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Level 4

Half of life on Earth gone since humans arrived

24th May, 2018

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1805/180524-life-on-earth-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/1805/180524-life-on-earth-4.html>

Humans are just 0.01% of all life on Earth, but have destroyed 83% of all wild mammals and half of our plant life. A new study found the weight of every kind of life form on Earth. A researcher explained how the research started. He said: "I was shocked to find there wasn't already a comprehensive...estimate of all the different components of biomass." He hopes the study will help people understand the dominant role that humans now play on Earth.

There are 7.6 billion people on Earth. We share the same level of biomass as termites. We have also managed to destroy many living species. Humans have also changed the ratio of livestock to wild animals. Today, 70% of all birds on Earth are farmed (mostly chickens). Around 60% of all mammals on Earth are livestock (mostly cattle and pigs); only 4% are wild animals. The professor said people should look more carefully at what they eat.

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/may/21/human-race-just-001-of-all-life-but-has-destroyed-over-80-of-wild-mammals-study>
<https://www.sciencealert.com/humans-are-just-0-01-of-life-earth-but-we-annihilated-rest-biomass-animals-mammals-plants>
<http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2018/05/plants-outweigh-all-other-life-earth>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1805/180524-life-on-earth-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| 1. Humans are just 0.01% of | a. estimate |
| 2. wild | b. now play |
| 3. half | c. biomass |
| 4. the weight of every kind of life | d. mammals |
| 5. a comprehensive | e. form on Earth |
| 6. all the different components of | f. of our plant life |
| 7. He hopes the study will help people | g. all life on Earth |
| 8. the dominant role that humans | h. understand |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. There are 7.6 billion | a. (mostly cattle and pigs) |
| 2. the same level of biomass | b. at what they eat |
| 3. living | c. are farmed |
| 4. the ratio of livestock | d. as termites |
| 5. 70% of all birds on Earth | e. animals |
| 6. livestock | f. people on Earth |
| 7. only 4% are wild | g. to wild animals |
| 8. look more carefully | h. species |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1805/180524-life-on-earth-4.html>

Humans are just 0.01% (1) _____ on Earth, but have destroyed 83% of all wild mammals (2) _____ our plant life. A new study found the weight of every kind (3) _____ on Earth. A researcher explained how the research started. He said: "I was (4) _____ there wasn't already a comprehensive...estimate of (5) _____ components of biomass." He hopes the study will help people understand the dominant role that humans (6) _____ Earth.

There are 7.6 billion people on Earth. We share the (7) _____ biomass as termites. We have also managed to (8) _____ species. Humans have also changed the ratio of livestock (9) _____. Today, 70% of all birds on Earth are farmed (mostly chickens). Around 60% (10) _____ on Earth are livestock (mostly cattle and pigs); only 4% (11) _____. The professor said people should (12) _____ at what they eat.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1805/180524-life-on-earth-4.html>

Humans are just 0.01% of all life on Earth, but have destroyed 83% of all wild mammals and half of all plant life. A new study found the weight of every kind of life form on Earth. A researcher explained how the research started. He said: "I was shocked to find there wasn't already a comprehensive estimate of all the different components of biomass." He hopes the study will help people understand the dominant role that humans now play on Earth. There are 7.6 billion people on Earth. We share the same level of biomass as termites. We have also managed to destroy many living species. Humans have also changed the ratio of livestock to wild animals. Today, 70% of all birds on Earth are farmed (mostly chickens). Around 60% of all mammals on Earth are livestock (mostly cattle and pigs); only 4% are wild animals. The professor said people should look more carefully at what they eat.

LIFE ON EARTH SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1805/180524-life-on-earth-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about life on Earth 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) _____

