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**Level 1 – 2nd February 2023**

## **Car fumes can change the brain in 2 hours**

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230202-car-fumes-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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230202-car-fumes-1.html>

Air pollution can change our brain. A study shows how car fumes change how parts of our brain connect with other parts. The research found that car fumes changed our brain's connectivity in two hours. A researcher was surprised by his research. He said: "For many decades, scientists thought the brain may be protected from the harmful effects of air pollution." He said his study shows there is a connection between air pollution and thinking.

The study was on 25 adults. They breathed car fumes in a laboratory. Scientists took brain scans of the adults for two hours. The scans showed that the thinking networks in the brain changed. There were fewer connections between the networks. Another professor was worried by how traffic pollution changed the networks. She said people should close car windows when in traffic. The brains of the 25 people were OK after they breathed clean air.

Sources: <https://www.sciencealert.com/inhaling-car-fumes-can-change-a-brains-connectivity-in-just-2-hours-study-finds>  
<https://neurosciencenews.com/air-pollution-functional-connectivity-22355/>  
<https://ca.news.yahoo.com/breathing-exhaust-fumes-impairs-human-brains-within-two-hours-154151191.html>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230202-car-fumes-1.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                       |                     |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Air pollution can                  | a. decades          |
| 2. car                                | b. with other parts |
| 3. parts of our brain connect         | c. by his research  |
| 4. fumes changed our brain's          | d. effects          |
| 5. A researcher was surprised         | e. fumes            |
| 6. For many                           | f. connectivity     |
| 7. be protected from the harmful      | g. and thinking     |
| 8. a connection between air pollution | h. change our brain |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                             |                        |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. The study was            | a. worried             |
| 2. They breathed            | b. scans of the adults |
| 3. Scientists took brain    | c. air                 |
| 4. the thinking networks in | d. car fumes           |
| 5. There were fewer         | e. car windows         |
| 6. Another professor was    | f. connections         |
| 7. people should close      | g. on 25 adults        |
| 8. they breathed clean      | h. the brain changed   |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230202-car-fumes-1.html>

Air pollution can (1) \_\_\_\_\_. A study shows how car fumes change how parts of (2) \_\_\_\_\_ with other parts. The research found that car (3) \_\_\_\_\_ brain's connectivity in two hours. A researcher was surprised (4) \_\_\_\_\_. He said: "For many decades, scientists thought the brain may be protected from (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of air pollution." He said his study shows there is a connection between air (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

The study was on 25 adults. (7) \_\_\_\_\_ fumes in a laboratory. Scientists (8) \_\_\_\_\_ of the adults for two hours. The scans showed that the thinking networks in (9) \_\_\_\_\_. There were fewer connections between the networks. Another professor (10) \_\_\_\_\_ how traffic pollution changed the networks. She said people should (11) \_\_\_\_\_ when in traffic. The brains of the 25 people were OK after they (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230202-car-fumes-1.html>

Air pollution can change our brain. A study shows how car fumes change how parts of our brain connect with other parts. The research found that car fumes changed our brain's connectivity in two hours. A researcher was surprised by his research. He said: "For many decades, scientists thought the brain may be protected from the harmful effects of air pollution." He said his study shows there is a connection between air pollution and thinking. The study was on 25 adults. They breathed car fumes in a laboratory. Scientists took brain scans of the adults for two hours. The scans showed that the thinking networks in the brain changed. There were fewer connections between the networks. Another professor was worried by how traffic pollution changed the networks. She said people should close car windows when in traffic. The brains of the 25 people were OK after they breathed clean air.

# CAR FUMES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230202-car-fumes-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about car fumes 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*Car fumes can change the brain in 2 hours – 2nd February 2023*  
More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

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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/2302/230202-car-fumes-1.html>

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

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