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Level 0

Earth has lost half its trees because of humans

5th September, 2015

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1509/150905-trees.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/1509/150905-trees.html>

There is good and bad news about trees. The good news is there are seven times more than we thought. Scientists thought we had 400 billion trees, but we have three trillion. That's a three followed by 12 zeroes. For each person alive today, there are 420 trees. A researcher said these numbers were not good or bad news.

The bad news is that we once had six trillion trees. We lost three trillion trees. Europe was once a giant forest. Now it is fields and cities. Another 15 billion trees are lost each year. This is a lot more than 100 years ago. The researcher said we must do more to make forests healthy again.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-34134366>
<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/sep/02/scientists-reveal-there-are-3tn-trees-in-world-new-count>
<http://www.livescience.com/52070-global-tree-census-human-impacts.html>

VOCABULARY MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1509/150905-trees.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. There is good | a. had 400 billion trees |
| 2. there are seven times | b. 420 trees |
| 3. Scientists thought we | c. alive today |
| 4. a three followed | d. news |
| 5. For each person | e. and bad news |
| 6. there are | f. were not good |
| 7. A researcher said these numbers | g. by 12 zeroes |
| 8. bad | h. more than we thought |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. The bad news is that we once | a. and cities |
| 2. We lost three | b. do more |
| 3. Europe was once | c. are lost each year |
| 4. Now it is fields | d. healthy again |
| 5. Another 15 billion trees | e. had six trillion trees |
| 6. This is a lot more than | f. a giant forest |
| 7. The researcher said we must | g. 100 years ago |
| 8. make forests | h. trillion trees |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1509/150905-trees.html>

There is good (1) _____ trees. The good news is there are seven (2) _____ we thought. Scientists thought we had (3) _____, but we have three trillion. That's a three (4) _____ zeroes. For each person (5) _____, there are 420 trees. A researcher said these numbers (6) _____ or bad news.

The bad news (7) _____ had six trillion trees. We (8) _____ trees. Europe was (9) _____. Now it is fields and cities. Another 15 billion trees (10) _____. This is a lot more than (11) _____. The researcher said we must do more to (12) _____ again.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1509/150905-trees.html>

There is good and bad news about trees. The good news is there are seven times more than we thought. Scientists thought we had 400 billion trees, but we have three trillion. That's a three followed by 12 zeroes. For each person alive today, there are 420 trees. A researcher said these numbers were not good or bad news. The bad news is that we once had six trillion trees. We lost three trillion trees. Europe was once a giant forest. Now it is fields and cities. Another 15 billion trees are lost each year. This is a lot more than 100 years ago. The researcher said we must do more to make forests healthy again.

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) _____

