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**Level 2** – 25th March, 2021

## Stink bugs arrive in UK and threaten crops

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210325-stink-bugs-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210325-stink-bugs-2.html>

Farmers worry about many things. Some worry about a lack of rain. Others worry about pests that eat the crops. Farmers in the UK have a new worry - stink bugs. For the first time, stink bugs have arrived in the UK. They are not native to the UK. They came from China, Japan or Korea. These smelly insects are now a threat to fruit and vegetable crops in England. The insects get their name from the bad smell they create when they are in danger. Stink bugs were accidentally introduced to the USA in the mid-1990s. They are now a problem for farmers in 44 states.

Stink bugs eat by piercing the surface of fruits and vegetables and sucking out the juice. This makes the fruit rotten. It means farmers cannot sell the crops. The fruit often ends up as juice. An insect expert said there is no risk to our health from stink bugs feeding on fruit and vegetables. He said: "If you eat a damaged fruit, there's no risk to your health. The fruit just doesn't look beautiful." He said stink bugs have a wide diet and can eat over one hundred different types of plants. He added that: "With climate change and global trade, these stories are going to become more frequent."

Sources: <https://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/news/2021/march/monitoring-stink-bugs-to-anticipate-the-future.html>  
<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/mar/01/uk-scientists-confirm-arrival-of-brown-marmorated-stink-bugs>  
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/science/stink-bugs-invasive-species-crops-b1809209.html>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210325-stink-bugs-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                   |                      |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. worry about a lack             | a. arrived in the UK |
| 2. pests that eat                 | b. smell they create |
| 3. stink bugs have                | c. for farmers       |
| 4. They are not native            | d. the crops         |
| 5. These smelly insects are now a | e. 1990s             |
| 6. the bad                        | f. threat to fruit   |
| 7. in the mid-                    | g. of rain           |
| 8. They are now a problem         | h. to the UK         |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                            |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. piercing the surface    | a. types of plants |
| 2. sucking                 | b. crops           |
| 3. This makes the fruit    | c. frequent        |
| 4. farmers cannot sell the | d. out the juice   |
| 5. there is no risk        | e. change          |
| 6. one hundred different   | f. rotten          |
| 7. climate                 | g. of fruits       |
| 8. going to become more    | h. to our health   |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210325-stink-bugs-2.html>

Farmers worry about many things. Some worry about a (1) \_\_\_\_\_. Others worry about pests that eat the crops. Farmers in the UK have (2) \_\_\_\_\_ - stink bugs. For the first time, stink bugs have arrived in the UK. They are (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the UK. They came from China, Japan or Korea. These smelly insects are (4) \_\_\_\_\_ to fruit and vegetable crops in England. The insects get their name from the bad smell they create when they (5) \_\_\_\_\_. Stink bugs were accidentally introduced to the USA in the mid-1990s. They are now a problem for farmers (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

Stink bugs (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the surface of fruits and vegetables and sucking out the juice. This makes (8) \_\_\_\_\_. It means farmers cannot sell the crops. The fruit often (9) \_\_\_\_\_ juice. An insect expert said there is (10) \_\_\_\_\_ our health from stink bugs feeding on fruit and vegetables. He said: "If you eat a damaged fruit, there's (11) \_\_\_\_\_ your health. The fruit just doesn't look beautiful." He said stink bugs have a wide diet and can eat over one hundred (12) \_\_\_\_\_ plants. He added that: "With climate change and global trade, these stories are going to become more frequent."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210325-stink-bugs-2.html>

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# STINK BUGS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210325-stink-bugs-2.html>

Write five GOOD questions about stink bugs 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) \_\_\_\_\_

