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Level 4

Seed vault now has over a million species

6th April, 2018

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180406-seeds-4.html>

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Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180406-seeds-4.html>

A vault storing precious seeds now has over one million different varieties. The Global Seed Vault is buried in an icy mountain in the Arctic Circle. It opened ten years ago to protect the world's food supply. Climate change and droughts are threatening many species of plants. The vault holds back-ups of seeds from the world's other seed banks. A scientist at the Crop Trust said: "Hitting the million mark is really significant."

Vault workers are surprised to reach the million mark. The crisis in Syria meant there were 90,000 fewer seeds at the vault. The latest delivery included cereals and more unusual crops like the onion potato. There were also seeds from drought tolerant plants. The Crop Trust said protecting the seeds means, "scientists will have the best chance of developing nutritious and climate-resilient crops that can ensure future generations don't just survive, but thrive".

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-43171939>
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/noahs-ark-seed-vault-chalks-million-crop-varieties-190218390.html>
<https://www.ecowatch.com/global-seed-vault-svalbard-2539843402.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180406-seeds-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. buried in | a. and droughts |
| 2. protect the world's food | b. mark |
| 3. Climate change | c. ups of seeds |
| 4. threatening many species | d. supply |
| 5. The vault holds back- | e. significant |
| 6. from the world's | f. of plants |
| 7. Hitting the million | g. an icy mountain |
| 8. really | h. other seed banks |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. there were 90,000 fewer | a. but thrive |
| 2. The latest delivery | b. the onion potato |
| 3. more unusual crops like | c. resilient crops |
| 4. seeds from drought tolerant | d. included cereals |
| 5. scientists will | e. generations |
| 6. climate- | f. seeds at the vault |
| 7. future | g. plants |
| 8. don't just survive, | h. have the best chance |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180406-seeds-4.html>

A vault storing (1) _____ has over one million different varieties. The Global Seed Vault (2) _____ an icy mountain in the Arctic Circle. It opened ten years (3) _____ the world's food supply. Climate (4) _____ are threatening many species of plants. The vault (5) _____ seeds from the world's other seed banks. A scientist at the Crop Trust said: "Hitting the million (6) _____ significant."

Vault workers are surprised to (7) _____ mark. The crisis in Syria meant there were 90,000 (8) _____ the vault. The latest delivery (9) _____ more unusual crops like the onion potato. There were also seeds from (10) _____. The Crop Trust said protecting the seeds means, "scientists will (11) _____ chance of developing nutritious and climate-resilient crops that can ensure (12) _____ don't just survive, but thrive".

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180406-seeds-4.html>

Avaultstoringpreciousseedsnowhasoveronemilliondifferentvarieties
.TheGlobalSeedVaultisburiedinanicymountainintheArcticCircle.Itop
enedtenyearsagotoprotecttheworld'sfoodsupply.Climatechangeand
ddroughtsarethreateningmanyspeciesofplants.Thevaultholdsback-
upsofseedsfromtheworld'sotherseedbanks.AscientistattheCropTrus
tsaid:"Hittingthemillionmarkisreallysignificant."Vaultworkersaresu
rprisedtoreachthemillionmark.ThecrisisinSyriameanttherewere90,
000fewerseedsatthevault.Thelatestdeliveryincludedcerealsandmor
eunusualcropsliketheonionpotato.Therewerealsoseedsfromdrought
tolerantplants.TheCropTrustsaidprotectingtheseedsmean,"scienti
stswillhavethebestchanceofdevelopingnutritiousandclimate-resil
ientcropsthatcanensurefuturegenerationsdon'tjustsurvive,butthriv
e".

SEEDS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180406-seeds-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about seeds 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/1804/180406-seeds-4.html>

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