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Level 4 – 25th October, 2021

Scientists make wooden knife that is sharper than steel

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2110/211025-wooden-knives-4.html>

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Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2110/211025-wooden-knives-4.html>

The world's chefs could soon be using wooden knives. This may seem illogical, but scientists have created a wooden knife that is three times sharper than stainless steel knives. Researcher Teng Li said wooden knives would add to the range of wooden tools currently found in our kitchens. He said: "We have many wooden things that we use for a very long time, like a cutting board, chopsticks, or a rolling pin. Our knives can also be used many times."

Scientists strengthened their wood by boosting the cellulose it contains. Cellulose is the main constituent of wood. It has a higher strength to density ratio than steel. The new material is hard enough to effortlessly slice through a tough steak. Wooden knives are also environmentally friendly. They could end our dependence on plastic cutlery. The scientists have also developed wooden nails. These could help the building industry because they will not rust.

Sources: <https://www.cnet.com/news/scientists-made-a-wooden-knife-thats-three-times-sharper-than-steel-blades/>
<https://www.slashgear.com/hardened-wood-knife-boasts-three-times-the-sharpness-of-stainless-steel-21696201/>
<https://www.iflscience.com/technology/hardened-wood-steak-knife-is-three-times-as-sharp-as-a-steel-one/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2110/211025-wooden-knives-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. The world's | a. illogical |
| 2. This may seem | b. pin |
| 3. three times | c. kitchens |
| 4. add to the range | d. used many times |
| 5. found in our | e. of wooden tools |
| 6. a cutting | f. chefs |
| 7. a rolling | g. sharper |
| 8. Our knives can also be | h. board |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Scientists strengthened | a. a tough steak |
| 2. Cellulose is the main constituent | b. industry |
| 3. a higher strength to density | c. on plastic cutlery |
| 4. effortlessly slice through | d. rust |
| 5. environmentally | e. ratio |
| 6. end our dependence | f. their wood |
| 7. These could help the building | g. friendly |
| 8. they will not | h. of wood |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2110/211025-wooden-knives-4.html>

The world's (1) _____ be using wooden knives. This may seem illogical, but scientists (2) _____ wooden knife that is (3) _____ than stainless steel knives. Researcher Teng Li said wooden knives would add (4) _____ of wooden tools currently found in our kitchens. He said: "We have (5) _____ that we use for a very long time, like a cutting board, chopsticks, or (6) _____. Our knives can also be used many times."

Scientists strengthened their wood (7) _____ cellulose it contains. Cellulose is the (8) _____ wood. It has a higher strength to (9) _____ steel. The new material is hard enough to effortlessly slice through (10) _____. Wooden knives are also environmentally friendly. They could end our dependence (11) _____. The scientists have also developed wooden nails. These could help the building industry because they (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2110/211025-wooden-knives-4.html>

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INSECTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2110/211025-wooden-knives-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about wood 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) _____

