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Level 1

Earth has lost half its trees because of humans

5th September, 2015

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1509/150905-trees-1.html>

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1509/150905-trees-1.html>

There is good and bad news about trees on our planet. The good news is that there are seven times more than we thought. Scientists estimated that the world had 400 billion trees. A new study says we have three trillion trees. That's a three followed by 12 zeroes. There are over 420 trees for every person alive today. A researcher said: "It's not good news for the world or bad news that we've produced this new number."

The bad news is that the earth once had six trillion trees. Humans have cut that number in half. Europe used to be a giant forest. Now much of it is fields and cities. We are responsible for the loss of three trillion trees. Another 15 billion trees are lost each year. Scientists said this number is a lot higher than 100 years ago. The researcher warned that we must try harder to bring back healthy forests worldwide.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-34134366>
<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/sep/02/scientists-reveal-there-are-3tn-trees-in-world-new-count>
<http://www.livescience.com/52070-global-tree-census-human-impacts.html>

VOCABULARY MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1509/150905-trees-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1. good news and bad news about | a. person alive today |
| 2. seven times | b. have three trillion trees |
| 3. Scientists estimated that the world had | c. for the world |
| 4. A new study says we | d. more than we thought |
| 5. a three followed | e. this new number |
| 6. 420 trees for every | f. trees on our planet |
| 7. good news | g. by 12 zeroes |
| 8. we've produced | h. 400 billion trees |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Humans have cut that number | a. of three trillion trees |
| 2. Europe used to | b. try harder |
| 3. much of it is fields | c. in half |
| 4. We are responsible for the loss | d. forests |
| 5. 15 billion trees are | e. be a giant forest |
| 6. this number is a | f. lost each year |
| 7. The researcher warned that we must | g. and cities |
| 8. bring back healthy | h. lot higher |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1509/150905-trees-1.html>

There (1) _____ news about trees on our planet. The good news is that there are (2) _____ we thought. Scientists (3) _____ the world had 400 billion trees. A new study says we have three trillion trees. That's a three (4) _____. There are over 420 trees for every (5) _____. A researcher said: "It's not good news for the world or bad news (6) _____ this new number."

The bad news is that (7) _____ six trillion trees. Humans have (8) _____ half. Europe used to be a giant forest. Now (9) _____ fields and cities. We are responsible for the loss of three trillion trees. Another 15 billion trees (10) _____. Scientists said this number (11) _____ than 100 years ago. The researcher warned that we must try harder (12) _____ forests worldwide.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1509/150905-trees-1.html>

There is good and bad news about trees on our planet. The good news is that there are seven times more than we thought. Scientists estimated that the world had 400 billion trees. A new study says we have three trillion trees. That's a three followed by 12 zeroes. There are over 420 trees for every person alive today. A researcher said: "It's not good news for the world or bad news that we've reproduced this new number." The bad news is that there once had six trillion trees. Humans have cut that number in half. Europe used to be a giant forest. Now much of it is fields and cities. We are responsible for the loss of three trillion trees. Another 15 billion trees are lost each year. Scientists said this number is a lot higher than 100 years ago. The researcher warned that we must try hard to bring back healthy forests worldwide.

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)
