important, serious, or significant. |
| 5. declining | e. A group of living things capable of exchanging genes or producing young (babies) together. |
| 6. century | f. A period of 100 years. |
| 7. catastrophic | g. The state of all of one kind of animals, plants, fish, insects etc. dying out forever. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 8. pesticide | h. A general direction in which something is developing or changing. |
| 9. farming | i. Controlled by another thing or action. |
| 10. feed | j. Plants that are grown as food, especially a grain, fruit, or vegetable. |
| 11. crops | k. A liquid or powder used to destroy insects or other things that are harmful to plants or to animals. |
| 12. depend on | l. A group of animals or insects living in the same community or place. |
| 13. trend | m. The activity or business of growing crops and raising animals. |
| 14. colony | n. Give food to. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. Scientists said insect extinction is a bigger threat than global warming. **T / F**
- b. A third of insects around the world have died since the 1970s. **T / F**
- c. The number of insects is decreasing at a rate of 2.5 per cent a year. **T / F**
- d. The article says there are only 23 species of bee left in the UK. **T / F**
- e. A professor said pesticides used on farms and gardens are killing insects. **T / F**
- f. The article said 75% of our crops depend on insect pollinators. **T / F**
- g. There are only 2.5 million honeybee colonies in the USA today. **T / F**
- h. A professor said it is too late to wait another 25 years to act. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| 1. threat | a. concerning |
| 2. extinction | b. falling |
| 3. worldwide | c. agriculture |
| 4. decreasing | d. dying out |
| 5. catastrophic | e. rely |
| 6. farming | f. hold on |
| 7. depend | g. danger |
| 8. worrying | h. fell |
| 9. dropped | i. globally |
| 10. wait | j. disastrous |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. global warming isn't the only | a. killed by pesticides |
| 2. Another major threat is the | b. and other bugs |
| 3. insect species could die | c. trends |
| 4. species of butterflies, bees | d. falling numbers of insects |
| 5. a catastrophic collapse | e. colonies dropped |
| 6. a lot of insects are being | f. serious threat to humans |
| 7. Three quarters of our crops depend | g. before we do anything |
| 8. one of the most worrying | h. on insect pollinators |
| 9. the number of honeybee | i. of Earth's ecosystems |
| 10. We can't wait another 25 years | j. out in our lifetime |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse.html>

Scientists say that global warming isn't the only (1) _____ threat to humans. Another major threat is the (2) _____ numbers of insects and the (3) _____ of many species. Scientists say that half of all insects worldwide have been declining since the 1970s. A new warning is that over 40 per cent of insect (4) _____ could die out in our lifetime. Researchers said the (5) _____ of insects is decreasing by 2.5 per cent every year. The scientists are calling it an "insect apocalypse". Many species of butterflies, bees and other (6) _____ are now extinct. In the U.K. researchers say 23 bee and wasp species have gone extinct in the (7) _____ century. Scientists say the apocalypse could trigger, "a catastrophic (8) _____ of Earth's ecosystems".

falling
bugs
species
serious
collapse
extinction
past
number

Lead researcher Professor Dave Goulson said a lot of insects are being killed by (9) _____ used for farming and gardening. He said fewer numbers of insects might mean we cannot (10) _____ people. He told reporters: "Three quarters of our (11) _____ depend on insect pollinators. Crops will begin to fail. We won't have things (12) _____ strawberries. We can't feed 7.5 billion people without insects." He said one of the most worrying (13) _____ is the decline of honeybees. In the USA, the number of honeybee colonies (14) _____ from six million in 1947 to just 2.5 million in 2014. Professor Goulson warned people that: "We can't (15) _____ another 25 years before we do anything because it will be too (16) _____."

like
wait
feed
trends
late
pesticides
crops
dropped

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse.html>

- 1) Scientists say that global warming isn't the only _____ humans
 - a. serious treat to
 - b. serious threaten to
 - c. serious fret to
 - d. serious threat to
- 2) the falling numbers of insects and the extinction _____
 - a. off many species
 - b. of many specials
 - c. of many species
 - d. off many spaces
- 3) Scientists say that half of all insects worldwide have _____
 - a. been declining
 - b. bin declining
 - c. being declining
 - d. be declining
- 4) Many species of butterflies, bees and other bugs _____
 - a. are now extinct
 - b. are now extinction
 - c. are know extant
 - d. are know exacting
- 5) the apocalypse could trigger, "a catastrophic _____ ecosystems"
 - a. collapsing of Earth's
 - b. collapsed of Earth's
 - c. collapses of Earth's
 - d. collapse of Earth's
- 6) researcher Professor Dave Goulson said a lot of insects are being _____
 - a. killed by pesticides
 - b. killed by herbicides
 - c. killed by suicides
 - d. killed by homicides
- 7) He said fewer numbers of insects might mean _____ people
 - a. we cannot freed
 - b. we cannot feed
 - c. we cannot fled
 - d. we cannot food
- 8) Three quarters of our crops depend on _____
 - a. insect pollination
 - b. insect pollen raters
 - c. insect polling raters
 - d. insect pollinators
- 9) He said one of the most worrying trends is _____ honeybees
 - a. the recline of
 - b. the incline of
 - c. the decline of
 - d. the cline of
- 10) We can't wait another 25 years before _____
 - a. it do anything
 - b. when do anything
 - c. where do anything
 - d. we do anything

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse.html>

Scientists say that global warming isn't the (1) _____ to humans. Another major threat is the falling numbers of insects and the extinction (2) _____. Scientists say that half of all insects worldwide have been declining since the 1970s. A new warning is that over 40 per cent of insect species could (3) _____ our lifetime. Researchers said the number of insects (4) _____ 2.5 per cent every year. The scientists are calling it an "insect apocalypse". Many species of butterflies, bees (5) _____ are now extinct. In the U.K. researchers say 23 bee and wasp species (6) _____ in the past century. Scientists say the apocalypse could trigger, "a catastrophic collapse of Earth's ecosystems".

Lead researcher Professor Dave Goulson said a lot (7) _____ being killed by pesticides used for farming and gardening. He said (8) _____ insects might mean we cannot feed people. He told reporters: "Three quarters of our crops (9) _____ pollinators. Crops will begin to fail. We won't have things like strawberries. We can't feed 7.5 billion people without insects." He said one of the most worrying trends (10) _____ of honeybees. In the USA, the number of honeybee (11) _____ six million in 1947 to just 2.5 million in 2014. Professor Goulson warned people that: "We can't wait another 25 years before we do anything because it will (12) _____."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse.html>

1. What other threat did the scientists say there was?
2. How many insects worldwide have been lost since the 1970s?
3. By how much is the number of insects decreasing every year?
4. How many bee and wasp species are extinct in the UK?
5. What did scientists say there could be a catastrophic collapse in?
6. What did a professor say was killing insects?
7. What fraction of our crops depends on insect pollinators?
8. How many people won't be fed without insects?
9. How many bee colonies were there in the USA in 1947?
10. How long did a professor say we could not wait to act?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse.html>

- 1) What other threat did the scientists say there was?
 - a) cyber attacks
 - b) nuclear war
 - c) global warming
 - d) alien attacks
- 2) How many insects worldwide have been lost since the 1970s?
 - a) half
 - b) two thirds
 - c) a fifth
 - d) three quarters
- 3) By how much is the number of insects decreasing every year?
 - a) 2.5%
 - b) 2.3%
 - c) 2.8%
 - d) 3.2%
- 4) How many bee and wasp species are extinct in the UK?
 - a) 25
 - b) 23
 - c) 21
 - d) 18
- 5) What did scientists say there could be a catastrophic collapse in?
 - a) the global economy
 - b) water levels
 - c) volcanoes
 - d) Earth's ecosystems
- 6) What did a professor say was killing insects?
 - a) birds
 - b) pesticides
 - c) a lack of water
 - d) global warming
- 7) What fraction of our crops depends on insect pollinators?
 - a) three quarters
 - b) three tenths
 - c) two fifths
 - d) three eighths
- 8) How many people won't be fed without insects?
 - a) 6.5 billion
 - b) 8.5 billion
 - c) 7.5 billion
 - d) 5.5 billion
- 9) How many bee colonies were there in the USA in 1947?
 - a) four million
 - b) 5.5 million
 - c) five million
 - d) six million
- 10) How long did a professor say we could not wait to act?
 - a) 25 years
 - b) 24 years
 - c) 23 years
 - d) 22 years

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse.html>

Role A – Honeybees

You think honeybees are the best insects. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their insects. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): ants, spiders or worms.

Role B – Ants

You think ants are the best insects. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their insects. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): honeybees, spiders or worms.

Role C – Spiders

You think spiders are the best insects. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their insects. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): ants, honeybees or worms.

Role D – Worms

You think worms are the best insects. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their insects. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): ants, spiders or honeybees.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'insect' and 'apocalypse'.

insect	apocalypse
---------------	-------------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• serious• half• 40• 2.5• 23• trigger	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• killed• fewer• depend• 7.5• trends• 25
--	---

INSECTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse.html>

Write five GOOD questions about insects 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.

INSECTS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'insect'?
3. What do you think of an insect apocalypse?
4. What are serious threats to humans?
5. Would the earth be better without humans?
6. What do you think of insects?
7. What is your favourite insect and why?
8. What is the danger of fewer insects?
9. How big a threat is an insect apocalypse?
10. How can we save our insects?

Scientists warn insect apocalypse is coming – 17th November, 2019
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INSECTS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'apocalypse'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. How can we use fewer pesticides?
15. What can farmers do to help the insects?
16. What happens when we cannot feed everyone?
17. What do you think of strawberries?
18. What can you do to help insects?
19. Do you think it is too late?
20. What questions would you like to ask the researchers?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse.html>

Scientists say that global warming isn't the only (1) _____ threat to humans. Another major threat is the (2) _____ numbers of insects and the extinction of many species. Scientists say that half of all insects worldwide have been declining (3) _____ the 1970s. A new warning is that over 40 per cent of insect species could die (4) _____ in our lifetime. Researchers said the number of insects is decreasing by 2.5 per cent every year. The scientists are calling it an "insect apocalypse". Many (5) _____ of butterflies, bees and other bugs are now extinct. In the U.K. researchers say 23 bee and wasp species have (6) _____ extinct in the past century. Scientists say the apocalypse could trigger, "a catastrophic collapse of Earth's ecosystems".

Lead researcher Professor Dave Goulson said a (7) _____ of insects are being killed by pesticides used for farming and gardening. He said fewer (8) _____ of insects might mean we cannot feed people. He told reporters: "Three quarters of our crops depend on insect pollinators. Crops will begin to (9) _____. We won't have things like strawberries. We can't feed 7.5 billion people without insects." He said one of the most worrying (10) _____ is the decline of honeybees. In the USA, the number of honeybee colonies dropped from six million in 1947 to (11) _____ 2.5 million in 2014. Professor Goulson warned people that: "We can't wait another 25 years before we do anything because it will be too (12) _____."

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|
| 1. | (a) serious | (b) series | (c) cereal | (d) species |
| 2. | (a) tripping | (b) stumbling | (c) falling | (d) downing |
| 3. | (a) for | (b) during | (c) in | (d) since |
| 4. | (a) in | (b) out | (c) up | (d) down |
| 5. | (a) specs | (b) spatial | (c) specials | (d) species |
| 6. | (a) given | (b) taken | (c) gone | (d) done |
| 7. | (a) lots | (b) lot | (c) allot | (d) loads |
| 8. | (a) numbers | (b) figures | (c) statues | (d) digits |
| 9. | (a) fail | (b) pass | (c) deny | (d) refuse |
| 10. | (a) blends | (b) mends | (c) trends | (d) glands |
| 11. | (a) adjust | (b) justly | (c) justice | (d) just |
| 12. | (a) later | (b) late | (c) lately | (d) latent |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse.html>

Paragraph 1

1. the only serious hterat to humans
2. eldnicing since the 1970s
3. insect cepises could die out
4. bugs are now tenixct
5. could trigger a catastrophic llcaospe
6. Earth's yosscetems

Paragraph 2

7. insects are being killed by istcedipes
8. Three quarters of our orcps
9. feed 7.5 lbilion people
10. one of the most worrying retdns
11. the number of honeybee onolices
12. Professor Goulson rawned people

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () worldwide have been declining since the 1970s. A new warning is that over 40 per cent of insect species could die
- () calling it an "insect apocalypse". Many species of butterflies, bees and other bugs are now
- () out in our lifetime. Researchers said the number of insects is decreasing by 2.5 per cent every year. The scientists are
- () strawberries. We can't feed 7.5 billion people without insects." He said one of the most worrying trends is the decline
- () numbers of insects and the extinction of many species. Scientists say that half of all insects
- (**1**) Scientists say that global warming isn't the only serious threat to humans. Another major threat is the falling
- () of honeybees. In the USA, the number of honeybee colonies dropped from six
- () and gardening. He said fewer numbers of insects might mean we cannot feed people. He told reporters: "Three
- () Lead researcher Professor Dave Goulson said a lot of insects are being killed by pesticides used for farming
- () quarters of our crops depend on insect pollinators. Crops will begin to fail. We won't have things like
- () extinct. In the U.K. researchers say 23 bee and wasp species have gone extinct in the past
- () century. Scientists say the apocalypse could trigger, "a catastrophic collapse of Earth's ecosystems".
- () wait another 25 years before we do anything because it will be too late."
- () million in 1947 to just 2.5 million in 2014. Professor Goulson warned people that: "We can't

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse.html>

1. the isn't threat . Global only warming serious
2. numbers falling of is insects . Another threat the
3. are calling an apocalypse . insect The scientists it
4. extinct in Species gone past the have century .
5. of ecosystems . collapse Trigger catastrophic Earth's a
6. being Lots are of insects killed by pesticides .
7. might we people . cannot feed mean insects Fewer
8. without insects . can't 7.5 billion We feed people
9. six million . from honeybee The colonies of dropped number
10. 25 do before we another anything . Wait years

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse.html>

Scientists say that global warming isn't the only *series / serious* threat to humans. Another major threat is the *falling / failing* numbers of insects and the extinction of many species. Scientists say that *halve / half* of all insects worldwide have been declining *for / since* the 1970s. A new warning is that over 40 per cent of insect species could die *up / out* in our lifetime. Researchers said the number of insects is decreasing *by / for* 2.5 per cent every year. The scientists are *called / calling* it an "insect apocalypse". Many species of butterflies, bees and other *hugs / bugs* are now extinct. In the U.K. researchers say 23 bee and wasp species have *gone / going* extinct in the past century. Scientists say the apocalypse could *barrel / trigger*, "a catastrophic collapse of Earth's ecosystems".

Lead researcher Professor Dave Goulson said a *lot / lots* of insects are being killed by pesticides *used / using* for farming and gardening. He said *fewest / fewer* numbers of insects might mean we cannot *feed / food* people. He told reporters: "Three quarters of our crops depend *on / in* insect pollinators. Crops will begin to fail. We won't have *things / thing* like strawberries. We can't feed 7.5 billion people *within / without* insects." He said one of the most *worried / worrying* trends is the decline of honeybees. In the USA, the number of honeybee colonies *tripped / dropped* from six million in 1947 to just 2.5 million in 2014. Professor Goulson warned people that: "We can't wait another 25 years before we do anything because it will *been / be* too late."

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse.html>

S c__ n t_s t s s_y t h_t g l_b_l w_r m_n g _s n 't t
h_ _n l_y s_r__s t h_r__ t t_ h_m_n s . A n_t h_r
m_j_r t h_r__ t _s t h_ f_l_l_n g n_m b_r s _f _n s_c t
s _n d t h_ _x t_n c t__ n _f m_n y s p_c__ s . S c__
n t_s t s s_y t h_t h_l_f _f _l_l _n s_c t s w_r l_d
w_d_ h_v_ b__ n d_c l_n_n g s_n c_ t h_ 1 9 7 0 s .
A n_w w_r n_n g _s t h_t _v_r 4 0 p_r c_n t _f
_n s_c t s p_c__ s c__ l_d d__ __ t _n __ r
l_f_t_m_ . R_s__ r c h_r s s__ d t h_ n_m b_r _f _n
s_c t s _s d_c r__ s_n g b_y 2 . 5 p_r c_n t _v_r y
y__ r . T h_ s c__ n t_s t s _r_ c_l_l_n g _t _n " _n s_c
t _p_c_l_y p_s " . M_n y s p_c__ s _f b_t t_r f_l__ s ,
b__ s _n d _t h_r b_g s _r_ n_w _x t_n c t . I n t h_
U . K . r_s__ r c h_r s s_y 2 3 b__ _n d w_s p_s
p_c__ s h_v_ g_n_ _x t_n c t _n t h_ p_s t c_n t_r y .
S c__ n t_s t s s_y t h_ _p_c_l_y p_s_ c__ l_d t_r g_g_r
, " _ c_t_s t r_p h_c c_l_l_p_s _f E_r t h ' s _c_s y s
t_m s " .

L__ d r_s__ r c h_r P r_f_s s_r D_v_ G__ l_s_n s__ d
_ l_t _f _n s_c t s _r_ b__ n g k_l_l_d b_y p_s
t_c_d_s _s_d f_r f_r m_n g _n d g_r d_n_n g . H_
s__ d f_w_r n_m b_r s _f _n s_c t s m_g h_t m__ n
w_ c_n n_t f__ d p__ p_l_ . H_ t_l_d r_p_r t_r s : " T
h_r__ q__ r t_r s _f __ r c_r_p_s d_p_n d _n _n s_c t
p_l_l_n_t_r s . C_r_p_s w_l_l b_g_n t_ f__ l_ . W_ w_n
' t h_v_ t h_n g s l_k_ s t r_w b_r r__ s . W_ c_n ' t
f__ d 7 . 5 b_l_l__ n p__ p_l_ w_t h__ t _n s_c t s . "
H_ s__ d _n_ _f t h_ m_s t w_r r_y_n g t_r_n d_s _s
t h_ d_c l_n_ _f h_n_y b__ s . I n t h_ U S A , t h_
n_m b_r _f h_n_y b__ c_l_n__ s d_r_p_p_d f_r_m s_x
m_l_l__ n _n 1 9 4 7 t_ j_s t 2 . 5 m_l_l__ n _n 2 0
1 4 . P r_f_s s_r G__ l_s_n w_r n_d p__ p_l_ t h_t : "
W_ c_n ' t w__ t _n_t h_r 2 5 y__ r s b_f_r_ w_ d_
_n_y t h_n g b_c__ s _t w_l_l b_ t__ l_t_ . "

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse.html>

scientists say that global warming isnt the only serious threat to humans another major threat is the falling numbers of insects and the extinction of many species scientists say that half of all insects worldwide have been declining since the 1970s a new warning is that over 40 per cent of insect species could die out in our lifetime researchers said the number of insects is decreasing by 25 per cent every year the scientists are calling it an insect apocalypse many species of butterflies bees and other bugs are now extinct in the uk researchers say 23 bee and wasp species have gone extinct in the past century scientists say the apocalypse could trigger a catastrophic collapse of earths ecosystems

lead researcher professor dave goulson said a lot of insects are being killed by pesticides used for farming and gardening he said fewer numbers of insects might mean we cannot feed people he told reporters three quarters of our crops depend on insect pollinators crops will begin to fail we wont have things like strawberries we cant feed 75 billion people without insects he said one of the most worrying trends is the decline of honeybees in the usa the number of honeybee colonies dropped from six million in 1947 to just 25 million in 2014 professor goulson warned people that we cant wait another 25 years before we do anything because it will be too late

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse.html>

Scientists say that global warming isn't the only serious threat to humans. Another major threat is the falling numbers of insects and the extinction of many species. Scientists say that half of all insects worldwide have been declining since the 1970s. A new warning is that over 40 percent of insect species could die out in our lifetime. Researchers said the number of insects is decreasing by 2.5 percent every year. The scientists are calling it an "insect apocalypse". Many species of butterflies, bees and other bugs are now extinct. In the U.K. researchers say 23 bee and wasp species have gone extinct in the past century. Scientists say the apocalypse could trigger, "a catastrophic collapse of Earth's ecosystems". Lead researcher Professor Dave Goulson said a lot of insects are being killed by pesticides used for farming and gardening. He said few numbers of insects might mean we cannot feed people. He told reporters: "Three quarters of four crops depend on insect pollinators. Crops will begin to fail. We won't have things like strawberries. We can't feed 7.5 billion people without insects." He said one of the most worrying trends is the decline of honey bees. In the USA, the number of honey bee colonies dropped from six million in 1947 to just 2.5 million in 2014. Professor Goulson warned people that: "We can't wait another 25 years before we do anything because it will be too late."

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. INSECTS: Make a poster about insects. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. ILLEGAL: Write a magazine article about making it illegal to kill insects. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on insects. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how we can protect them. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. d 2. a 3. c 4. e 5. f 6. g 7. b
8. k 9. m 10. n 11. j 12. i 13. h 14. l

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- a F b F c T d F e T f T g T h T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. g	2. d	3. i	4. b	5. j
6. c	7. e	8. a	9. h	10. f

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Global warming
2. Half
3. 2.5%
4. 23
5. Earth's ecosystems

6. Pesticides
7. Three quarters

8. 7.5 billion
9. Six million

10. 25 years

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. Global warming isn't the only serious threat.
2. Another threat is the falling numbers of insects.
3. The scientists are calling it an insect apocalypse.
4. Species have gone extinct in the past century.
5. Trigger a catastrophic collapse of Earth's ecosystems.
6. Lots of insects are being killed by pesticides.
7. Fewer insects might mean we cannot feed people.
8. We can't feed 7.5 billion people without insects.
9. The number of honeybee colonies dropped from six million.
10. Wait another 25 years before we do anything.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. c 2. a 3. a 4. b 5. d 6. b 7. a 8. c 9. d 10. a

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)