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Level 6 – 7th June, 2021

Herd of wild elephants on the march in China

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants.html>

A herd of 15 wild elephants is approaching a city of 6.6 million people in China. The group of Asian elephants has trekked nearly 500km from their habitat in a nature reserve in the south of Yunnan province, near the borders with Myanmar and Laos. China's official news agency, Xinhua, reports that there are three calves in the herd. The giant beasts are heading north to the outskirts of the provincial capital, Kunming. They have travelled along highways and through fields of crops over the past few months. A Chinese TV station said that over the past week, the animals guzzled down the water in a water tank and feasted on kilos of corn in farmers' fields. Their journey has been captivating the Chinese public.

Authorities are now attempting to ensure the herd does not enter Kunming city. Experts are coaxing the animals into taking detours that will get them to head back towards their nature reserve. It is unclear as to why the animals have migrated so far away from their original habitat. One reason could be a decline in the amount of edible plants in their reserve. Naturally growing supplies of the elephants' favorite foods, such as plume grass, have fallen. Another factor could be a rise in elephant numbers. Xinhua reports that the wild elephant population in Yunnan Province is around 300, up from 193 in the 1980s. A further explanation offered is that the leader of the herd could have simply led it astray.

Sources: <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia/herd-wild-elephants-china-yunnan-kunming-14932630>
<http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202106/04/WS60b96024a31024ad0bac37b5.html>
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/china-elephants-herd-mammoth-500km-165856650.html>

WARM-UPS

1. ELEPHANTS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about elephants. 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?

herd / wild / elephants / nature reserve / borders / news agency / crops / corn / water detours / migrated / habitat / edible / supplies / population / explanation / astray

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

3. HABITAT: Students A **strongly** believe all destruction of animal habitat should stop now and stop forever; Students B **strongly** believe otherwise. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. ANIMAL INVASION: What damage could very large numbers of these animals do in a town or city? What could authorities do about it? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Damage	What to Do
Elephants		
Cockroaches		
Snakes		
Rats		
Lions		
Locusts		

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

6. GIANT BEASTS: Rank these with your partner. Put the most interesting at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Elephants
- Cows
- Hippopotami
- Camels
- Gorillas
- Rhinoceroses
- Polar bears
- Komodo dragons

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 1. herd | a. Attracting and holding the interest and attention of. |
| 2. approaching | b. The natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism. |
| 3. habitat | c. The outer parts of a town or city. |
| 4. beast | d. A large group of animals, especially hoofed mammals, that live, feed, or migrate together or are kept together as livestock. |
| 5. outskirts | e. Ate large quantities of something. |
| 6. feasted | f. Coming near or nearer to (someone or something) in distance. |
| 7. captivating | g. An animal, especially a large or dangerous four-footed one. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 8. ensure | h. OK to be eaten. |
| 9. coaxing | i. Something that contributes to a result or outcome. |
| 10. detour | j. Away from the correct path or direction. |
| 11. edible | k. Persuading someone or something gradually to do something. |
| 12. factor | l. Additional to what already exists. |
| 13. further | m. An alternative use. |
| 14. astray | n. Make certain that something will occur or be the case. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants.html>

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

1. Asian elephants have walked almost 500km and are near a Chinese city. **T / F**
2. The elephants started near China's borders with Laos and Myanmar. **T / F**
3. Three young elephants are among the travelling herd. **T / F**
4. The elephants have created very little interest among Chinese people. **T / F**
5. Authorities are creating detours to get the elephants to turn around. **T / F**
6. The elephants could have migrated because of a lack of plume grass. **T / F**
7. Elephant numbers have increased to 3,000 in Yunnan Province. **T / F**
8. A junior member of the herd could have led it astray. **T / F**

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

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. herd | a. natural surroundings |
| 2. trekked | b. edges |
| 3. outskirts | c. see to it |
| 4. guzzled | d. off course |
| 5. captivating | e. group |
| 6. ensure | f. safe to eat |
| 7. detours | g. gulped |
| 8. habitat | h. marched |
| 9. edible | i. diversions |
| 10. astray | j. enthralling |

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

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. near the borders with | a. into taking detours |
| 2. there are three calves | b. so far away |
| 3. to the outskirts of the | c. the Chinese public |
| 4. feasted on | d. astray |
| 5. Their journey has been captivating | e. provincial capital |
| 6. Experts are coaxing the animals | f. numbers |
| 7. the animals have migrated | g. Myanmar and Laos |
| 8. a decline in the amount of edible | h. kilos of corn |
| 9. a rise in elephant | i. plants |
| 10. led it | j. in the herd |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants.html>

A herd of 15 (1) _____ elephants is approaching a city of 6.6 million people in China. The group of Asian elephants has (2) _____ nearly 500km from their habitat in a nature (3) _____ in the south of Yunnan province, near the (4) _____ with Myanmar and Laos. China's official news agency, Xinhua, reports that there are three calves in the herd. The giant (5) _____ are heading north to the outskirts of the provincial capital, Kunming. They have travelled along highways and through fields of (6) _____ over the past few months. A Chinese TV station said that over the past week, the animals (7) _____ down the water in a water tank and (8) _____ on kilos of corn in farmers' fields. Their journey has been captivating the Chinese public.

trekked

beasts

feasted

wild

guzzled

borders

reserve

crops

Authorities are now attempting to (9) _____ the herd does not enter Kunming city. Experts are (10) _____ the animals into taking detours that will get them to head back towards their nature (11) _____. It is unclear as to why the animals have (12) _____ so far away from their original habitat. One reason could be a decline in the amount of (13) _____ plants in their reserve. Naturally growing supplies of the elephants' favorite foods, such as plume grass, have fallen. Another factor could be a (14) _____ in elephant numbers. Xinhua reports that the wild elephant (15) _____ in Yunnan Province is around 300, up from 193 in the 1980s. A further explanation offered is that the leader of the herd could have simply led it (16) _____.

edible

astray

reserve

ensure

population

coaxing

rise

migrated

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants.html>

- 1) The group of Asian elephants has trekked nearly 500km _____
 - a. from them habitat
 - b. from there habitat
 - c. from their habitat
 - d. from they habitat
- 2) The giant beasts are heading north to the outskirts of _____
 - a. the province capital
 - b. the province shall capital
 - c. the provincial capital
 - d. the prove initial capital
- 3) They have travelled along highways and through _____
 - a. fields of clops
 - b. fields of crops
 - c. fields of crabs
 - d. fields of crofts
- 4) A Chinese TV station said that over the past week, the animals _____ water
 - a. guzzled on the
 - b. guzzled own the
 - c. guzzled one the
 - d. guzzled down the
- 5) Their journey has been captivating _____
 - a. the Chinese publicity
 - b. the Chinese pub lick
 - c. the Chinese public
 - d. the Chinese pup lick
- 6) Experts are coaxing the animals _____
 - a. into take in detours
 - b. into staking detours
 - c. in two taking detours
 - d. into taking detours
- 7) that will get them to head back towards _____
 - a. their nature reverse
 - b. their nature reserve
 - c. their nature deserve
 - d. their nature reed serve
- 8) It is unclear as to why the animals _____
 - a. have migrated so far
 - b. have migrate it so far
 - c. have migraine so far
 - d. have mic rated so far
- 9) One reason could be a decline in the amount _____
 - a. of eligible plants
 - b. of edible plants
 - c. of fed a ball plants
 - d. of ready ball plants
- 10) A further explanation offered is that the leader of the herd could have simply _____
 - a. led it ashtray
 - b. led it as tray
 - c. led it a stray
 - d. led it astray

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants.html>

A (1) _____ wild elephants is approaching a city of 6.6 million people in China. The group of Asian elephants (2) _____ 500km from their habitat in a nature reserve in the south of Yunnan province, near (3) _____ Myanmar and Laos. China's official news agency, Xinhua, reports that there are three calves in the herd. The giant beasts are heading north to (4) _____ the provincial capital, Kunming. They have travelled along highways and through (5) _____ over the past few months. A Chinese TV station said that over the past week, the animals guzzled down the water in a water tank and (6) _____ of corn in farmers' fields. Their journey has been captivating the Chinese public.

Authorities are now (7) _____ the herd does not enter Kunming city. (8) _____ the animals into taking detours that will get them to head back towards their nature reserve. It is unclear as to why the animals have (9) _____ away from their original habitat. One reason could be a decline in the amount (10) _____ in their reserve. Naturally growing supplies of the elephants' favorite foods, such as plume grass, have fallen. (11) _____ be a rise in elephant numbers. Xinhua reports that the wild elephant population in Yunnan Province is around 300, up from 193 in the 1980s. A further explanation offered is that the leader of the herd could have simply (12) _____.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants.html>

1. How many people does the article say live in Kunming?
2. Which of China's borders did the elephants live near?
3. How many young elephants are there in the herd?
4. What crops does the article say the elephants have been eating?
5. What have the elephants been captivating?
6. What are experts coaxing the animals to take?
7. Where do experts want the elephants to go?
8. What does the article say is one of the elephants' favourite foods?
9. When were there 193 elephants in Yunnan Province?
10. Who could have led the herd of elephants astray?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants.html>

- 1) How many people does the article say live in Kunming?
 - a) 60 million
 - b) 66 million
 - c) 6.6 million
 - d) 6 million
- 2) Which of China's borders did the elephants live near?
 - a) Laos and Myanmar
 - b) Laos and Bhutan
 - c) Bhutan and India
 - d) Mongolia and North Korea
- 3) How many young elephants are there in the herd?
 - a) 6
 - b) 5
 - c) 4
 - d) 3
- 4) What crops does the article say the elephants have been eating?
 - a) bananas
 - b) corn
 - c) rice
 - d) wheat
- 5) What have the elephants been captivating?
 - a) TikTok users
 - b) children
 - c) the Chinese public
 - d) zoologists
- 6) What are experts coaxing the animals to take?
 - a) advice
 - b) detours
 - c) drugs
 - d) the next exit
- 7) Where do experts want the elephants to go?
 - a) anywhere they want
 - b) into cages
 - c) to a zoo
 - d) their nature reserve
- 8) What does the article say is one of the elephants' favourite foods?
 - a) rice
 - b) plume grass
 - c) bamboo shoots
 - d) bananas
- 9) When were there 193 elephants in Yunnan Province?
 - a) in the 1980s
 - b) in the 1990s
 - c) in the noughties
 - d) in the 2010s
- 10) Who could have led the herd of elephants astray?
 - a) tourists
 - b) a junior member of the herd
 - c) a calf
 - d) the herd's leader

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants.html>

Role A – Elephants

You think elephants are the most interesting animals. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their animals. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): gorillas, polar bears or Komodo dragons.

Role B – Gorillas

You think gorillas are the most interesting animals. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their animals. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): elephants, polar bears or Komodo dragons.

Role C – Polar Bears

You think polar bears are the most interesting animals. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their animals. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): gorillas, elephants or Komodo dragons.

Role D – Komodo Dragons

You think Komodo dragons are the most interesting animals. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their animals. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): gorillas, polar bears or elephants.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants.html>

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

wild	elephant

- 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">• 15• 500• official• crops• past• corn	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• now• head• decline• grass• population• simply
---	--

ELEPHANTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants.html>

Write five GOOD questions about elephants 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.

ELEPHANTS 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 'wild'?
3. What do you think of elephants?
4. What do you think of nature reserves?
5. What do you think of elephant calves?
6. Would you be worried if elephants were heading your way?
7. What giant beasts do you like?
8. What damage could the elephants do?
9. Should the farmers get compensated for the elephant damage?
10. What was the last thing that left you captivated?

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ELEPHANTS 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 'elephants'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you know about elephants?
15. What would happen if the elephants entered the city?
16. How interesting are elephants?
17. Should governments ban the destruction of animal habitat?
18. Have you ever been led astray?
19. Where do you think the elephants will end up?
20. What questions would you like to ask the elephant experts?

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/2106/210607-elephants.html>

A herd of 15 wild elephants is approaching a city (1) _____ 6.6 million people in China. The group of Asian elephants has trekked nearly 500km from their habitat in a nature (2) _____ in the south of Yunnan province, near the borders with Myanmar and Laos. China's official news agency, Xinhua, reports that there are three (3) _____ in the herd. The giant beasts are heading north to the (4) _____ of the provincial capital, Kunming. They have travelled along highways and through fields of crops over the past few months. A Chinese TV station said that over the past week, the animals (5) _____ down the water in a water tank and feasted on kilos of corn in farmers' fields. Their journey has been (6) _____ the Chinese public.

Authorities are now attempting to ensure the herd does not enter Kunming city. Experts are coaxing the animals (7) _____ taking detours that will get them to head back towards their nature reserve. It is unclear (8) _____ to why the animals have migrated so far away from their original habitat. One reason could be a decline (9) _____ the amount of edible plants in their reserve. Naturally growing supplies of the elephants' favorite foods, such as plume grass, (10) _____ fallen. Another factor could be a (11) _____ in elephant numbers. Xinhua reports that the wild elephant population in Yunnan Province is around 300, up from 193 in the 1980s. A further explanation offered is that the leader of the herd could have simply (12) _____ it astray.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. | (a) to | (b) up | (c) of | (d) around |
| 2. | (a) reserve | (b) server | (c) reverse | (d) service |
| 3. | (a) calves | (b) foals | (c) pups | (d) cubs |
| 4. | (a) outskirts | (b) skittish | (c) skittles | (d) outlandish |
| 5. | (a) gazumped | (b) guzzled | (c) gazebo | (d) gazpacho |
| 6. | (a) captive | (b) captives | (c) captivation | (d) captivating |
| 7. | (a) unto | (b) onto | (c) into | (d) up to |
| 8. | (a) has | (b) is | (c) was | (d) as |
| 9. | (a) in | (b) on | (c) to | (d) down |
| 10. | (a) have | (b) having | (c) has | (d) half |
| 11. | (a) height | (b) rise | (c) up | (d) arose |
| 12. | (a) migrated | (b) walked | (c) led | (d) trampled |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants.html>

Paragraph 1

1. ighpoapnacr a city of 6.6 million people
2. nearly 500km from their htatiab
3. heading north to the ursktoist
4. the ncivoarlp capital, Kunming
5. the animals zuegl dz down the water
6. tpatgvacnii the Chinese public

Paragraph 2

7. Experts are xanicog the animals
8. taking ruedsto
9. the animals have mgetarid so far away
10. delibe plants
11. A further aenlpaxitno
12. led it aysatr

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () reserve. It is unclear as to why the animals have migrated so far away from their original habitat. One reason could be a
- () calves in the herd. The giant beasts are heading north to the outskirts of the provincial capital, Kunming. They have travelled along
- () decline in the amount of edible plants in their reserve. Naturally growing supplies of the elephants' favorite foods, such
- () coaxing the animals into taking detours that will get them to head back towards their nature
- () 1980s. A further explanation offered is that the leader of the herd could have simply led it astray.
- (**1**) A herd of 15 wild elephants is approaching a city of 6.6 million people in China. The group of Asian elephants has trekked
- () as plume grass, have fallen. Another factor could be a rise in elephant numbers. Xinhua
- () nearly 500km from their habitat in a nature reserve in the south of Yunnan province, near the
- () reports that the wild elephant population in Yunnan Province is around 300, up from 193 in the
- () that over the past week, the animals guzzled down the water in a water tank and
- () Authorities are now attempting to ensure the herd does not enter Kunming city. Experts are
- () feasted on kilos of corn in farmers' fields. Their journey has been captivating the Chinese public.
- () highways and through fields of crops over the past few months. A Chinese TV station said
- () borders with Myanmar and Laos. China's official news agency, Xinhua, reports that there are three

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants.html>

1. 15 herd elephants approaching . wild is of A
2. nearly has of group The trekked elephants 500km .
3. beasts to the outskirts . heading north are The
4. a in down animals water tank . The the guzzled
5. been the journey Chinese Their captivating has public .
6. animals are the detours . into coaxing taking Experts
7. so far away . The migrated have beasts giant
8. plants . edible amount in decline of the A
9. could factor numbers . rise Another be in a
10. could herd have led leader astray . The the

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants.html>

A *herd / heard* of 15 wild elephants is approaching a city of 6.6 million people in China. The group of Asian elephants has *tracked / trekked* nearly 500km from their *habits / habitat* in a nature reserve in the south of Yunnan province, near the *bordering / borders* with Myanmar and Laos. China's official news agency, Xinhua, reports that there are three calves in the *nerd / herd*. The giant beasts are *facing / heading* north to the outskirts of the provincial capital, Kunming. They have travelled along highways and through fields of *crops / clops* over the past few months. A Chinese TV station said that over the past week, the animals *guzzled / gazumped* down the water in a water tank and *feasted / fasted* on kilos of corn in farmers' fields. Their journey has been *capturing / captivating* the Chinese public.

Authorities are now attempting to *insure / ensure* the herd does not enter Kunming city. Experts are *coaxing / hoaxing* the animals into taking detours that will get them to *head / skull* back towards their nature reserve. It is unclear *as / has* to why the animals have migrated so far away from their *originally / original* habitat. One reason could be a decline in the amount of edible *plans / plants* in their reserve. Naturally growing supplies of the elephants' favorite foods, such as plume grass, have *felled / fallen*. Another factor could be a rise *in / on* elephant numbers. Xinhua reports that the wild elephant population in Yunnan Province is *around / round* 300, up from 193 in the 1980s. A further explanation offered is that the leader of the herd could have simply led it *astray / ashtray*.

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/2106/210607-elephants.html>

_ h_r_d _f 15 w_ld _l_ph_nts _s _ppr__ch_ng _ c_ty _f
6.6 m_ll__n p__pl_ _n Ch_n_. Th_ gr__p _f _s__n
_l_ph_nts h_s tr_kk_d n__rly 500km fr_m th__r h_b_t_t
_n _ n_t_r_ r_s_rv_ _n th_ s__th _f Y_nn_n pr_v_nc_,
n__r th_ b_rdrs w_th My_nm_r _nd L__s. Ch_n_'s
_ff_c__l n_ws _g_ncy, X_nh__, r_p_rts th_t th_r_ _r_
thr__ c_lv_s _n th_ h_rd. Th_ g__nt b__sts _r_
h__d_ng n_rth t_ th_ __tsk_rts _f th_ pr_v_nc__l
c_p_t_l, K_nm_ng. Th_y h_v_ tr_v_ll_d _l_ng h_ghw_ys
_nd thr__gh f__lds _f cr_ps _v_r th_ p_st f_w m_nths.
_ Ch_n_s_ TV st_t__n s__d th_t _v_r th_ p_st w__k,
th_ _n_m_ls g_zzld d_wn th_ w_t_r _n _ w_t_r t_nk
_nd f__st_d _n k_l_s _f c_rn _n f_rm_rs' f__lds. Th__r
j__rn_y h_s b__n c_pt_v_t_ng th_ Ch_n_s_ p_bl_c.

_th_r_t__s _r_ n_w _tt_mpt_ng t_ _ns_r_ th_ h_rd
d__s n_t _nt_r K_nm_ng c_ty. _xp_rts _r_ c__x_ng th_
_n_m_ls _nt_ t_k_ng d_t__rs th_t w_ll g_t th_m t_
h__d b_ck t_w_rds th__r n_t_r_ r_s_rv_. _t _s _ncl__r
s t why th_ _n_m_ls h_v_ m_gr_t_d s_ f_r _w_y
fr_m th__r _r_g_n_l h_b_t_t. _n_ r__s_n c__ld b_ _
d_cl_n_ _n th_ _m__nt _f _d_bl_ pl_nts _n th__r
r_s_rv_. N_t_r_lly gr_w_ng s_ppl__s _f th_ _l_ph_nts'
f_v_r_t_ f__ds, s_ch _s pl_m_ gr_ss, h_v_ f_ll_n.
_n_th_r f_ct_r c__ld b_ _ r_s_ _n _l_ph_nt n_mbrs.
X_nh__ r_p_rts th_t th_ w_ld _l_ph_nt p_p_l_t__n _n
Y_nn_n Pr_v_nc_ _s _r__nd 300, _p fr_m 193 _n th_
1980s. _ f_rth_r _xpl_n_t__n _ff_r_d _s th_t th_
l__d_r _f th_ h_rd c__ld h_v_ s_mply l_d _t _str_y.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants.html>

a herd of 15 wild elephants is approaching a city of 6.6 million people in china. the group of asian elephants has trekked nearly 500km from their habitat in a nature reserve in the south of yunnan province, near the borders with myanmar and laos. china's official news agency, xinhua, reports that there are three calves in the herd. the giant beasts are heading north to the outskirts of the provincial capital, kunming. they have travelled along highways and through fields of crops over the past few months. a chinese tv station said that over the past week, the animals guzzled down the water in a water tank and feasted on kilos of corn in farmers' fields. their journey has been captivating the chinese public

authorities are now attempting to ensure the herd does not enter kunming city. experts are coaxing the animals into taking detours that will get them to head back towards their nature reserve. it is unclear as to why the animals have migrated so far away from their original habitat. one reason could be a decline in the amount of edible plants in their reserve. naturally growing supplies of the elephants' favorite foods, such as plume grass, have fallen. another factor could be a rise in elephant numbers. xinhua reports that the wild elephant population in yunnan province is around 300, up from 193 in the 1980s. a further explanation offered is that the leader of the herd could have simply led it astray

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants.html>

A herd of 15 wild elephants is approaching a city of 6.6 million people in China. The group of Asian elephants has trekked nearly 500 km from their habitat in a nature reserve in the south of Yunnan province, near the borders with Myanmar and Laos. China's official news agency, Xinhua, reports that there are three calves in the herd. The giant beasts are heading north to the outskirts of the provincial capital, Kunming. They have travelled along highways and through fields of crops over the past few months. A Chinese TV station said that over the past week, the animals guzzled down the water in a water tank and feasted on kilos of corn in farmers' fields. Their journey has been captivating the Chinese public. Authorities are now attempting to ensure the herd does not enter Kunming city. Experts are coaxing the animals into taking a detour that will get them to head back toward the nature reserve. It is unclear as to why the animals have migrated so far away from their original habitat. One reason could be a decline in the amount of edible plants in their reserve. Naturally growing supplies of the elephants' favorite foods, such as plumegrass, have fallen. Another factor could be a rise in elephant numbers. Xinhua reports that the wild elephant population in Yunnan Province is around 300, up from 193 in the 1980s. A further explanation offered is that the leader of the herd could have simply led it astray.

FREE WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants.html>

Write about **elephants** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

ACADEMIC WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants.html>

All countries should immediately stop destroying animals' habitats. Discuss.

HOMWORK

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

4. HABITAT PROTECTION: Write a magazine article about a law enforcing the protection of all animal habitats. 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 elephants. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your opinions on elephants. 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. f 3. b 4. g 5. c 6. e 7. a
8. n 9. k 10. m 11. h 12. i 13. l 14. j

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 T 2 T 3 T 4 F 5 T 6 T 7 F 8 F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- 6.6 million people
- Laos and Myanmar
- Three
- Corn
- The Chinese public
- Detours
- Back to their nature reserve
- Plume grass
- In the 1980s
- The leader of the herd

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- A herd of 15 wild elephants is approaching.
- The group of elephants has trekked nearly 500km.
- The beasts are heading north to the outskirts.
- The animals guzzled down the water in a tank.
- Their journey has been captivating the Chinese public.
- Experts are coaxing the animals into taking detours.
- The giant beasts have migrated so far away.
- A decline in the amount of edible plants.
- Another factor could be a rise in numbers.
- The leader could have led the herd astray.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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