

# Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

**"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES  
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"**

[breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html](http://breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html)

**Thousands more free lessons  
from Sean's other websites**

[www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean\\_banville\\_lessons.html](http://www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html)

**Level 5** – 28th August, 2021

## Light pollution linked to insect loss

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210828-insect-loss-5.html>

### Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

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

**Twitter**



[twitter.com/SeanBanville](https://twitter.com/SeanBanville)

**Facebook**



[www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176](https://www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176)

# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210828-insect-loss-5.html>

Street lights and other forms of artificial lighting could be causing a decline in insects. Researchers from the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology conducted studies on the number of insects living near sources of white light from LEDs. The researchers said LEDs are disrupting insect behaviour and causing a fall in their numbers. The lead researcher said the results of his study were "eye-opening". He was surprised at how much LEDs affected the number of insects. He found a 47 per cent reduction in insects near hedgerow test sites and a 37 per cent reduction near roadside grassy areas.

Researchers set up LEDs at 26 roadside sites in the countryside that contained hedges or grassy areas. They counted the numbers of moth caterpillars found at these sites and compared these with insects found at unlit sites. A researcher said: "We were really quite taken aback by just how stark [the difference] was." He suggested that LEDs caused two drastic changes in behaviour. He said the lights stopped female insects laying eggs in the lit areas. In addition, artificial lighting disturbed the feeding behaviour of the insects, so the caterpillars in the unlit areas were heavier.

Sources: <https://phys.org/news/2021-08-streetlights-contribute-insect-population-declines.html>  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-58333233>  
<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/technology/led-streetlights-contribute-to-insect-population-declines-study/ar-AANJSIE>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210828-insect-loss-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                |                         |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. other forms of artificial   | a. reduction in insects |
| 2. causing a decline           | b. of white light       |
| 3. insects living near sources | c. lighting             |
| 4. LEDs are disrupting         | d. affected the number  |
| 5. the results of his study    | e. areas                |
| 6. surprised at how much LEDs  | f. insect behaviour     |
| 7. a 47 per cent               | g. in insects           |
| 8. near roadside grassy        | h. were eye-opening     |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                    |                         |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Researchers set up LEDs         | a. caterpillars found   |
| 2. hedges or                       | b. in behaviour         |
| 3. the numbers of moth             | c. were heavier         |
| 4. We were really quite taken      | d. difference was       |
| 5. how stark the                   | e. at 26 roadside sites |
| 6. LEDs caused two drastic changes | f. of the insects       |
| 7. the feeding behaviour           | g. aback                |
| 8. caterpillars in the unlit areas | h. grassy areas         |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210828-insect-loss-5.html>

Street lights and other forms (1) \_\_\_\_\_ could be causing a decline in insects. Researchers from the UK Centre for (2) \_\_\_\_\_ conducted studies on the number of insects living near (3) \_\_\_\_\_ light from LEDs. The researchers said LEDs are disrupting insect behaviour and causing a fall (4) \_\_\_\_\_. The lead researcher said the results of his study (5) \_\_\_\_\_. He was surprised at how much LEDs affected the number of insects. He found a 47 per cent reduction in insects near hedgerow test sites and a 37 per cent reduction (6) \_\_\_\_\_ areas.

Researchers set up LEDs at 26 (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the countryside that contained (8) \_\_\_\_\_ areas. They counted the numbers of moth caterpillars found at these sites and compared these with insects (9) \_\_\_\_\_ sites. A researcher said: "We were really (10) \_\_\_\_\_ by just how stark [the difference] was." He suggested that LEDs caused two (11) \_\_\_\_\_ behaviour. He said the lights stopped female insects laying eggs in the lit areas. In addition, artificial lighting (12) \_\_\_\_\_ behaviour of the insects, so the caterpillars in the unlit areas were heavier.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210828-insect-loss-5.html>

Streetlights and other forms of artificial lighting could be causing a decline in insects. Researchers from the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology conducted studies on the number of insects living near sources of white light from LEDs. The researchers said LEDs are disrupting insect behaviour and causing a fall in their numbers. The lead researcher said the results of his study were "eye-opening". He was surprised at how much LEDs affected the number of insects. He found a 47 per cent reduction in insects near hedge row test sites and a 37 per cent reduction near roadside grassy areas. Researchers set up LEDs at 26 roadside sites in the countryside that contained hedges or grassy areas. They counted the numbers of moth caterpillars found at these sites and compared these with insects found at unlit sites. A researcher said: "We were really quite taken aback by just how stark [the difference] was." He suggested that LEDs caused two drastic changes in behaviour. He said the lights stopped female insects laying eggs in lit areas. In addition, artificial lighting disturbed the feeding behaviour of the insects, so the caterpillars in the unlit areas were heavier.

# INSECTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210828-insect-loss-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about insects 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*Light pollution linked to insect loss – 28th August, 2021*  
More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

---

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

