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Level 2 – 17th November, 2019

Scientists warn insect apocalypse is coming

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse-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/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse-2.html>

Scientists say global warming isn't the only threat to humans. Another big threat is the falling numbers of insects. Scientists say half of all insects worldwide have been declining since the 1970s. They warn that over 40 per cent of insect species could die out in our lifetime. The number of insects is decreasing by 2.5 per cent every year. Scientists are calling it an "insect apocalypse". Many species of butterflies, bees and other bugs are now extinct. The scientists say the apocalypse could trigger, "a catastrophic collapse of Earth's ecosystems".

A professor said pesticides used for farming and gardening are killing insects. He said fewer insects mean we cannot feed people. He told reporters: "Three quarters of our crops depend on insects....Crops will begin to fail. We won't have...strawberries. We can't feed 7.5 billion people without insects." A worrying trend 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. The professor 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>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. the only threat | a. of Earth's ecosystems |
| 2. half of all insects | b. "insect apocalypse" |
| 3. insect species could die | c. worldwide |
| 4. The number of insects | d. bugs are now extinct |
| 5. Scientists are calling it an | e. out in our lifetime |
| 6. Many species | f. to humans |
| 7. bees and other | g. of butterflies |
| 8. a catastrophic collapse | h. is decreasing |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. pesticides used | a. groups dropped |
| 2. our crops depend | b. without insects |
| 3. Crops will begin | c. late |
| 4. We can't feed 7.5 billion people | d. on insects |
| 5. A worrying trend is the | e. before we do anything |
| 6. the number of honeybee | f. for farming |
| 7. We can't wait another 25 years | g. to fail |
| 8. it will be too | h. decline of honeybees |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse-2.html>

Scientists say global warming isn't (1) _____ to humans. Another big threat is the (2) _____ insects. Scientists say (3) _____ insects worldwide have been declining since the 1970s. They warn that over 40 per cent of insect species could die out (4) _____. The number of insects is decreasing by 2.5 per cent every year. Scientists are calling it an "insect apocalypse". (5) _____ butterflies, bees and other bugs (6) _____. The scientists say the apocalypse could trigger, "a catastrophic collapse of Earth's ecosystems".

A professor said pesticides (7) _____ and gardening are killing insects. He said (8) _____ we cannot feed people. He told reporters: "Three (9) _____ crops depend on insects....Crops will begin to fail. We won't have...strawberries. We can't feed 7.5 billion people without insects." A (10) _____ the decline of honeybees. In the USA, the number of honeybee groups dropped from six million in 1947 to 2.5 million in 2014. The (11) _____ that: "We can't wait another 25 years before we do anything because it will (12) _____."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse-2.html>

Scientists say global warming isn't the only threat to humans. Another big threat is the falling numbers of insects. Scientists say half of all insects worldwide have been declining since the 1970s. They warn that over 40 percent of insect species could die out in our lifetime. The number of insects is decreasing by 2.5 percent every year. Scientists are calling it an "insect apocalypse". Many species of butterflies, bees and other bugs are now extinct. The scientists say the apocalypse could trigger, "a catastrophic collapse of Earth's ecosystems". A professor said pesticides used for farming and gardening are killing insects. He said fewer insects mean we cannot feed people. He told reporters: "Three quarters of four crops depend on insects.... Crops will begin to fail. We won't have... strawberries. We can't feed 7.5 billion people without insects." A worrying trend 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. The professor warned people 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) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191117-insect-apocalypse-2.html>

Write about **insects** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.
