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Level 1 – 17th November, 2019

Scientists warn insect apocalypse is coming

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse-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/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse-1.html>

Global warming isn't the only danger to humans. The falling numbers of insects is also dangerous. Half of all insects worldwide have been dying since the 1970s. Over 40 per cent of insect species could die in our lifetime. The number of insects is decreasing by 2.5 per cent a year. It is an "insect apocalypse". Many species of butterflies, bees and other bugs are now extinct. Scientists say this could cause, "a catastrophic collapse of Earth's ecosystems".

Pesticides used on farms and gardens are killing insects. Fewer insects mean we have less food. Three quarters of our crops depend on insects. We can't feed 7.5 billion people without insects. A big worry is the decline of honeybees. In the USA, the number of honeybee groups dropped from six million in 1947 to 2.5 million in 2014. A professor warned 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>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Global warming isn't the | a. is decreasing |
| 2. Half of all insects | b. bugs are now extinct |
| 3. insect species could die | c. worldwide |
| 4. The number of insects | d. ecosystems |
| 5. Many species | e. in our lifetime |
| 6. bees and other | f. collapse |
| 7. a catastrophic | g. only danger |
| 8. Earth's | h. of butterflies |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Pesticides used on farms | a. another 25 years |
| 2. our crops depend | b. without insects |
| 3. We can't feed 7.5 billion people | c. late |
| 4. A big worry is the decline | d. on insects |
| 5. the number of honeybee | e. of honeybees |
| 6. dropped from six million in 1947 | f. and gardens |
| 7. We can't wait | g. to 2.5 million in 2014 |
| 8. it will be too | h. groups |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse-1.html>

Global warming isn't (1) _____ to humans. The falling numbers of insects (2) _____. Half of all insects worldwide have (3) _____ the 1970s. Over 40 per cent of insect species could die in our lifetime. The number (4) _____ decreasing by 2.5 per cent a year. It is an "insect apocalypse". (5) _____ butterflies, bees and other bugs (6) _____. Scientists say this could cause, "a catastrophic collapse of Earth's ecosystems".

Pesticides (7) _____ and gardens are killing insects. Fewer insects mean we (8) _____. Three quarters of our (9) _____ insects. We can't feed 7.5 billion people without insects. A big worry is (10) _____ honeybees. In the USA, the number of honeybee (11) _____ six million in 1947 to 2.5 million in 2014. A professor warned that: "We can't wait another 25 years before we do anything because it (12) _____ late."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse-1.html>

Global warming isn't the only danger to humans. The falling numbers of insects is also dangerous. Half of all insects worldwide have been dying since the 1970s. Over 40 percent of insect species could die in our lifetime. The number of insects is decreasing by 2.5 percent a year. It is an "insect apocalypse". Many species of butterflies, bees and other bugs are now extinct. Scientists say this could cause, "a catastrophic collapse of Earth's ecosystems". Pesticides used on farms and gardens are killing insects. Fewer insects mean we have less food. Three quarters of four crops depend on insects. We can't feed 7.5 billion people without insects. A big worry is the decline of honey bees. In the USA, the number of honey bee groups dropped from six million in 1947 to 2.5 million in 2014. A professor warned that: "We can't wait another 25 years before we do anything because it will be too late."

INSECTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse-4.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.

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) _____

