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Level 5 – 7th June, 2021

Herd of wild elephants on the march in China

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants-5.html>

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

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants-5.html>

A herd of 15 Asian elephants, including three calves, is approaching the Chinese city of Kunming. The animals have trekked 500km from their habitat in a nature reserve near the borders with Myanmar and Laos. The elephants are near the outskirts of the city of 6.6 million people. They have travelled along highways and through farms over the past few months. A Chinese TV station said that over the past week, the animals guzzled down water from a farm's water tank and feasted on kilos of corn and other crops. Their journey has been captivating the Chinese public.

Experts are now trying to keep the herd away from Kunming city. They are setting up barriers to get it to go back towards the nature reserve. No one knows why the animals walked so far away from their original habitat. One reason could be a decline in the amount of edible plants in their reserve, especially supplies of their favourite foods, like plume grass. Another reason could be a rise in numbers in the wild elephant population in the area, from 193 in the 1980s to around 300 today. A further possibility is that the leader of the herd could have led it astray.

Sources: <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia/herd-wild-elephants-china-yunnan-kunming-14932630>
<http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202106/04/WS60b96024a31024ad0bac37b5.html>
<https://www.yahoo.com/news/china-elephants-herd-mammoth-500km-165856650.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. A herd | a. kilos of corn |
| 2. The animals have trekked | b. with Myanmar and Laos |
| 3. a nature | c. of the city |
| 4. near the borders | d. of 15 Asian elephants |
| 5. near the outskirts | e. Chinese public |
| 6. the animals guzzled | f. reserve |
| 7. feasted on | g. down water |
| 8. captivating the | h. 500km |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. keep the herd away | a. astray |
| 2. They are setting | b. possibility |
| 3. the animals walked so | c. wild elephant population |
| 4. edible | d. from Kunming city |
| 5. supplies | e. up barriers |
| 6. a rise in numbers in the | f. of their favourite foods |
| 7. A further | g. far away |
| 8. led it | h. plants |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants-5.html>

A herd of 15 Asian elephants, (1) _____, is approaching the Chinese city of Kunming. The animals have trekked 500km from (2) _____ a nature reserve near the borders with Myanmar and Laos. The elephants are near (3) _____ of the city of 6.6 million people. They have travelled along highways and through farms (4) _____ few months. A Chinese TV station said that over the past week, the animals (5) _____ from a farm's water tank and feasted on kilos of corn and other crops. Their journey has (6) _____ Chinese public.

Experts are now trying to keep (7) _____ from Kunming city. They are setting (8) _____ get it to go back towards the nature reserve. No one knows why the animals walked so far away from (9) _____. One reason could be a decline in the amount (10) _____ in their reserve, especially supplies of their favourite foods, like plume grass. Another reason could (11) _____ in numbers in the wild elephant population in the area, from 193 in the 1980s to around 300 today. A further possibility is that the leader of the herd could have (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants-5.html>

A herd of 15 Asian elephants, including three calves, is approaching the Chinese city of Kunming. The animals have trekked 500 km from their habitat in a nature reserve near the borders with Myanmar and Laos. The elephants are near the outskirts of the city of 6.6 million people. They have travelled along highways and through farms over the past few months. A Chinese TV station said that over the past week, the animals guzzled down water from a farm's water tank and feasted on kilos of corn and other crops. Their journey has been captivating the Chinese public. Experts are now trying to keep the herd away from Kunming city. They are setting up barriers to get it to go back toward the nature reserve. No one knows why the animals walked so far away from their original habitat. One reason could be a decline in the amount of edible plants in their reserve, especially supplies of their favourite foods, like plumegrass. Another reason could be a rise in numbers in the wild elephant population in the area, from 193 in the 1980s to around 300 today. A further possibility is that the leader of the herd could have led it astray.

ELEPHANTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2106/210607-elephants-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about elephants 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) _____

