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Level 4 – 28th August, 2021

Light pollution linked to insect loss

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/21082-insect-loss-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/2108/210828-insect-loss-4.html>

Street lights could be causing a decline in insect numbers. Researchers in the UK carried out studies on the number of insects living near white light from LEDs. The researchers said the LEDs affected insect behaviour. The lead researcher said he was surprised at how much LEDs affected insects. He found a 47 per cent reduction in insects near lit hedgerow test sites and a 37 per cent reduction near lit roadside grassy areas.

Researchers set up LEDs at 26 roadside sites that contained hedges or grassy areas. They counted the number of caterpillars at these sites and compared this with insects found at unlit sites. A researcher said the difference was "stark". He said the lights stopped female insects laying eggs in the lit areas. In addition, artificial lighting disturbed what insects ate, so the caterpillars in the unlit areas were heavier.

Sources: <https://phys.org/news/2021-08-streetlights-contribute-insect-population-declines.html>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-58333233>
<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/technology/led-streetlights-contribute-to-insect-population-declines-study/ar-AANJSIE>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210828-insect-loss-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Street lights could be | a. reduction |
| 2. Researchers in the UK carried | b. from LEDs |
| 3. the number | c. areas |
| 4. white light | d. of insects |
| 5. LEDs are affected insect | e. surprised |
| 6. The lead researcher said he was | f. causing a decline |
| 7. He found a 47 per cent | g. behaviour |
| 8. near lit roadside grassy | h. out studies |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Researchers set | a. what insects ate |
| 2. roadside sites that contained | b. sites |
| 3. counted the number of caterpillars | c. were heavier |
| 4. insects found at unlit | d. was stark |
| 5. A researcher said the difference | e. up LEDs |
| 6. female insects laying | f. hedges |
| 7. lighting disturbed | g. at these sites |
| 8. caterpillars in the unlit areas | h. eggs |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210828-insect-loss-4.html>

Street lights could be (1) _____ in insect numbers.

Researchers in the UK (2) _____ on the number of

insects living (3) _____ from LEDs. The researchers

said the LEDs (4) _____. The lead researcher said he

was surprised (5) _____ LEDs affected insects. He

found a 47 per cent reduction in insects near lit hedgerow test sites and a 37

per cent reduction (6) _____ grassy areas.

Researchers (7) _____ at 26 roadside sites that

contained hedges (8) _____. They counted the number

of caterpillars (9) _____ and compared this with insects

found at unlit sites. A researcher said the (10) _____.

He said the lights stopped female (11) _____ in the lit

areas. In addition, (12) _____ what insects ate, so the

caterpillars in the unlit areas were heavier.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210828-insect-loss-4.html>

Streetlights could be causing a decline in insect numbers. Researchers in the UK carried out studies on the number of insects living near white light from LEDs. The researchers said the LEDs affected insect behaviour. The lead researcher said he was surprised at how much LEDs affected insects. He found a 47 per cent reduction in insects near lit hedgerow test sites and a 37 per cent reduction near lit roadside grassy areas. Researchers set up LEDs at 26 roadside sites that contained hedges or grassy areas. They counted the number of caterpillars at these sites and compared this with insects found at unlit sites. A researcher said the difference was "stark". He said the lights stopped female insects laying eggs in the lit areas. In addition, artificial lighting disturbed what insects ate, so the caterpillars in the unlit areas were heavier.

INSECTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2108/210828-insect-loss-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about insects 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) _____

