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Level 2 – 2nd February 2023

Car fumes can change the brain in 2 hours

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230202-car-fumes-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230202-car-fumes-2.html>

Breathing air pollution could change our brain. A study shows that car fumes can change how parts of our brain connect with other parts. The research is from a university in Canada. It found that car fumes can change our brain's connectivity in two hours. Professor Chris Carlsten was surprised at what he found in his research. He said: "For many decades, scientists thought the brain may be protected from the harmful effects of air pollution." He added: "This study...provides fresh evidence supporting a connection between air pollution and [thinking]."

The pollution study was on 25 adults. Researchers asked adults to breathe car fumes in a laboratory. The team took brain scans of the adults for two hours. The scans showed that networks in the brain that we use for thinking changed. There were fewer connections between the networks. Another professor was worried when she saw how traffic pollution interrupted networks in the brain. She wants more research to see how car fumes change our brain. She said people should close car windows when in traffic. The brains of the 25 people returned to normal 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-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Breathing air pollution could | a. may be protected |
| 2. how parts of our brain connect | b. he found |
| 3. change our brain's connectivity | c. evidence |
| 4. surprised at what | d. in two hours |
| 5. For many | e. effects |
| 6. scientists thought the brain | f. change our brain |
| 7. the harmful | g. decades |
| 8. fresh | h. with other parts |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. The pollution study | a. in the brain |
| 2. breathe car fumes | b. scans of the adults |
| 3. The team took brain | c. the networks |
| 4. networks in the brain that we | d. in a laboratory |
| 5. fewer connections between | e. air |
| 6. pollution interrupted networks | f. car windows |
| 7. people should close | g. was on 25 adults |
| 8. they breathed clean | h. use for thinking |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230202-car-fumes-2.html>

Breathing air (1) _____ our brain. A study shows that car fumes can change how parts of (2) _____ with other parts. The research is from a university in Canada. It found (3) _____ can change our brain's connectivity in two hours. Professor Chris Carlsten was surprised at what he found in his research. He said: "(4) _____, scientists thought the brain may (5) _____ the harmful effects of air pollution." He added: "This study...provides fresh evidence supporting (6) _____ air pollution and [thinking]."

The pollution study was on 25 adults. Researchers asked adults to (7) _____ in a laboratory. The team took brain scans of the adults for two hours. The (8) _____ networks in the brain that we use (9) _____. There were fewer connections between the networks. Another professor was worried when she saw (10) _____ interrupted networks in the brain. She wants more research to see how car fumes change our brain. She said people (11) _____ windows when in traffic. The brains of the 25 people returned to normal after they (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230202-car-fumes-2.html>

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CAR FUMES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230202-car-fumes-2.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) _____

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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-2.html>

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