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Level 1

Galapagos tortoises out of danger

1st November, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1411/141101-galapagos-tortoises-1.html>

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1411/141101-galapagos-tortoises-1.html>

Giant Galapagos tortoises were once endangered. In the 1960s, there were just 15 of them. They were dying out. Wild goats ate their food and damaged their habitat. Conservationists acted to help them. Now, there are over 1,000 of them living and breeding in the wild. It is a conservation success story. A conservationist said that half of the tortoises that were released have survived. He said the tortoises could now live without human help.

There were 250,000 giant tortoises worldwide 500 years ago, but just a few thousand in the 1970s. Hunters almost made them extinct. Giant tortoises can weigh 250kg and live for 100 years. One tortoise lived for more than 170 years. Wikipedia says: "Tortoises also live very uncomplicated lives, and can nap up to 16 hours a day." Next year, a small Galapagos island that lost all of its tortoises will get 200 more. This could be another success story.

Sources: <http://www.mnn.com/earth-matters/animals/stories/near-extinct-galapagos-island-tortoises-make-comeback#ixzz3HbOxXYbU>
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gal%C3%A1pagos_tortoise
http://time.com/3544926/giant-tortoises-galapagos/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+time%2Ftopstories+%28TIME%3A+Top+Stories%29

VOCABULARY MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1411/141101-galapagos-tortoises-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. tortoises were | a. success story |
| 2. In the | b. 15 of them |
| 3. there were just | c. in the wild |
| 4. ate their food and damaged | d. human help |
| 5. living and breeding | e. once endangered |
| 6. It is a conservation | f. of the tortoises |
| 7. half | g. 1960s |
| 8. live without | h. their habitat |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. There were 250,000 giant | a. uncomplicated lives |
| 2. just a few thousand in | b. 250kg |
| 3. Hunters almost made | c. for more than 170 years |
| 4. Giant tortoises can weigh | d. to 16 hours a day |
| 5. One tortoise lived | e. tortoises worldwide |
| 6. Tortoises also live very | f. all of its tortoises |
| 7. nap up | g. the 1970s |
| 8. a small Galapagos island that lost | h. them extinct |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1411/141101-galapagos-tortoises-1.html>

Giant Galapagos tortoises were (1) _____. In the 1960s, there (2) _____ them. They were dying out. Wild goats ate their food and (3) _____. Conservationists acted to help them. Now, there are over 1,000 of them (4) _____ in the wild. It is a conservation success story. A conservationist said that half of the tortoises that were (5) _____. He said the tortoises could (6) _____ human help.

There were 250,000 giant tortoises (7) _____ ago, but just a (8) _____ 1970s. Hunters almost made them extinct. Giant tortoises (9) _____ and live for 100 years. One tortoise lived for more than 170 years. Wikipedia says: "Tortoises also (10) _____ lives, and (11) _____ hours a day." Next year, a small Galapagos island (12) _____ tortoises will get 200 more. This could be another success story.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1411/141101-galapagos-tortoises-1.html>

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

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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)

g)

h)
