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Level 5

Using cotton buds could damage your hearing

7th January, 2017

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170107-cotton-buds-5.html>

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

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170107-cotton-buds-5.html>

Grandparents have told us for decades not to stick anything smaller than your elbow into our ears. Ear specialists in the USA, the American Academy of Otolaryngology, agree. They say that cleaning your ears with cotton buds (aka Q-tips) can cause long-lasting damage to your ears and hearing. Dr Jennifer Caudle said cotton buds seem harmless but can cause damage. She said: "People want to stick things in their ears and they think it's the right thing to do, but [cotton buds] can cause holes in the eardrum, irritation in the canal, and can [make it easier to get] infections."

The Academy recommended that people think of earwax as an essential substance to keep our ears healthy. Dr Seth Schwartz said: "People...want to clean their ears because they believe earwax is an indication of uncleanliness. This misinformation leads to unsafe ear health habits." Our body produces earwax to do the essential job of cleaning the ears, stopping them from drying out, and helping them to sweat naturally. It also protects the ears against bacteria, bugs and dust. Cotton buds can push earwax further inside the ear and cause blockages.

Sources: <https://www.yahoo.com/beauty/stop-messing-with-your-ears-231408120.html>
<http://gizmodo.com/doctors-seriously-stop-sticking-q-tips-in-your-ears-1790710578>
<http://www.sciencealert.com/here-s-why-it-s-a-bad-idea-to-clean-your-ears-with-cotton-buds>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170107-cotton-buds-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Grandparents have told | a. in the USA |
| 2. anything smaller | b. thing to do |
| 3. Ear specialists | c. lasting damage |
| 4. cause long- | d. things in their ears |
| 5. cotton buds seem | e. get infections |
| 6. People want to stick | f. us for decades |
| 7. they think it's the right | g. harmless |
| 8. make it easier to | h. than your elbow |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1. think of earwax as an essential | a. of uncleanness |
| 2. cause | b. against bacteria |
| 3. they believe earwax is an indication | c. further inside the ear |
| 4. unsafe ear health | d. from drying out |
| 5. Our body produces | e. blockages |
| 6. stopping them | f. habits |
| 7. It also protects the ears | g. earwax |
| 8. push earwax | h. substance |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170107-cotton-buds-5.html>

Grandparents (1) _____ decades not to stick anything smaller than your elbow (2) _____. Ear specialists in the USA, the American Academy of Otolaryngology, agree. They say that cleaning your ears with cotton buds (aka Q-tips) (3) _____ - lasting damage to your ears and hearing. Dr Jennifer Caudle said cotton buds (4) _____ can cause damage. She said: "People want to stick things in their ears and they think it's (5) _____ to do, but [cotton buds] can cause holes in the eardrum, irritation in the canal, and can make (6) _____ infections."

The Academy recommended that people think of earwax (7) _____ substance to keep our ears healthy. Dr Seth Schwartz said: "People...want to (8) _____ because they believe earwax is (9) _____ uncleanliness. This misinformation leads to unsafe ear health habits." Our body produces earwax to do the (10) _____ cleaning the ears, stopping them from drying out, and helping them (11) _____. It also protects the ears against bacteria, bugs and dust. Cotton buds can push earwax further (12) _____ cause blockages.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170107-cotton-buds-5.html>

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COTTON BUDS SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170107-cotton-buds-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about cotton buds 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) _____

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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) _____

