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Level 0

Falling insect numbers dangerous to humans

28th July, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/140728-bugs-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 <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/140728-bugs-0.html>

Insect numbers have fallen by 45 per cent since 1980. The number of humans has doubled. A report in the journal 'Science' says this is dangerous. There are more new cities and farms, which means there is less land for insects. Global warming is also harming insects. People are worried about disappearing bees and butterflies.

There will be fewer insects to pollinate flowers. This means farmers will have problems growing food. There could also be more disease. Rats and mice will move to cities and bring diseases with them. We must know which insects are dying and which are surviving. This will help us to protect the "good" insects.

Sources: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/wildlife/10989198/Creepy-crawlies-decline-as-human-population-soars.html>
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2704973/Insect-population-45-just-35-years-Scientists-fear-drop-harm-planet-vital-role-play.html#ixzz38XUJsEL2>
<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/world-news/end-world-predicted-scientists-who-3913927#ixzz38XUjx9pp>

VOCABULARY MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/140728-bugs-0.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Insect numbers have | a. insects |
| 2. The number of humans | b. worried |
| 3. A report in the | c. fallen by 45 per cent |
| 4. more new cities | d. and butterflies |
| 5. there is less land | e. has doubled |
| 6. Global warming is also harming | f. and farms |
| 7. People are | g. for insects |
| 8. disappearing bees | h. journal 'Science' |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. fewer insects to pollinate | a. mice |
| 2. farmers will have problems | b. be more disease |
| 3. There could also | c. which are surviving |
| 4. Rats and | d. with them |
| 5. move to | e. flowers |
| 6. bring diseases | f. the "good" insects |
| 7. which insects are dying and | g. growing food |
| 8. help us to protect | h. cities |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/140728-bugs-0.html>

Insect numbers (1) _____ 45 per cent since 1980. The number of (2) _____. A report in the journal 'Science' says (3) _____. There are more new (4) _____, which means there is less land for insects. Global warming is (5) _____. People are worried about disappearing (6) _____.

There will (7) _____ to pollinate flowers. This means farmers will (8) _____ food. There could also be more disease. Rats and mice (9) _____ and bring (10) _____. We must know which insects (11) _____ which are surviving. This will help us to protect (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/140728-bugs-0.html>

Insect numbers have fallen by 45 per cent since 1980. The number of humans has doubled. A report in the journal 'Science' says this is dangerous. There are more new cities and farms, which means there is less land for insects. Global warming is so harmful to insects. People are worried about disappearing bees and butterflies. There will be fewer insects to pollinate flowers. This means farmers will have problems growing food. There could also be more disease. Rats and mice will move to cities and bring diseases with them. We must know which insects are dying and which are surviving. This will help us to protect the "good" insects.

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) _____

