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Level 6 – 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.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

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

Scientists have revealed that around two-fifths of the world's plants are at risk of extinction. This stark warning comes from a piece of research called the State of the World's Plants and Fungi. More than 200 scientists analysed the state of play of the world's flora in 42 countries. A top botanist, Professor Alexandre Antonelli, said: "We are living in an age of extinction. It's a very worrying picture of risk and urgent need for action. We're losing the race against time because species are disappearing faster than we can find and name them. Many of them could hold important clues for solving some of the most pressing challenges of medicine and even perhaps of the emerging and current pandemics we are seeing today."

There have been positive signs in the past few years. More than 4,000 species of plants and fungi were discovered in 2019. Among these are potential future foods that could be a lifeline to millions of people on Earth suffering from poverty and food insecurity. Professor Antonelli stressed the importance of protecting these and all plant life on Earth. 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." The research was released on the day of a United Nations summit aimed at addressing this issue. Leading scientists will meet and insist world leaders 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-231222244.html>

WARM-UPS

1. PLANTS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about plants. 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 / plants / extinction / warning / research / urgent / action / clue / pandemic
positive / sign / plant / poverty / importance / fungi / opportunity / humankind / loss

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

3. GROW: Students A **strongly** believe we should all grow plants; Students B **strongly** believe that is unnecessary. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. EXTINCTION: How worrying is it these things could become extinct? How can we save them? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How Worrying	How to Save Them
A cactus		
A language		
An ethnic group		
A flightless bird		
A species of cockroach		
Chocolate		

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

6. PLANTS AND FUNGI: Rank these with your partner. Put the most important at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Cactus
- Rose
- Mushroom
- Bamboo
- Garlic
- Pine tree
- Moss
- Cocoa plant

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 1. revealed | a. An expert in or student of the scientific study of plants. |
| 2. stark | b. Becoming more apparent, important, or prominent. |
| 3. flora | c. Made some previously unknown or secret information known to others. |
| 4. botanist | d. The plants of a particular region, habitat, or geological period. |
| 5. urgent | e. Unpleasantly or sharply clear. |
| 6. clue | f. Of a situation requiring immediate action or attention. |
| 7. emerging | g. A fact or idea that serves as a guide or aid in a task or problem. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 8. species | h. A thing on which someone or something depends or which provides a means of escape from a difficult situation. |
| 9. lifeline | i. The state of being extremely poor. |
| 10. poverty | j. Thinking about and beginning to deal with an issue or problem. |
| 11. insecurity | k. A group of living organisms consisting of similar individuals capable of exchanging genes or interbreeding. |
| 12. summit | l. Demand forcefully to have something. |
| 13. addressing | m. A meeting between heads of government. |
| 14. insist | n. The state of being open to danger or threat; lack of protection. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

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

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

- a. The warning about plant extinction comes from a piece of research. **T / F**
- b. More than 42 scientists looked at the state of play regarding flora. **T / F**
- c. A botanist warned that we are living in an age of extinction. **T / F**
- d. The botanist said some new species could help fight pandemics. **T / F**
- e. The article says 4,000 new plant species were found in the past decade. **T / F**
- f. New plant species could be invaluable for the poor and hungry. **T / F**
- g. A botanist said we could survive without fungi. **T / F**
- h. Scientists said world leaders would not act to curb biodiversity loss. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| 1. revealed | a. signs |
| 2. extinction | b. pressing |
| 3. top | c. demand |
| 4. urgent | d. dying out |
| 5. clues | e. favorable |
| 6. positive | f. remain alive |
| 7. poverty | g. type |
| 8. survive | h. disclosed |
| 9. species | i. destitution |
| 10. insist | j. leading |

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

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. stark | a. to millions of people |
| 2. We are living in an age | b. pandemics |
| 3. We're losing the race | c. addressing this issue |
| 4. some of the most pressing | d. warning |
| 5. the emerging and current | e. the past few years |
| 6. There have been positive signs in | f. challenges |
| 7. a lifeline | g. on them |
| 8. suffering from | h. against time |
| 9. all life depends | i. poverty |
| 10. a United Nations summit aimed at | j. of extinction |

GAP FILL

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

Scientists have (1) _____ that around two-fifths of the world's plants are at risk of extinction. This (2) _____ warning comes from a piece of research called the State of the World's Plants and Fungi. More than 200 scientists analysed the state of (3) _____ of the world's flora in 42 countries. A top botanist, Professor Alexandre Antonelli, said: "We are living in an (4) _____ of extinction. It's a very worrying picture of risk and urgent (5) _____ for action. We're losing the race against time because species are disappearing faster than we can find and (6) _____ them. Many of them could hold important (7) _____ for solving some of the most pressing challenges of medicine and even perhaps of the (8) _____ and current pandemics we are seeing today."

play
emerging
age
name
stark
clues
revealed
need

There have been (9) _____ signs in the past few years. More than 4,000 species of plants and fungi were discovered in 2019. Among these are (10) _____ future foods that could be a lifeline to millions of people on Earth suffering from poverty and food (11) _____. Professor Antonelli (12) _____ the importance of protecting these and all plant life on Earth. He said: "We would not be able to survive without plants and fungi – all life (13) _____ on them. Every time we lose a species, we lose an (14) _____ for humankind." The research was released on the day of a United Nations (15) _____ aimed at addressing this issue. Leading scientists will meet and insist world leaders act against biodiversity (16) _____.

potential
depends
loss
positive
stressed
summit
insecurity
opportunity

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

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

- 1) the world's plants are at risk of extinction. This _____ ...
 - a. stank warning comes
 - b. stark warning comes
 - c. strike warning comes
 - d. stork warning comes
- 2) A top botanist, Professor Alexandre Antonelli, said: "We are living in an _____"
 - a. age off extinction
 - b. ages of extinction
 - c. age of extinction
 - d. age oft extinction
- 3) It's a very worrying picture of risk and _____ action
 - a. urgency need for
 - b. urgent needy for
 - c. urgency needy for
 - d. urgent need for
- 4) Many of them could hold important clues for solving some of the _____
 - a. most press in challenges
 - b. most pleasing challenges
 - c. most pressing challenges
 - d. most praising challenges
- 5) even perhaps of the emerging and current pandemics we _____
 - a. are seen today
 - b. are seen in today
 - c. are seeing in today
 - d. are seeing today
- 6) More than 4,000 species of plants and fungi were _____
 - a. discovered in 2019
 - b. discovery in 2019
 - c. discovers it in 2019
 - d. discover din 2019
- 7) Among these are potential future foods that could _____
 - a. be a lifelong
 - b. be a live line
 - c. be a lifeline
 - d. be a lifer line
- 8) be able to survive without plants and fungi – all life _____
 - a. depends in them
 - b. depends at them
 - c. depends to them
 - d. depends on them
- 9) for humankind." The research was released on the day of a United _____
 - a. Nations sum met
 - b. Nations summer
 - c. Nations summed
 - d. Nations summit
- 10) Leading scientists will meet and insist world leaders act against _____
 - a. biodiversity lost
 - b. biodiversity loser
 - c. biodiversity a loss
 - d. biodiversity loss

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

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

Scientists have (1) _____ two-fifths of the world's plants are at risk of extinction. This (2) _____ from a piece of research called the State of the World's Plants and Fungi. More than 200 scientists analysed the (3) _____ of the world's flora in 42 countries. A top botanist, Professor Alexandre Antonelli, said: "We are living in an (4) _____. It's a very worrying picture of risk and urgent need for action. We're losing the race against time because species are disappearing faster than we can find (5) _____. Many of them could hold important clues for solving some of the most pressing challenges of medicine and even perhaps of the (6) _____ pandemics we are seeing today."

There have been positive signs in the (7) _____. More than 4,000 species of plants and fungi were discovered in 2019. Among these are (8) _____ that could be a lifeline to millions of people on Earth suffering from poverty (9) _____. Professor Antonelli stressed the importance of protecting these and all plant life on Earth. He said: "We would not be (10) _____ without plants and fungi – all life depends on them. Every time we lose a species, we lose (11) _____ humankind." The research was released on the day of a United Nations summit aimed at addressing this issue. Leading scientists will meet and insist world leaders act (12) _____.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

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

1. Who said two-fifths of the world plants are at risk of extinction?
2. How did the article describe the warning as being?
3. How many scientists examined plant life around the world?
4. In what field is Alexandre Antonelli an expert?
5. What emerging things did a professor say new species could help?
6. How many new species of plants and fungi were discovered in 2019?
7. Who could new plant species be a lifeline for?
8. What did a professor say we could not survive without?
9. Who loses and opportunity if a plant species dies?
10. What kind of loss do scientists want world leaders to act against?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

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

- 1) Who said two-fifths of the world plants are at risk of extinction?
 - a) flower farmers
 - b) scientists
 - c) gardeners
 - d) world leaders
- 2) How did the article describe the warning as being?
 - a) striking
 - b) stock
 - c) sticky
 - d) stark
- 3) How many scientists examined plant life around the world?
 - a) over 200
 - b) exactly 200
 - c) around 200
 - d) just fewer than 200
- 4) In what field is Alexandre Antonelli an expert?
 - a) the left field
 - b) potato fields
 - c) botany
 - d) an oil field
- 5) What emerging things did a professor say new species could help?
 - a) vegetables
 - b) pandemics
 - c) species
 - d) challenges
- 6) How many new species of plants and fungi were discovered in 2019?
 - a) over 4,000
 - b) just fewer than 4,000
 - c) exactly 4,000
 - d) around 4,000
- 7) Who could new plant species be a lifeline for?
 - a) the insecure
 - b) botanists
 - c) the poor
 - d) farmers
- 8) What did a professor say we could not survive without?
 - a) plants and fungi
 - b) new species
 - c) pressing challenges
 - d) opportunities
- 9) Who loses an opportunity if a plant species dies?
 - a) humankind
 - b) farmers
 - c) botanists
 - d) flower growers
- 10) What kind of loss do scientists want world leaders to act against?
 - a) devastating loss
 - b) financial loss
 - c) profit and loss
 - d) biodiversity loss

ROLE PLAY

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

Role A – Cactus

You think a cactus is the most important plant. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their plant is not as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): bamboo, garlic or a cocoa plant.

Role B – Bamboo

You think bamboo is the most important plant. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their plant is not as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): a cactus, garlic or a cocoa plant.

Role C – Garlic

You think garlic is the most important plant. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their plant is not as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): bamboo, a cactus or a cocoa plant.

Role D – Cocoa Plant

You think a cocoa plant is the most important plant. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their plant is not as important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): bamboo, garlic or a cactus.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

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

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

plant	extinction
--------------	-------------------

- 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">• revealed• piece• flora• age• find• perhaps	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• past• future• insecurity• depends• lose• act
---	---

PLANTS SURVEY

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

PLANTS 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 'plant'?
3. What do you know about plants?
4. What are your favourite plants?
5. How important are plants?
6. How important are plants in your life?
7. Do we need to study more about plants at school?
8. What will happen as more and more plants become extinct?
9. What do you think of warnings like this?
10. How worried are you by this news?

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PLANTS 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 'extinction'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you think of plants?
15. How useful are fungi?
16. Should we spend more money on genetically modifying plants?
17. How serious an issue is food insecurity?
18. How do you feel when we lose a species of plant?
19. What do you think world leaders will do about this problem?
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/2010/201002-plant-extinction.html>

Scientists have (1) _____ that around two-fifths of the world's plants are at risk of extinction. This (2) _____ warning comes from a piece of research called the State of the World's Plants and Fungi. More than 200 scientists analysed the state of (3) _____ of the world's flora in 42 countries. A top botanist, Professor Alexandre Antonelli, said: "We are living in an (4) _____ of extinction. It's a very worrying picture of risk and urgent need for action. We're losing the race against time because species are disappearing faster than we can find and (5) _____ them. Many of them could hold important clues for solving some of the most pressing challenges of medicine and even perhaps of the (6) _____ and current pandemics we are seeing today."

There have been positive signs in the past few years. More than 4,000 species of plants and fungi were discovered in 2019. Among these are (7) _____ future foods that could be a lifeline to millions of people on Earth (8) _____ from poverty and food insecurity. Professor Antonelli stressed the importance (9) _____ protecting these and all plant life on Earth. He said: "We would not be able to survive without plants and fungi – all life depends (10) _____ them. Every time we lose a species, we lose an opportunity for humankind." The research was released on the day of a United Nations (11) _____ aimed at addressing this issue. Leading scientists will meet and insist world leaders act against biodiversity (12) _____.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. | (a) revealed | (b) revel | (c) rivalled | (d) rebelled |
| 2. | (a) stink | (b) strike | (c) stark | (d) stake |
| 3. | (a) game | (b) fun | (c) play | (d) win |
| 4. | (a) period | (b) ago | (c) old | (d) age |
| 5. | (a) banner | (b) genus | (c) name | (d) species |
| 6. | (a) emerged | (b) emerging | (c) emerge | (d) emerges |
| 7. | (a) potentate | (b) potential | (c) portal | (d) portent |
| 8. | (a) suffered | (b) suffering | (c) suffers | (d) suffer |
| 9. | (a) to | (b) on | (c) of | (d) at |
| 10. | (a) to | (b) at | (c) in | (d) on |
| 11. | (a) sum | (b) summed | (c) summation | (d) summit |
| 12. | (a) losing | (b) loser | (c) lost | (d) loss |

SPELLING

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

Paragraph 1

1. Scientists have ldaeever that
2. the world's oflar
3. urtgne need for action
4. siecpse are disappearing
5. clues for sionlvq some
6. nimeegrq and current pandemics

Paragraph 2

7. ptsoievi signs
8. anoltitpe future foods
9. poverty and food ireiuntcys
10. plants and fguin
11. a United Nations uimsmt
12. act against eotivyrbsidi loss

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

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

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () was released on the day of a United Nations summit aimed at addressing this
- () them could hold important clues for solving some of the most pressing challenges of medicine and even
- () fungi were discovered in 2019. Among these are potential future foods that could be a lifeline to millions of people
- () There have been positive signs in the past few years. More than 4,000 species of plants and
- (**1**) Scientists have revealed that around two-fifths of the world's plants are at risk of extinction. This stark warning comes
- () perhaps of the emerging and current pandemics we are seeing today."
- () living in an age of extinction. It's a very worrying picture of risk and urgent need for action. We're losing the race against
- () time because species are disappearing faster than we can find and name them. Many of
- () play of the world's flora in 42 countries. A top botanist, Professor Alexandre Antonelli, said: "We are
- () on Earth suffering from poverty and food insecurity. Professor Antonelli stressed the importance
- () depends on them. Every time we lose a species, we lose an opportunity for humankind." The research
- () of protecting these and all plant life on Earth. He said: "We would not be able to survive without plants and fungi – all life
- () issue. Leading scientists will meet and insist world leaders act against biodiversity loss.
- () from a piece of research called the State of the World's Plants and Fungi. More than 200 scientists analysed the state of

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

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

1. from research . of piece a This warning stark
2. play of the state flora . Analysed world of
3. We are an extinction . age living of in
4. could of them important Many hold clues .
5. challenges medicine . most Some the pressing of of
6. in signs Few years . the past positive few
7. people to on millions of A lifeline Earth .
8. importance the stressed protecting of these . Antonelli
9. would to be able survive . We not
10. biodiversity loss . world against act Insist leaders

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

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

Scientists have *revolved* / *revealed* that around two-fifths of the world's plants are at risk *to* / *of* extinction. This stark warning comes from a *peace* / *piece* of research called the State of the World's Plants and Fungi. More than 200 scientists *analysis* / *analysed* the state of play of the world's flora in 42 countries. A top *botany* / *botanist*, Professor Alexandre Antonelli, said: "We are living in an *old* / *age* of extinction. It's a very worrying picture of risk and urgent need for action. We're losing the race against *times* / *time* because species are disappearing faster than we can find and *call* / *name* them. Many of them could hold important clues for *solving* / *solution* some of the most pressing challenges of medicine and even perhaps of the *emerge* / *emerging* and current pandemics we are seeing today."

There have been *positively* / *positive* signs in the past few years. More than 4,000 *species* / *specimen* of plants and fungi were discovered in 2019. Among these are potential future foods that could *be* / *been* a lifeline to millions of people on Earth suffering from poverty and food *insecure* / *insecurity*. Professor Antonelli stressed the importance of protecting these and all plant *life* / *live* on Earth. He said: We would not be able survive without plants and fungi – all life *rely* / *depends* on them. Every time we lose a species, we lose an *opportune* / *opportunity* for humankind." The research was released *on* / *in* the day of a United Nations summit aimed *at* / *of* addressing this issue. Leading scientists will meet and insist world leaders act against biodiversity *lost* / *loss*.

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/2010/201002-plant-extinction.html>

Sc__ntsts h_v_ r_v__ld th_t _r__nd tw_-ff
th_s _f th_ wrld's plnts _r_t rsk _f _x
t_nct__n. Th_s strk wrnng c_m_s fr_m _
p__c_ f r_s__rch c_lld th_ St_t_ f th_ Wrld'
d's Pl_n_t_s _nd F_n_g_. M_r_ th_n 200 sc__n
tsts _n_ly_s_d th_ st_t_ f ply _f th_ wrld'
s fl_r_ _n 42 c__ntr__s. A t_p b_t_n_s_t, P
r_f_s_s_r A_l_x_n_d_r_ A_n_t_n_l_l_, s__d: "W__r_
l_v_n_g _n _n _g_ f _x_t_n_c_t__n. It's _v_r_y
w_r_r_y_n_g p_c_t_r_ f r_s_k _nd _r_g_n_t _n__d f_r
_c_t__n. W_'r_ l_s_n_g th_ r_c_ _g__n_s_t t_m_
b_c__s_ s_p_c__s _r_ d_s_p_p__r_n_g f_s_t_r th_n
w_ c_n f_n_d _nd n_m_ th_m. M_n_y _f th_m
c__ld h_l_d _m_p_r_t_n_t c_l__s f_r s_l_v_n_g s_m_
f th m_s_t p_r_s_s_n_g ch_l_l_n_g_s _f m_d_c_n_
_nd _v_n p_r_h_p_s _f th_ _m_r_g_n_g _nd c_r_r_n_t
p_n_d_m_c_s w__r_ s__n_g t_d_y."

Th_r_ h_v_ b__n p_s_t_v_ s_g_n_s _n th_ p_s_t
f_w_y__rs. M_r_ th_n 4,000 s_p_c__s _f pl_n
t_s _nd f_n_g_ w_r_ d_s_c_v_r_d _n 2019. A_m_n
g th_s_ _r_ p_t_n_t__l f_t_r_ f__ds th_t c__ld
b__ l_f_l_n_ t_ m_l_l__n_s _f p__pl_ _n E_r_th
s_f_f_r_n_g fr_m p_v_r_t_y _nd f__d _n_s_c_r_t_y.
P_r_f_s_s_r A_n_t_n_l_l_ s_t_r_s_s_d th_ _m_p_r_t_n_c_ _f
p_r_t_c_t_n_g th_s_ _nd _l_l pl_n_t l_f_ _n E_r_th.
H_ s__d: "W_ w__ld n_t b__b_l_t_ s_r_v_v_ w_t
h__t pl_n_t_s _nd f_n_g_ - _l_l l_f_ d_p_n_d_s _n
th_m. E_v_r_y t_m_ w_ l_s_ _s_p_c__s, w_ l_s_
_n _p_p_r_t_n_t_y f_r h_m_n_k_n_d." Th_ r_s__rch
w_s r_l__s_d _n th_ d_y _f _U_n_t_d N_t__n_s
s_m_m_t __m_d _t _d_d_r_s_s_n_g th_s_ s_s___. L__
d_n_g sc__ntsts w_ll m__t _nd _n_s_s_t w_r_l
d l__d_r_s _c_t _g__n_s_t b__d_v_r_s_t_y l_s_s_.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

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

scientists have revealed that around two-fifths of the world's plants are at risk of extinction. This stark warning comes from a piece of research called the state of the world's plants and fungi. More than 200 scientists analysed the state of play of the world's flora in 42 countries. A top botanist professor Alexandre Antonelli said we are living in an age of extinction. It's a very worrying picture of risk and urgent need for action. We're losing the race against time because species are disappearing faster than we can find and name them. Many of them could hold important clues for solving some of the most pressing challenges of medicine and even perhaps of the emerging and current pandemics we are seeing today.

There have been positive signs in the past few years. More than 4000 species of plants and fungi were discovered in 2019. Among these are potential future foods that could be a lifeline to millions of people on earth suffering from poverty and food insecurity. Professor Antonelli stressed the importance of protecting these and all plant life on earth. 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. The research was released on the day of a United Nations summit aimed at addressing this issue. Leading scientists will meet and insist world leaders act against biodiversity loss.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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

Scientists have revealed that around two-fifths of the world's plants are at risk of extinction. This stark warning comes from a piece of research called the State of the World's Plants and Fungi. More than 200 scientists analysed the state of play of the world's flora in 42 countries. A top botanist, Professor Alexandre Antonelli, said: "We are living in an age of extinction. It's a very worrying picture of risk and urgent need for action. We're losing the race against time because species are disappearing faster than we can find and name them. Many of them could hold important clues for solving some of the most pressing challenges of medicine and even perhaps of the emerging and current pandemics we are seeing today." There have been positive signs in the past few years. More than 4,000 species of plants and fungi were rediscovered in 2019. Among these are potential future foodstuffs that could be a lifeline to millions of people on Earth suffering from poverty and food insecurity. Professor Antonelli stressed the importance of protecting these and all plant life on Earth. 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." The research was released on the day of a United Nations summit aimed at addressing this issue. Leading scientists will meet and insist world leaders act against biodiversity loss.

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

4. GROW YOUR OWN: Write a magazine article about all of us having to grow our own plants. 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 plants. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to save plants. 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. d 4. a 5. f 6. g 7. b
8. k 9. h 10. i 11. n 12. m 13. j 14. l

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. h	2. d	3. j	4. b	5. a
6. e	7. i	8. f	9. g	10. c

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Scientists
2. A stark warning
3. Over 200
4. Botany
5. Pandemics
6. Over 4,000
7. People suffering from poverty
8. Plants and fungi
9. Humankind
10. Biodiversity loss

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. This stark warning from a piece of research.
2. Analysed the state of play of world flora.
3. We are living in an age of extinction.
4. Many of them could hold important clues.
5. Some of the most pressing challenges of medicine.
6. Few positive signs in the past few years.
7. A lifeline to millions of people on Earth.
8. Antonelli stressed the importance of protecting these.
9. We would not be able to survive.
10. Insist world leaders act against biodiversity loss.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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