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Level 0 – 25th June, 2021

Mouse plague in Australia forces prison to close

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210625-mouse-plague-0.html>

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Please try Levels 1, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210625-mouse-plague-0.html>

Mice are causing a lot of damage in Australia. There is a mouse plague because of a big harvest on farms. This is a big headache for farmers. The mice caused problems for a prison west of Sydney. It moved 420 prisoners to other prisons because of health and safety reasons. It will take 10 days to clean and repair the prison.

Mice have damaged many buildings. They are a danger to health. They have also damaged electrical wires. This is a danger to buildings. A spokesperson said the health of staff and prisoners is very important. He will make sure the prison is cleaned and repaired. He will look at ways to stop future plagues.

Sources: <https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/7307607/nsw-jail-evacuated-because-of-mice-plague/>
<https://www.smh.com.au/environment/sustainability/everywhere-s-bad-farmers-eye-long-campaign-against-mouse-plague-20210607-p57yor.html>
<https://www.abc.net.au/news/rural/2021-06-23/bromadiolone-mouse-plague-poison-rejected-for-use/100218864>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210625-mouse-plague-0.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. a big harvest | a. reasons |
| 2. This is a big headache | b. of Sydney |
| 3. The mice caused | c. prison |
| 4. a prison west | d. for farmers |
| 5. It moved 420 prisoners | e. days to clean |
| 6. health and safety | f. on farms |
| 7. It will take 10 | g. to other prisons |
| 8. repair the | h. problems |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| 1. Mice have damaged many | a. electrical wires |
| 2. They are a danger to | b. plagues |
| 3. They have also damaged | c. very important |
| 4. This is a danger | d. health |
| 5. the health of staff and prisoners is | e. and repaired |
| 6. He will make | f. buildings |
| 7. the prison is cleaned | g. sure |
| 8. ways to stop future | h. to buildings |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210625-mouse-plague-0.html>

Mice are (1) _____ of damage in Australia. There

is a mouse (2) _____ a big harvest on farms.

This is a (3) _____ farmers. The mice caused

problems for a (4) _____ Sydney. It moved 420

prisoners to other prisons because of (5) _____

reasons. It will take 10 days to (6) _____ the

prison.

Mice (7) _____ buildings. They are a

(8) _____. They have also damaged electrical

wires. This is a (9) _____. A spokesperson said

the health of staff and prisoners (10) _____. He

will make sure the prison is (11) _____. He will

look at ways to (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210625-mouse-plague-0.html>

Mice are causing a lot of damage in Australia. There is a mouse plague because of a big harvest on farms. This is a big headache for farmers. The mice caused problems for a prison west of Sydney. It moved 420 prisoners to other prisons because of health and safety reasons. It will take 10 days to clean and repair the prison. Mice have damaged many buildings. They are a danger to health. They have also damaged electrical wires. This is a danger to buildings. A spokesperson said the health of staff and prisoners is very important. He will make sure the prison is cleaned and repaired. He will look at ways to stop future plagues.

MICE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210625-mouse-plague-0.html>

Write five GOOD questions about mice 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/2106/210625-mouse-plague-0.html>

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