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Level 1

Zika virus could affect 4 million people

2nd February, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1602/160202-zika-virus-1.html>

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1602/160202-zika-virus-1.html>

The World Health Organisation (WHO) said the Zika virus could become a global pandemic. The outbreak could be more serious than the Ebola virus, which killed over 11,000 people. The WHO said Zika could affect four million people. It is spreading across South and Central America. The WHO warned that Zika is spreading at high speed. It is now a serious threat. The mosquito that carries the virus is spreading worldwide because of warmer weather.

The Zika virus is increasing birth defects in South America. It causes a disease called microcephaly. This is where babies are born with a smaller head and brain damage. Around 4,000 babies were born in Brazil with microcephaly last year. In 2014, there were just 150 cases. In Colombia, 2,100 pregnant women have the virus. It is difficult to find a vaccine for the Zika virus. Doctors must test a vaccine on pregnant women. This would be a very difficult problem.

Sources: <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/zika-virus-infects-more-than-2100-pregnant-colombian-women/>
<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jan/30/zika-virus-health-fears>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zika_virus

VOCABULARY MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1602/160202-zika-virus-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. the Zika virus could | a. high speed |
| 2. The outbreak could be more serious | b. people |
| 3. affect four million | c. America |
| 4. Central | d. weather |
| 5. Zika is spreading at | e. than the Ebola virus |
| 6. It is now a serious | f. worldwide |
| 7. spreading | g. threat |
| 8. warmer | h. become a global pandemic |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. birth | a. with a smaller head |
| 2. It causes a disease called | b. vaccine |
| 3. babies are born | c. difficult problem |
| 4. brain | d. women |
| 5. Around 4,000 babies were | e. defects |
| 6. Doctors must test a | f. born in Brazil |
| 7. pregnant | g. microcephaly |
| 8. This would be a very | h. damage |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1602/160202-zika-virus-1.html>

The World Health Organisation (WHO) said the Zika virus could (1) _____ pandemic. The outbreak could be more (2) _____ Ebola virus, which killed over 11,000 people. The WHO said Zika (3) _____ million people. It is (4) _____ South and Central America. The WHO warned that Zika is spreading at high speed. It is now (5) _____. The mosquito that carries the virus is spreading worldwide because of (6) _____.

The Zika virus is increasing (7) _____ in South America. It causes (8) _____ microcephaly. This is where babies are born with a smaller head and brain damage. Around 4,000 babies (9) _____ Brazil with microcephaly last year. In 2014, (10) _____ 150 cases. In Colombia, 2,100 pregnant women (11) _____. It is difficult to find a vaccine for the Zika virus. Doctors must test a vaccine on pregnant women. This would (12) _____ difficult problem.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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TheWorldHealthOrganisation(WHO)saidtheZikaviruscouldbecomea globalpandemic.Theoutbreakcouldbemoreserious thantheEbolavirus,whichkilledover11,000people.TheWHO saidZikacouldaffectfourmillionpeople.ItisspreadingacrossSouthandCentralAmerica.TheWHO warnedthatZikaisspreadingathighspeed.Itisnowaserious threat.The mosquitothatcarriesthevirusisspreadingworldwidebecauseofwarmer weather.TheZikavirusisincreasingbirthdefectsinSouthAmerica.Itcausesadiseasercalledmicrocephaly.This iswherebabiesarebornwithasmallerheadandbraindamage.Around4,000babieswereborninBrazilwithmicrocephalylastyear.In2014,therewerejust150cases.InColombia,2,100pregnantwomenhavethevirus.ItisdifficulttofindavaccinefortheZikavirus.Doctorsmusttestavaccineonpregnantwomen.Thiswouldbeaverydifficultproblem.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

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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)

g)

h)
