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Level 3 – 20th October, 2019

World's fastest ant like 580kph human

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant.html>

Scientists have discovered the world's fastest ant. It is the Saharan silver ant. It runs at a speed of just over 3kph, but that is the same ant speed as a human running 580kph. The ant runs 108 times the length of its own body every second. This is quicker than an Olympic 100-meter runner. The world's fastest man, Usain Bolt, ran the 100 meters using 4 strides a second. The Saharan silver ant uses up to 50 strides a second. The scientists say this much movement almost breaks the limits of what is physically possible for a living thing. Each of the ants' feet makes contact with the ground for a very short time. The ants' feet touch the ground for just seven milliseconds before they take the next stride.

The scientists said the Saharan silver ant runs so fast because it lives in the hot desert. The sand can reach temperatures of up to 60 degrees Celsius, so the ant wants to spend as little time as possible with its feet on the scorching ground. Another reason is that if the ants' feet spend a longer time on the sand, they will sink a little and slow the ant down. Professor Harald Wolf wrote about why the ants' feet move so fast. He said: "These features may be related to the sand dune habitat. They could prevent the ants' feet from sinking too deeply into the soft sand." Professor Wolf told CNN: "We knew these ants would be fast, but nobody knew how fast exactly, and how they would achieve that speed."

Sources: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-7580045/Worlds-fastest-ant-hits-record-breaking-speed-TWO-miles-hour.html>
<https://edition.cnn.com/2019/10/17/world/record-breaking-ants-scli-intl-scn/index.html>
<https://www.foxnews.com/science/worlds-fastest-ant-360-mph>

WARM-UPS

1. ANTS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about ants. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

scientists / ants / running / human / length / Sahara / limits / physically / stride / desert / temperature / 60 degrees / sand / features / soft / sinking / nobody / speed

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. MOST AMAZING: Students A **strongly** believe ants are the most amazing creatures on Earth; Students B **strongly** believe they aren't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. INSECTS: How important are these insects? Why? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Importance	Why?
Ants		
Bees		
Spiders		
Worms		
Butterflies		
Ladybirds		

5. SILVER: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "silver". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. ABILITIES: Rank these with your partner. Put the best insect abilities at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Running fast
- Spinning webs
- Making honey
- Glow in the dark
- Producing venom
- Flying
- Making silk
- Camouflage

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. discovered | a. A step taken by someone or something as they walk or run. |
| 2. speed | b. A point or level beyond which something does not or may not extend or pass. |
| 3. length | c. Found something or someone unexpectedly. |
| 4. stride | d. The solid surface of the earth that we walk on. |
| 5. limit | e. The rate at which someone or something is able to move. |
| 6. make contact | f. How long something is from end to end. |
| 7. ground | g. Touch something. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 8. desert | h. Precisely; totally. |
| 9. temperature | i. A dry area of land, especially one covered with sand, that usually has no water or plants. |
| 10. scorching | j. How hot or cold something is in °C or °F. |
| 11. feature | k. A small hill of sand formed by the wind, especially on the sea coast or in a desert. |
| 12. dune | l. A part of something. |
| 13. habitat | m. Very, very, very hot. |
| 14. exactly | n. The natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other living thing. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. The world's fastest ant is the Saharan golden ant. **T / F**
- b. The Saharan ant can run at speeds of up to 580 kilometers per hour. **T / F**
- c. The ant makes up to 50 strides a second. **T / F**
- d. Each of the ant's feet touches the ground for just 7 nanoseconds. **T / F**
- e. The ants run so fast because the sand it runs on is very hot. **T / F**
- f. The ants run so fast to stop their feet from sinking in sand. **T / F**
- g. A professor said the sand the ants run on is soft. **T / F**
- h. The professor said no one knew how the ants ran so fast. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. discovered | a. get to |
| 2. over | b. boundaries |
| 3. quicker | c. characteristics |
| 4. limits | d. found |
| 5. just | e. precisely |
| 6. reach | f. only |
| 7. scorching | g. stop |
| 8. features | h. above |
| 9. prevent | i. hot |
| 10. exactly | j. faster |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. It runs at a | a. down |
| 2. 108 times the length | b. with the ground |
| 3. up to 50 strides | c. fast exactly |
| 4. the ants' feet makes contact | d. stride |
| 5. before they take the next | e. dune habitat |
| 6. sand can reach temperatures of | f. speed of just over 3kph |
| 7. slow the ant | g. the soft sand |
| 8. related to the sand | h. of its own body |
| 9. sinking too deeply into | i. a second |
| 10. nobody knew how | j. up to 60 degrees |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant.html>

Scientists have (1) _____ the world's fastest ant. It is the Saharan silver ant. It runs at a (2) _____ of just over 3kph, but that is the same ant speed as a (3) _____ running 580kph. The ant runs 108 times the (4) _____ of its own body every second. This is quicker than an Olympic 100-meter runner. The world's fastest man, Usain Bolt, ran the 100 meters using 4 strides a (5) _____. The Saharan silver ant uses up to 50 strides a second. The scientists say this much movement almost breaks the (6) _____ of what is physically possible for a living thing. Each of the ants' feet makes (7) _____ with the ground for a very short time. The ants' feet touch the ground for just seven (8) _____ before they take the next stride.

length
contact
speed
milliseconds
second
discovered
limits
human

The scientists said the Saharan silver ant runs so (9) _____ because it lives in the hot desert. The sand can reach (10) _____ of up to 60 degrees Celsius, so the ant wants to spend as little time as possible with its feet on the (11) _____ ground. Another reason is that if the ants' feet spend a longer time on the (12) _____, they will sink a little and slow the ant (13) _____. Professor Harald Wolf wrote about why the ants' feet move so fast. He said: "These features may be related to the sand dune (14) _____. They could prevent the ants' feet from sinking too deeply into the (15) _____ sand." Professor Wolf told CNN: "We knew these ants would be fast, but nobody knew how fast exactly, and how they would (16) _____ that speed."

sand
fast
achieve
down
temperatures
soft
scorching
habitat

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant.html>

- 1) Scientists have discovered the world's fastest ant. It is the Saharan _____
 - a. silver ant
 - b. sliver ant
 - c. shiver ant
 - d. solver ant
- 2) The world's fastest man, Usain Bolt, ran the 100 meters using 4 _____
 - a. strides one second
 - b. strides a second
 - c. strides the second
 - d. striders second
- 3) this much movement almost breaks the limits of what is physically possible for _____
 - a. a liven thing
 - b. a live in thing
 - c. a living things
 - d. a living thing
- 4) Each of the ants' feet makes contact with the ground for a _____
 - a. very shorts time
 - b. very shorten time
 - c. very short time
 - d. very shot time
- 5) touch the ground for just seven milliseconds before they take _____
 - a. the next stride
 - b. the next strident
 - c. the next strode
 - d. the next staid
- 6) The scientists said the Saharan silver ant runs so fast because it lives in _____
 - a. the hot desert
 - b. the hot dessert
 - c. the hot descent
 - d. the hot dusty
- 7) The sand can reach temperatures of up to 60 _____
 - a. degree sells us
 - b. degrees Celsius
 - c. degrees sell sea us
 - d. degree Chelsea us
- 8) Another reason is that if the ants' feet spend a longer time _____
 - a. on the sandy
 - b. on the sand
 - c. on the sanded
 - d. on the sander
- 9) He said these features may be related to the sand _____
 - a. dune habitat
 - b. dune habitant
 - c. dune habit at
 - d. dune habit
- 10) but nobody knew how fast exactly, and how they would _____
 - a. achieve them
 - b. achieve hat
 - c. achieve that
 - d. achieve what

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant.html>

Scientists have discovered the world's fastest ant. It is the Saharan silver ant. It runs (1) _____ of just over 3kph, but that is the same ant speed as a human running 580kph. The ant runs 108 times (2) _____ its own body every second. This is quicker than an Olympic 100-meter runner. The world's fastest man, Usain Bolt, ran the 100 meters using 4 (3) _____. The Saharan silver ant uses up to 50 strides a second. The scientists say this much movement almost breaks (4) _____ what is physically possible for a living thing. Each of the ants' feet makes contact (5) _____ for a very short time. The ants' feet touch the ground for just seven milliseconds (6) _____ the next stride.

The scientists said the Saharan silver ant runs so fast because it lives in (7) _____. The sand can reach temperatures of up to 60 degrees Celsius, so the ant wants to spend (8) _____ as possible with its feet on the scorching ground. Another reason is that if the ants' feet spend a longer time on the sand, they will (9) _____ and slow the ant down. Professor Harald Wolf wrote about why the ants' feet move so fast. He said: "These features may be related to the (10) _____. They could prevent the ants' feet from sinking too deeply into (11) _____." Professor Wolf told CNN: "We knew these ants would be fast, but nobody knew how fast exactly, and how they (12) _____ speed."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant.html>

1. What is the name of the world's fastest ant?
2. How many times its body length does the ant run every second?
3. How many strides does the ant make every second?
4. What do the ants' running movements break limits of?
5. For how long do the ants' feet touch the sand with each stride?
6. How hot can the sand in the Sahara Desert be?
7. What do the ants want its feet to spend less time on?
8. What might happen if the ants' feet spend longer on the sand?
9. What did a professor say the ant's running may be related to?
10. How did the professor describe the sand as being?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant.html>

- 1) What is the name of the world's fastest ant?
 - a) the Saharan golden ant
 - b) the Saharan white ant
 - c) the Saharan silver ant
 - d) the Saharan black ant
- 2) How many times its body length does the ant run every second?
 - a) 108
 - b) 106
 - c) 105
 - d) 103
- 3) How many strides does the ant make every second?
 - a) around 50
 - b) up to 50
 - c) just over 50
 - d) exactly 50
- 4) What do the ants' running movements break limits of?
 - a) the land speed record
 - b) inertia
 - c) speed
 - d) what is physically possible
- 5) For how long do the ants' feet touch the sand with each stride?
 - a) 7 hundredths of a second
 - b) 7 microsecond
 - c) 7 milliseconds
 - d) 7 nanoseconds
- 6) How hot can the sand in the Sahara Desert be?
 - a) up to 70 degrees Celsius
 - b) up to 60 degrees Celsius
 - c) up to 80 degrees Celsius
 - d) up to 100 degrees Celsius
- 7) What do the ants want its feet to spend less time on?
 - a) fine sand
 - b) damp sand
 - c) wet sand
 - d) scorching sand
- 8) What might happen if the ants' feet spend longer on the sand?
 - a) they might take a rest
 - b) they might sink
 - c) they might melt
 - d) they might stick to it
- 9) What did a professor say the ant's running may be related to?
 - a) the grain of sand
 - b) the sand dune habitat
 - c) sand drifts
 - d) sand paper
- 10) How did the professor describe the sand as being?
 - a) soft
 - b) golden
 - c) rough
 - d) precious

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant.html>

Role A – Ants

You think ants are the most useful and interesting insects. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their insects. Also, tell the others which are the least useful and interesting of these (and why): bees, worms or spiders.

Role B – Bees

You think bees the most useful and interesting insects. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their insects. Also, tell the others which are the least useful and interesting of these (and why): ants, worms or spiders.

Role C – Worms

You think worms are the most useful and interesting insects. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their insects. Also, tell the others which are the least useful and interesting of these (and why): bees, ants or spiders.

Role D – Spiders

You think spiders are the most useful and interesting insects. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their insects. Also, tell the others which are the least useful and interesting of these (and why): bees, worms or ants.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'ant' and 'human'.

ant	human

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• discovered• length• 4• much• living• seven	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• hot• reach• possible• sink• dune• exactly
---	--

ANTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant.html>

Write five GOOD questions about ants 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.

ANTS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'ant'?
3. What do you know about ants?
4. What do you think of the ants' speed?
5. How great would it be to run at 580kph?
6. What do you know about the Sahara desert?
7. When was the last time you saw an ant?
8. Would you like to do research on ants?
9. What is your stride like?
10. How important is it for you to run fast?

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ANTS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'fast'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What would the world be like without ants?
15. What do you think of ants?
16. How difficult is it to live in the desert?
17. What experiences have you had with hot sand?
18. What do ants do in the desert?
19. Why do you think the ants are silver?
20. What questions would you like to ask the researchers?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant.html>

Scientists have (1) _____ the world's fastest ant. It is the Saharan silver ant. It runs (2) _____ a speed of just over 3kph, but that is the same ant speed as a human running 580kph. The ant runs 108 times the (3) _____ of its own body every second. This is quicker than an Olympic 100-meter runner. The world's fastest man, Usain Bolt, ran the 100 meters using 4 strides (4) _____ second. The Saharan silver ant uses up to 50 strides a second. The scientists say this much movement almost breaks the limits of what is (5) _____ possible for a living thing. Each of the ants' feet makes contact with the ground for a very short time. The ants' feet touch the ground for just seven milliseconds (6) _____ they take the next stride.

The scientists said the Saharan silver ant runs (7) _____ fast because it lives in the hot desert. The sand can reach temperatures of up to 60 degrees Celsius, so the ant wants to spend as little time as possible (8) _____ its feet on the scorching ground. Another reason is that if the ants' feet spend a longer time on the sand, they will (9) _____ a little and slow the ant down. Professor Harald Wolf wrote about why the ants' feet move so fast. He said: "These (10) _____ may be related to the sand dune habitat. They could prevent the ants' feet from sinking too (11) _____ into the soft sand." Professor Wolf told CNN: "We knew these ants would be fast, but nobody knew how fast exactly, and how they would (12) _____ that speed."

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) discovered | (b) discover | (c) discovery | (d) discovers |
| 2. | (a) that | (b) what | (c) at | (d) sat |
| 3. | (a) long | (b) longing | (c) length | (d) longs |
| 4. | (a) on | (b) the | (c) for | (d) a |
| 5. | (a) physically | (b) physique | (c) physics | (d) physical |
| 6. | (a) past | (b) before | (c) ago | (d) such |
| 7. | (a) their | (b) from | (c) to | (d) so |
| 8. | (a) from | (b) with | (c) up | (d) on |
| 9. | (a) stink | (b) shrink | (c) sink | (d) slink |
| 10. | (a) fritters | (b) frites | (c) futures | (d) features |
| 11. | (a) deep | (b) deepen | (c) depth | (d) deeply |
| 12. | (a) respond | (b) achieve | (c) depend | (d) drive |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant.html>

Paragraph 1

1. secvioerdd the world's fastest ant
2. 108 times the hgletn of its own body
3. the stntsiesci say this
4. this much entmmevo
5. makes cntaoc with the ground
6. touch the ground for just seven iienslcsmdol

Paragraph 2

7. it lives in the hot tedesr
8. atrsurtpeeem of up to 60 degrees
9. with its feet on the orshgcicn ground
10. These frueesta may be related
11. the sand dune abtiath
12. how they would aeivceh that speed

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () touch the ground for just seven milliseconds before they take the next stride.
- () man, Usain Bolt, ran the 100 meters using 4 strides a second. The Saharan silver ant uses up to 50 strides a
- () be fast, but nobody knew how fast exactly, and how they would achieve that speed."
- () may be related to the sand dune habitat. They could prevent the ants' feet from sinking too
- () deeply into the soft sand." Professor Wolf told CNN: "We knew these ants would
- () second. The scientists say this much movement almost breaks the limits of what is physically
- (**1**) Scientists have discovered the world's fastest ant. It is the Saharan silver ant. It runs at a speed of just
- () The scientists said the Saharan silver ant runs so fast because it lives in the hot desert. The sand can reach temperatures
- () a little and slow the ant down. Professor Harald Wolf wrote about why the ants' feet move so fast. He said: "These features
- () possible for a living thing. Each of the ants' feet makes contact with the ground for a very short time. The ants' feet
- () over 3kph, but that is the same ant speed as a human running 580kph. The ant runs 108 times the
- () length of its own body every second. This is quicker than an Olympic 100-meter runner. The world's fastest
- () ground. Another reason is that if the ants' feet spend a longer time on the sand, they will sink
- () of up to 60 degrees Celsius, so the ant wants to spend as little time as possible with its feet on the scorching

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant.html>

1. discovered the world's Scientists ant . have fastest
2. It speed at a 3kph . over of runs
3. breaks This movement much the almost limits .
4. contact the ground . ants' with make feet The
5. milliseconds stride . Seven next the take they before
6. temperatures 60 reach Sand can of degrees Celsius .
7. slow the and down . Sink ant little a
8. move ants' feet why Wrote the fast . about
9. the related dune May be sand to habitat .
10. the Prevent sinking ants' deeply . too feet from

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant.html>

Scientists have *discovered* / *discovery* the world's fastest ant. It is the Saharan silver ant. It *running* / *runs* at a speed of just over 3kph, but that is the same ant speed as a human *running* / *runs* 580kph. The ant runs 108 times the *length* / *long* of its own body every second. This is *quickly* / *quicker* than an Olympic 100-meter runner. The world's fastest man, Usain Bolt, ran the 100 meters using 4 *strides* / *stripes* a second. The Saharan silver ant uses *down* / *up* to 50 strides a second. The scientists say this much *movement* / *moves* almost breaks the limits of what is physically possible for a living thing. Each of the ants' feet makes *contract* / *contact* with the ground for a very short time. The ants' feet *touch* / *touches* the ground for just seven milliseconds before they take the next stride.

The scientists said the Saharan silver ant runs so *fasten* / *fast* because it lives in the hot *desert* / *dessert*. The sand can reach *temperature* / *temperatures* of up to 60 degrees Celsius, so the ant wants to spend as *little* / *small* time as possible with its feet on the scorching ground. Another reason is that if the ants' feet *spending* / *spend* a longer time on the sand, they will *sank* / *sink* a little and slow the ant down. Professor Harald Wolf wrote about why the ants' feet move *such* / *so* fast. He said: "These features may *be* / *have* related to the sand dune habitat. They could prevent the ants' feet from sinking too deeply *onto* / *into* the soft sand." Professor Wolf told CNN: "We knew these ants would be fast, but nobody knew how fast exactly, and how they would *achieve* / *chief* that speed."

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant.html>

S c__ n t_s t s h_v_ d_s c_v_r_d t h_ w_r l d ' s f_s
t_s t _n t. I t _s t h_ S_h_r_n s_l v_r _n t. I t
r_n s _t _ s p__ d _f j_s t _v_r 3 k p h, b_t t h_t
s t h s_m__ n t s p__ d _s _ h_m_n r_n n_n g 5 8
0 k p h. T h_ _n t r_n s 1 0 8 t_m_s t h_ l_n g t h
_f _t s _w n b_d y _v_r y s_c_n d. T h_s _s q__ c
k_r t h_n _n O l y m p_c 1 0 0 - m_t_r r_n n_r. T h_
w_r l d ' s f_s t_s t m_n, U s__ n B_l_t, r_n t h_
1 0 0 m_t_r s _s_n g 4 s t r_d_s _ s_c_n d. T h_
S_h_r_n s_l v_r _n t _s_s _p t_ 5 0 s t r_d_s _
s_c_n d. T h_ s c__ n t_s t s s_y t h_s m_c h
m_v_m_n t _l m_s t b_r__ k_s t h_ l_m_t_s _f w_h_t
_s p h y s_c_l l y p_s s_b_l_ f_r _ l_v_n g t h_n g.
E_c h _f t h_ _n t s ' f__ t m_k_s c_n t_c t w_t h t
h_ g r__ n d f_r _ v_r y s h_r t t_m_. T h_ _n t s '
f__ t t__ c h t h_ g r__ n d f_r j_s t s_v_n m_l
l_s_c_n d s b_f_r_ t h_y t_k_ t h_ n_x t s t r_d_.

T h_ s c__ n t_s t s s__ d t h_ S_h_r_n s_l v_r _n t
r_n s s_ f_s t b_c__ s _t l_v_s _n t h_ h_t d_s_r t
. T h_ s_n d c_n r__ c h t_m p_r_t_r_s _f _p t_ 6
0 d_g r__ s C_l s__ s, s_ t h_ _n t w_n t s t_ s p_n
d _s l_t t l_ t_m__ s p_s s_b_l_ w_t h _t s f__ t _n
t h_ s_c_r c h_n g g_r__ n d. A n_t h_r r__ s_n _s t
h_t _f t h_ _n t s ' f__ t s p_n d _ l_n g_r t_m__ _n
t h_ s_n d, t h_y w_l l s_n k _ l_t t l_ _n d s_l_w t
h_ _n t d_w n. P r_f_s s_r H_r_l d W_l f w_r_t _b__
t w_h y t h_ _n t s ' f__ t m_v_ s_ f_s t. H_ s__ d
: " T h_s_ f__ t_r_s m_y b_ r_l_t_d t_ t h_ s_n d
d_n_ h_b_t_t. T h_y c__ l d p_r_v_n t t h_ _n t s '
f__ t f_r_m s_n k_n g t__ d__ p_l y _n t_ t h_ s_f t
s_n d. " P r_f_s s_r W_l f t_l d C N N: " W_ k_n_w
t h_s_ _n t s w__ l d b_ f_s t, b_t n_b_d y k_n_w
h_w f_s t _x_c_t l y, _n d h_w t h_y w__ l d _c h__
v_ t h_t s p__ d. "

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant.html>

scientists have discovered the worlds fastest ant it is the saharan silver ant it runs at a speed of just over 3kph but that is the same ant speed as a human running 580kph the ant runs 108 times the length of its own body every second this is quicker than an olympic 100meter runner the worlds fastest man usain bolt ran the 100 meters using 4 strides a second the saharan silver ant uses up to 50 strides a second the scientists say this much movement almost breaks the limits of what is physically possible for a living thing each of the ants feet makes contact with the ground for a very short time the ants feet touch the ground for just seven milliseconds before they take the next stride

the scientists said the saharan silver ant runs so fast because it lives in the hot desert the sand can reach temperatures of up to 60 degrees celsius so the ant wants to spend as little time as possible with its feet on the scorching ground another reason is that if the ants feet spend a longer time on the sand they will sink a little and slow the ant down professor harald wolf wrote about why the ants feet move so fast he said these features may be related to the sand dune habitat they could prevent the ants feet from sinking too deeply into the soft sand professor wolf told cnn we knew these ants would be fast but nobody knew how fast exactly and how they would achieve that speed

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1910/191020-worlds-fastest-ant.html>

Scientists have discovered the world's fastest ant. It is the Saharan silver ant. It runs at a speed of just over 3 kph, but that is the same as a speed as a human running 580 kph. The ant runs 108 times the length of its own body every second. This is quicker than an Olympic 100-meter runner. The world's fastest man, Usain Bolt, ran the 100 meters using 4 strides a second. The Saharan silver ant uses up to 50 strides a second. The scientists say this is much movement almost break the limit of what is physically possible for a living thing. Each of the ant's feet makes contact with the ground for a very short time. The ant's feet touch the ground for just seven milliseconds before they take the next stride. The scientists said the Saharan silver ant runs so fast because it lives in the hot desert. The sand can reach temperatures of up to 60 degrees Celsius, so the ant wants to spend as little time as possible with its feet on the scorching ground. Another reason is that if the ant's feet spend a long time on the sand, they will sink a little and slow the ant down. Professor Harald Wolf wrote about why the ant's feet move so fast. He said: "These features may be related to the sand dune habitat. They could prevent the ant's feet from sinking too deeply into the soft sand." Professor Wolf told CNN: "We knew these ants would be fast, but nobody knew how fast exactly, and how they would achieve that speed."

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. ANTS: Make a poster about ants. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. RESEARCH: Write a magazine article about spending more money on researching ants. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on ants. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your opinions on ants. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. c 2. e 3. f 4. a 5. b 6. g 7. d
8. i 9. j 10. m 11. l 12. k 13. n 14. h

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- a F b F c T d F e T f T g T h T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

- | | |
|---------------|--------------------|
| 1. discovered | a. found |
| 2. over | b. above |
| 3. quicker | c. faster |
| 4. limits | d. boundaries |
| 5. just | e. only |
| 6. reach | f. get to |
| 7. scorching | g. hot |
| 8. features | h. characteristics |
| 9. prevent | i. stop |
| 10. exactly | j. precisely |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- The Saharan silver ant
- 108
- Up to 50
- What is physically possible
- Seven milliseconds
- Up to 60 degrees Celsius
- The scorching sand
- They might sink
- The sand dune habitat
- Soft

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

- Scientists have discovered the world's fastest ant.
- It runs at a speed of over 3kph.
- This much movement almost breaks the limits.
- The ants' feet make contact with the ground.
- Seven milliseconds before they take the next stride.
- Sand can reach temperatures of 60 degrees Celsius.
- Sink a little and slow the ant down.
- Wrote about why the ants' feet move fast.
- May be related to the sand dune habitat.
- Prevent the ants' feet from sinking too deeply.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. c 2. a 3. b 4. d 5. c 6. b 7. d 8. b 9. b 10. a

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)