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Level 4 – 2nd October, 2020

Two-fifths of world's plants at risk of extinction

FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201002-plant-extinction-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/2010/201002-plant-extinction-4.html>

Scientists say two-fifths of the world's plants are at risk of extinction. Their research is called the State of the World's Plants and Fungi. The scientists analysed plants in 42 countries. A top botanist said: "We are living in an age of extinction....We're losing the race against time because species are disappearing....Many of them could [solve]...challenges of medicine and even perhaps of the emerging and current pandemics we are seeing today."

There are positive signs. Over 4,000 species were discovered in 2019. These include foods that could help millions of people suffering from poverty. The botanist said it was important to protect all plant life. He said: "We would not be able to survive without plants and fungi – all life depends on them. Every time we lose a species, we lose an opportunity for humankind."

Leading scientists met to ask world leaders to act against biodiversity loss.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-54344309>
<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/sep/30/world-plant-species-risk-extinction-fungi-earth>
<https://news.yahoo.com/two-fifths-plants-risk-extinction-23122244.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201002-plant-extinction-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. plants | a. pandemics |
| 2. The scientists analysed plants | b. against time |
| 3. A top | c. in 42 countries |
| 4. We are living in an age | d. medicine |
| 5. the race | e. botanist |
| 6. species are | f. and fungi |
| 7. challenges of | g. disappearing |
| 8. emerging and current | h. of extinction |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. There are positive | a. opportunity |
| 2. people suffering | b. loss |
| 3. We would not be | c. signs |
| 4. all life depends | d. able to survive |
| 5. we lose an | e. to act |
| 6. Leading | f. on them |
| 7. ask world leaders | g. from poverty |
| 8. biodiversity | h. scientists |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201002-plant-extinction-4.html>

Scientists say two-fifths of the world's plants are at risk of extinction. Their

(1) _____ the State of the World's

(2) _____. The scientists analysed plants in 42

countries. A (3) _____: "We are living in an age of

extinction....We're losing the (4) _____ because species

are disappearing....Many of them (5) _____ of medicine

and even perhaps of the emerging (6) _____ we are

seeing today."

There (7) _____. Over 4,000 species were discovered in

2019. These include foods that could help millions

(8) _____ from poverty. The botanist said it was

important to protect all plant life. He said: "We would not be

(9) _____ without plants and fungi -

(10) _____ on them. Every time we lose a species, we

(11) _____ for humankind." Leading scientists met to

ask world leaders to act (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201002-plant-extinction-4.html>

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We would not be able to survive without plants and fungi – all life depends o
n them. Every time we lose a species, we lose an opportunity for humanki
nd." Leading scientists met to ask world leaders to act against biodiversit
y loss.

PLANTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201002-plant-extinction-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about plants 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) _____

