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Level 1

Ants use the Sun to get from A to B

22nd January, 2017

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170122-ants-1.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170122-ants-1.html>

Ants are tiny, amazing insects. There are many things we do not know about them. Scientists just found how ants get from A to B, without getting lost. They can go in a straight line, whatever direction they are facing. The BBC said it is the same as, "trying to find your way home while walking backwards or even spinning round". Ants use the Sun, their memories, and what they can see around them. A professor said ants are like self-driving cars.

The scientists studied ants in Spain. Their report is in the journal 'Current Biology'. They said ants could travel far from their nest even when things are in their way or if they have to drag heavy food. The professor said: "Ants have a...tiny brain...yet they can [move] successfully under many difficult conditions, including going backwards." She said understanding ants will help us to build new robot systems that copy the ant's behaviour.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-38665058>
<http://www.popsci.com/ants-find-way-walk-backwards-navigation>
[http://www.cell.com/current-biology/fulltext/S0960-9822\(16\)31466-X](http://www.cell.com/current-biology/fulltext/S0960-9822(16)31466-X)

PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170122-ants-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Ants are tiny, | a. round |
| 2. many things we do not | b. around them |
| 3. how ants get | c. straight line |
| 4. go in a | d. amazing insects |
| 5. while walking | e. driving cars |
| 6. spinning | f. know about them |
| 7. what they can see | g. from A to B |
| 8. self- | h. backwards |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. The scientists studied ants | a. 'Current Biology' |
| 2. travel far | b. robot systems |
| 3. Their report is in the journal | c. from their nest |
| 4. Ants have a tiny | d. behaviour |
| 5. move | e. conditions |
| 6. many difficult | f. in Spain |
| 7. help us to build new | g. brain |
| 8. copy the ant's | h. successfully |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170122-ants-1.html>

Ants are (1) _____ insects. There are many things we do not (2) _____. Scientists just found how ants get from A to B, without (3) _____. They can go in a straight line, whatever direction they are facing. The BBC said it (4) _____, "trying to find your way home while walking backwards or even spinning round". Ants use the Sun, (5) _____, and what they can see around them. A professor (6) _____ self-driving cars.

The scientists (7) _____ Spain. Their report is in the journal 'Current Biology'. They said (8) _____ far from their nest even when things (9) _____ or if they have to drag heavy food. The professor said: "Ants have a... (10) _____ they can [move] successfully under many (11) _____, including going backwards." She said understanding ants will help us to build new robot systems (12) _____ ant's behaviour.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170122-ants-1.html>

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ANTS SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170122-ants-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about ants 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) _____

Ants use the Sun to get from A to B – 22nd January, 2017
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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) _____

