

Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

**"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"**

breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html

**Thousands more free lessons
from Sean's other websites**

www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html

Level 5 – 17th May, 2019

How Venus fly traps developed a liking for meat

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2005/200517-venus-fly-trap-5.html>

Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

Twitter



twitter.com/SeanBanville

Facebook



www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176

THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2005/200517-venus-fly-trap-5.html>

New research suggests how carnivorous plants developed a taste for meat. A study from a university in Germany shows that small changes in the genetics of plants led to some of them becoming carnivorous. This led to the development of some of nature's most ingenious species. Carnivorous plants developed new and devious ways to snare insects. The Venus fly trap's clam-like leaves snap shut when an insect crawls between them. The pitcher plant has slippery insides that insects cannot crawl up. The sundew plant has long, sticky leaves that roll up when insects walk or fly on them.

Researchers who collaborated in the study included a computational evolutionary biologist and a plant biologist. They compared the genomes of carnivorous plants to non-carnivorous ones. They found that meat-eating plants developed from the same ancestor 60 million years ago. A researcher said: "We were able to trace the origin of carnivorous genes back to a duplication event that occurred many millions of years ago." Another researcher said: "The function of these genes is related to the ability to sense and digest animals and to utilise their nutrients."

Sources: <https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2020/05/how-venus-flytraps-evolved-their-taste-meat>
https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2020-05/uow-tcp051420.php
<https://www.ibtimes.com/researchers-find-how-carnivorous-plants-evolved-their-meat-eating-lifestyle-2976644>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2005/200517-venus-fly-trap-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| 1. plants developed a taste | a. cannot crawl up |
| 2. small changes in the genetics | b. insects |
| 3. nature's most ingenious | c. or fly on them |
| 4. new and devious ways to snare | d. species |
| 5. The Venus fly trap's clam-like leaves | e. up |
| 6. slippery insides that insects | f. for meat |
| 7. sticky leaves that roll | g. snap shut |
| 8. insects walk | h. of plants |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Researchers who collaborated | a. the same ancestor |
| 2. a computational evolutionary | b. of years ago |
| 3. the genomes | c. animals |
| 4. meat-eating plants developed from | d. is related |
| 5. We were able to trace | e. of carnivorous plants |
| 6. many millions | f. in the study |
| 7. The function of these genes | g. the origin |
| 8. digest | h. biologist |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2005/200517-venus-fly-trap-5.html>

New research suggests how carnivorous plants (1) _____ for meat. A study from a university in Germany shows that small changes in the genetics of plants (2) _____ of them becoming carnivorous. This led to the development of some of nature's (3) _____. Carnivorous plants developed new and (4) _____ snare insects. The Venus fly trap's clam-like leaves snap shut when an insect crawls between them. The pitcher plant (5) _____ that insects cannot crawl up. The sundew plant has long, sticky leaves (6) _____ when insects walk or fly on them.

Researchers who collaborated in the (7) _____ computational evolutionary biologist and (8) _____. They compared the genomes of carnivorous plants to non-carnivorous ones. They found that meat-eating plants developed from (9) _____ 60 million years ago. A researcher said: "We were able to (10) _____ of carnivorous genes back to a duplication event that occurred many millions of years ago." Another researcher said: "The function of these (11) _____ to the ability to sense and digest animals and to (12) _____."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2005/200517-venus-fly-trap-5.html>

New research suggests how carnivorous plants developed a taste for meat. A study from a university in Germany shows that small changes in the genetic code of plants led to some of them becoming carnivorous. This led to the development of some of nature's most ingenious species. Carnivorous plants developed new and devious ways to snare insects. The Venus fly trap's clam-like leaves snap shut when an insect crawls between them. The pitcher plant has slippery insides that insects cannot crawl up. The sundew plant has long, sticky leaves that roll up when insects walk or fly on them. Researchers who collaborated in the study included a computational evolutionary biologist and a plant biologist. They compared the genome of carnivorous plants to non-carnivorous ones. They found that meat-eating plants developed from the same ancestor 60 million years ago. A researcher said: "We were able to trace the origin of carnivorous genes back to a duplication event that occurred many millions of years ago." Another researcher said: "The function of these genes is related to the ability to sense and digest animals and to utilize their nutrients."

CARNIVOROUS PLANTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2005/200517-venus-fly-trap-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about carnivorous plants 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) _____

How Venus fly traps developed a liking for meat – 17th May, 2019
More free lessons at breakingnewsenglish.com

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

