

# Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

**"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES  
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"**

[breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html](http://breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html)

**Thousands more free lessons  
from Sean's other websites**

[www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean\\_banville\\_lessons.html](http://www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html)

**Level 3 – 23rd December, 2021**

## **Fossil found of giant car-sized insect**

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2112/211223-giant-millipede.html>

### **Contents**

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	15
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	16
Vocabulary	4	Spelling	17
Before Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	18
Gap Fill	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	19
Match The Sentences And Listen	7	Circle The Correct Word	20
Listening Gap Fill	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	21
Comprehension Questions	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	22
Multiple Choice - Quiz	10	Put A Slash ( / ) Where The Spaces Are	23
Role Play	11	Free Writing	24
After Reading / Listening	12	Academic Writing	25
Student Survey	13	Homework	26
Discussion (20 Questions)	14	Answers	27

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

**Twitter**



[twitter.com/SeanBanville](https://twitter.com/SeanBanville)

**Facebook**



[www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176](https://www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176)

# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2021/12/20/europe/giant-millipede-biggest-bug-uk-northumbria-scotland/index.html>

If you are afraid of insects, this might be difficult reading. A fossil found on a beach in England shows that the biggest bug that ever lived was the size of a small car. The fossil is of a giant millipede. This monster creature could have had hundreds of legs. Although the name "millipede" means "one thousand legs" in Latin, few species actually have 1,000 feet. There is one species that can have 1,300 legs. The fossil hunters in England said what they found is "definitely the biggest bug that ever lived". They said the millipede was around 2.7 metres long and weighed over 50kg. This would have been a scary sight. It would need a huge amount of insect spray to keep it away.

The scientists found the fossil by chance. A lecturer at the University of Cambridge's department of earth sciences said they found a rock on the beach. It had recently fallen from a cliff. He said: "It was a complete fluke of a discovery. It was an incredibly exciting find." He explained that the fossil dates back over 326 million years. This was 100 million years before the Age of the Dinosaurs. The researchers believe that the millipede had a high-nutrient diet because it was so huge. They said: "While we can't know for sure what they ate, there were plenty of nutritious nuts and seeds available...at the time." They may also have eaten frogs and lizards, but not humans (or any of our ancient ancestors).

Sources: <https://edition.cnn.com/2021/12/20/europe/giant-millipede-biggest-bug-uk-northumbria-scotland/index.html>  
<https://phys.org/news/2021-12-millipedes-big-cars-roamed-northern.html>  
<https://news.sky.com/story/scientists-uncover-fossil-of-car-sized-giant-millipede-it-was-a-complete-fluke-of-a-discovery-12500721>

# WARM-UPS

**1. GIANT INSECTS:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about giant insects. 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?

afraid / insects / insects / fossil / small car / millipede / legs / species / scary / spray  
scientists / rock / beach / cliff / discovery / nuts / seeds / frogs / lizards / ancestors

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

**3. FOOD:** Students A **strongly** believe we need to eat more insects; Students B **strongly** believe otherwise. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. GIANT:** What might the good and bad things be if these insects were the size of a car? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

Car-sized...	Good Things	Bad Things
Ants		
Bees		
Spiders		
Worms		
Stink bugs		
Cockroaches		

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

**6. BUGS:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Millipedes
- Worms
- Butterflies
- Fireflies
- Cockroaches
- Ants
- Bees
- Spiders

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 1. afraid     | a. A small insect.   |
| 2. bug        | b. An animal, but not a human being.                                   |
| 3. fossil     | c. Very, very, very big.   |
| 4. creature   | d. A very, very, very old plant or animal in rock.                     |
| 5. species    | e. Without doubt.  |
| 6. definitely | f. Feeling fear or great worry; frightened.                            |
| 7. huge       | g. A group of the same living things that can produce babies together. |

## Paragraph 2

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 8. by chance  | h. At a time in the past close to now.                                   |
| 9. recently   | i. An unlikely chance event, especially a surprising piece of luck.      |
| 10. fluke     | j. People from our family who lived a long time before our grandparents. |
| 11. diet      | k. More than enough.   |
| 12. plenty    | l. The kinds of food that a person or animal usually eats.               |
| 13. available | m. Not on purpose.   |
| 14. ancestors | n. There and ready to be used now.                                       |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2112/211223-giant-millipede.html>

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

1. The article says people should not be afraid of insects. **T / F**
2. A fossil of a giant millipede was found inside a small car. **T / F**
3. In Latin, "millipede" means "1,000 legs". **T / F**
4. The millipede from the fossil weighed over 50kg. **T / F**
5. Fossil hunters found the millipede fossil on a beach. **T / F**
6. The fossil is over 300 million years old. **T / F**
7. The Dinosaur Age came 100 million years before the millipede lived. **T / F**
8. The millipede would probably have eaten humans. **T / F**

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

- |                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| 1. <b>afraid</b>     | a. accidentally  |
| 2. <b>bug</b>        | b. very large    |
| 3. <b>creature</b>   | c. animal        |
| 4. <b>definitely</b> | d. healthy       |
| 5. <b>huge</b>       | e. insect        |
| 6. <b>by chance</b>  | f. very old      |
| 7. <b>discovery</b>  | g. scared        |
| 8. <b>age</b>        | h. find          |
| 9. <b>nutritious</b> | i. without doubt |
| 10. <b>ancient</b>   | j. era           |

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

- |                                       |                                |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. If you are afraid                  | a. of a giant millipede        |
| 2. The fossil is                      | b. chance                      |
| 3. definitely the biggest bug         | c. and lizards                 |
| 4. weighed                            | d. spray                       |
| 5. insect                             | e. back over 326 million years |
| 6. The scientists found the fossil by | f. that ever lived             |
| 7. It had recently fallen             | g. nuts                        |
| 8. the fossil dates                   | h. of insects                  |
| 9. there were plenty of nutritious    | i. from a cliff                |
| 10. They may also have eaten frogs    | j. over 50kg                   |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2112/211223-giant-millipede.html>

If you are afraid of insects, this might be difficult (1) \_\_\_\_\_. A fossil found on a beach in England shows that the biggest bug that ever lived was the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of a small car. The fossil is of a giant millipede. This monster (3) \_\_\_\_\_ could have had hundreds of legs. Although the name "millipede" means "one thousand legs" in Latin, few (4) \_\_\_\_\_ actually have 1,000 feet. There is one species that can have 1,300 legs. The fossil hunters in England said what they found is "(5) \_\_\_\_\_ the biggest bug that ever lived". They said the millipede was around 2.7 metres long and (6) \_\_\_\_\_ over 50kg. This would have been a (7) \_\_\_\_\_ sight. It would need a huge amount of insect (8) \_\_\_\_\_ to keep it away.

*definitely*

*reading*

*scary*

*creature*

*weighed*

*spray*

*species*

*size*

The scientists found the fossil by (9) \_\_\_\_\_. A lecturer at the University of Cambridge's department of earth (10) \_\_\_\_\_ said they found a rock on the beach. It had recently (11) \_\_\_\_\_ from a cliff. He said: "It was a complete fluke of a (12) \_\_\_\_\_. It was an incredibly exciting find." He explained that the fossil (13) \_\_\_\_\_ back over 326 million years. This was 100 million years before the Age of the Dinosaurs. The researchers believe that the millipede had a high-nutrient (14) \_\_\_\_\_ because it was so huge. They said: "While we can't know for sure what they ate, there were (15) \_\_\_\_\_ of nutritious nuts and seeds available...at the time." They may also have eaten frogs and lizards, but not humans (or any of our (16) \_\_\_\_\_ ancestors).

*fallen*

*diet*

*ancient*

*discovery*

*plenty*

*chance*

*sciences*

*dates*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com2112/211223-giant-millipede.html>

- 1) If you are afraid of insects, this might \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. be difficult read in
  - b. be difficult readings
  - c. be difficult reading
  - d. be difficulty reading
- 2) Although the name "millipede" means "one thousand \_\_\_\_\_"
  - a. legs" on Latin
  - b. legs" sin Latin
  - c. leg" sin Latin
  - d. legs" in Latin
- 3) The fossil hunters in England said what they found is \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. definite the biggest
  - b. definites the biggest
  - c. definitely the biggest
  - d. definitively the biggest
- 4) They said the millipede was around 2.7 metres long and \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. weight over 50kg
  - b. weighed over 50kg
  - c. weigh over 50kg
  - d. whey Dover 50kg
- 5) This would have been a scary sight. It would need a huge amount \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. of a sect spray
  - b. of the sect spray
  - c. offing sect spray
  - d. of insect spray
- 6) they found a rock on the beach. It had recently fallen \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. from a cliff
  - b. from ache cleft
  - c. from ache clef
  - d. from achy lift
- 7) an incredibly exciting find." He explained that the \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. fossil dates backs
  - b. fossil date back
  - c. fossil date backs
  - d. fossil dates back
- 8) researchers believe that the millipede had a \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. high-nutrient dye it
  - b. high-nutrient die it
  - c. high-nutrient diet
  - d. high-nutrient died
- 9) know for sure what they ate, there were plenty \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. of nutritiously nuts
  - b. of newt delicious nuts
  - c. of new treasure nuts
  - d. of nutritious nuts
- 10) They may also have eaten frogs and lizards, but not humans or any of \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. our ancient ancestry
  - b. our ancient ancestors
  - c. our ancient ancestries
  - d. our ancient ancestor

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2112/211223-giant-millipede.html>

If you are (1) \_\_\_\_\_, this might be difficult reading. A fossil found on a beach in England shows that the biggest (2) \_\_\_\_\_ lived was the size of a small car. The fossil is of a giant millipede. This monster creature could have had hundreds of legs. Although the name "millipede" means "one thousand legs" (3) \_\_\_\_\_ species actually have 1,000 feet. There is one species that can have 1,300 legs. The (4) \_\_\_\_\_ England said what they found (5) \_\_\_\_\_ biggest bug that ever lived". They said the millipede was around 2.7 metres long and weighed over 50kg. This would have been a scary sight. It would need a (6) \_\_\_\_\_ insect spray to keep it away.

The scientists found the (7) \_\_\_\_\_. A lecturer at the University of Cambridge's department of earth sciences said they found a rock on the beach. It had (8) \_\_\_\_\_ a cliff. He said: "It was a complete fluke of a discovery. It was an (9) \_\_\_\_\_." He explained that the fossil dates back over 326 million years. This was 100 million years before the Age of the Dinosaurs. The researchers believe that the millipede had a (10) \_\_\_\_\_ because it was so huge. They said: "While we can't know for sure what they ate, there were (11) \_\_\_\_\_ nuts and seeds available...at the time." They may also have eaten frogs and lizards, but not humans (or any (12) \_\_\_\_\_ ancestors).



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2021/12/23-giant-millipede.html>

1. Where in England was the millipede fossil found?
2. What does "millipede" mean in Latin?
3. How many legs does one species of millipede have?
4. How much did the millipede from the fossil weigh?
5. What might you need a lot of to keep the giant millipede away?
6. Where do the fossil hunters work?
7. Where had a rock containing the fossil fallen from?
8. How long ago did the millipede live?
9. What food was available for the millipede to eat?
10. What does the article say the ancient millipede did not eat?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2112/211223-giant-millipede.html>

- 1) Where in England was the millipede fossil found?
  - a) in a coal mine
  - b) a beach
  - c) deep under the ground
  - d) on a mountain
- 2) What does "millipede" mean in Latin?
  - a) 1,000,000 eyes
  - b) 1,000,000
  - c) 10,000 brains
  - d) 1,000 legs
- 3) How many legs can one species of millipede have?
  - a) hundreds of thousands
  - b) millions
  - c) 1,300
  - d) 837.28
- 4) How much did the millipede from the fossil weigh?
  - a) over 50kg
  - b) 500kg
  - c) 500g
  - d) 500lbs
- 5) What might you need a lot of to keep the giant millipede away?
  - a) luck
  - b) insect spray
  - c) praying
  - d) insect sense
- 6) Where do the fossil hunters work?
  - a) the University of Cambridge
  - b) the Bug University
  - c) Millipedia
  - d) the International Institute of Insects
- 7) Where had a rock containing the fossil fallen from?
  - a) an ancient tree
  - b) the sky
  - c) a cliff
  - d) a mountain top
- 8) How long ago did the millipede live?
  - a) over 326 million years ago
  - b) over 426 million years ago
  - c) over 526 million years ago
  - d) over 626 million years ago
- 9) What food was available for the millipede to eat?
  - a) rice and wheat
  - b) berries and rice
  - c) nuts and berries
  - d) nuts and seeds
- 10) What does the article say the ancient millipede did not eat?
  - a) other millipedes
  - b) fast food
  - c) humans
  - d) meat

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2112/211223-giant-millipede.html>

## **Role A – Worms**

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

## **Role B – Spiders**

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

## **Role C – Ants**

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

## **Role D – Bees**

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

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2021/12/211223-giant-millipede.html>

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

fossil	insect

- 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"><li>• afraid</li><li>• small</li><li>• name</li><li>• species</li><li>• definitely</li><li>• sight</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•sight</li><li>•chance</li><li>•complete</li><li>•dates</li><li>•100</li><li>•sure</li><li>•ancestors</li></ul>
--	---

# GIANT INSECTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2021/12/23-giant-millipede.html>

Write five GOOD questions about giant 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.

# GIANT INSECTS 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 'fossil'?
3. What do you know about millipedes?
4. Why are people afraid of insects?
5. What insects do you like and dislike?
6. What do you think of car-sized insects?
7. Why do people like hunting for fossils?
8. What do fossils tell us?
9. In what ways are insects useful?
10. Should scientists use DNA to bring the millipede back?

*Fossil found of giant car-sized insect – 23rd December, 2021*  
Thousands more free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

---

# GIANT INSECTS 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 'insect'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What would you do if you saw a car-sized millipede?
15. What's the scariest insect you've seen?
16. How would life be different if we had giant insects?
17. Do you think the giant millipede was dangerous?
18. What are the most dangerous insects alive today?
19. What do you think of including insects in our diets?
20. What questions would you like to ask the scientists?

## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

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

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

Copyright © breakingnewsenglish.com 2021

---

## **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/2021/12/23-giant-millipede.html>

If you are afraid of insects, this might be (1) \_\_\_\_\_ reading. A fossil found on a beach in England (2) \_\_\_\_\_ that the biggest bug that ever lived was the size of a small car. The fossil is of a giant millipede. This monster (3) \_\_\_\_\_ could have had hundreds of legs. Although the name "millipede" means "one thousand legs" in Latin, (4) \_\_\_\_\_ species actually have 1,000 feet. There is one species that can have 1,300 legs. The fossil hunters in England said what they found is "definitely the biggest bug that ever lived". They said the millipede was around 2.7 metres long and (5) \_\_\_\_\_ over 50kg. This would have been a scary sight. It would need a huge amount of insect spray to keep it (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

The scientists found the fossil (7) \_\_\_\_\_ chance. A lecturer at the University of Cambridge's department of earth sciences said they found a rock on the beach. It had recently (8) \_\_\_\_\_ from a cliff. He said: "It was a complete fluke of a discovery. It was an incredibly exciting find." He explained that the fossil dates (9) \_\_\_\_\_ over 326 million years. This was 100 million years before the Age of the Dinosaurs. The researchers believe that the millipede had a high-nutrient (10) \_\_\_\_\_ because it was so huge. They said: "While we can't know (11) \_\_\_\_\_ sure what they ate, there were plenty of nutritious nuts and seeds available...at the (12) \_\_\_\_\_." They may also have eaten frogs and lizards, but not humans (or any of our ancient ancestors).

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

- |     |                |                  |               |              |
|-----|----------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1.  | (a) difficulty | (b) difficulties | (c) difficult | (d) differ   |
| 2.  | (a) shows      | (b) shower       | (c) show      | (d) showing  |
| 3.  | (a) creature   | (b) creative     | (c) creation  | (d) create   |
| 4.  | (a) few        | (b) small        | (c) less      | (d) low      |
| 5.  | (a) weigh      | (b) weighs       | (c) weight    | (d) weighed  |
| 6.  | (a) around     | (b) abound       | (c) about     | (d) away     |
| 7.  | (a) by         | (b) at           | (c) of        | (d) as       |
| 8.  | (a) falls      | (b) fell         | (c) falling   | (d) fallen   |
| 9.  | (a) back       | (b) forward      | (c) side      | (d) sideways |
| 10. | (a) survival   | (b) diet         | (c) balance   | (d) food     |
| 11. | (a) of         | (b) for          | (c) as        | (d) at       |
| 12. | (a) time       | (b) age          | (c) epoch     | (d) day      |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2021/12/23-giant-millipede.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. A slosif found on a beach
2. This monster eurearct
3. few isepsec actually have 1,000 feet
4. fdteleniyy the biggest bug
5. This would have been a csray sight
6. a huge amount of insect yrsap

## Paragraph 2

7. department of earth iseescnc
8. It was a complete fluke of a oiysdcerv
9. It was an irnlbceydi exciting find
10. the millipede had a high-entritun diet
11. nuts and seeds leaiabvla
12. any of our ancient eaosnscrt

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2021/12/23/giant-millipede.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) The scientists found the fossil by chance. A lecturer at the University of Cambridge's department
- ( ) thousand legs" in Latin, few species actually have 1,000 feet. There is one species that can have 1,300 legs. The fossil
- ( ) hunters in England said what they found is "definitely the biggest bug that ever
- ( ) know for sure what they ate, there were plenty of nutritious nuts and seeds available...at the
- ( ) over 326 million years. This was 100 million years before the Age of the Dinosaurs. The researchers
- ( ) fluke of a discovery. It was an incredibly exciting find." He explained that the fossil dates back
- ( ) time." They may also have eaten frogs and lizards, but not humans (or any of our ancient ancestors).
- ( ) shows that the biggest bug that ever lived was the size of a small car. The fossil is of a giant millipede. This monster
- ( ) believe that the millipede had a high-nutrient diet because it was so huge. They said: "While we can't
- ( ) lived". They said the millipede was around 2.7 metres long and weighed over 50kg. This would have been a scary
- ( ) of earth sciences said they found a rock on the beach. It had recently fallen from a cliff. He said: "It was a complete
- ( **1** ) If you are afraid of insects, this might be difficult reading. A fossil found on a beach in England
- ( ) creature could have had hundreds of legs. Although the name "millipede" means "one
- ( ) sight. It would need a huge amount of insect spray to keep it away.

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2021/12/23-giant-millipede.html>

1. monster had of legs . creature hundreds This
2. species can legs . There's 1,300 have one that
3. definitely bug biggest lived . It's that ever the
4. have This been would a scary sight .
5. amounts insect spray . of It'd huge need
6. chance . found scientists The fossil the by
7. from fallen recently It a cliff . had
8. believe the high-nutrient diet . Researchers millipede had a
9. they sure know can't We ate . what for
10. also lizards . eaten and frogs may They have

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2112/211223-giant-millipede.html>

If you are afraid of insects, this might be *difficulty / difficult* reading. A fossil found on a beach in England shows that the biggest bug that *never / ever* lived was the size of a small car. The fossil is *of / off* a giant millipede. This monster creature could have had *hundreds / hundred* of legs. Although the name "millipede" means "one thousand legs" *by / in* Latin, few species actually have 1,000 feet. There is *one / once* species that can have 1,300 legs. The fossil hunters in England said *what / that* they found is "definitely the biggest bug that ever lived". They said the millipede was *round / around* 2.7 metres long and weighed over 50kg. This would have been a *scary / scared* sight. It would need a huge amount *of / to* insect spray to keep it away.

The scientists found the fossil *at / by* chance. A lecturer at the University of Cambridge's department of earth sciences said *what / they* found a rock on the beach. It had recently *fallen / fell* from a cliff. He said: "It was a complete *fluke / flake* of a discovery. It was an incredibly exciting *found / find*." He explained that the fossil dates back over 326 million years. This was 100 million years *before / less* the Age of the Dinosaurs. The researchers believe that the millipede had a high-nutrient *dietary / diet* because it was so huge. They said: "While we can't know for *sure / unsure* what they ate, there were plenty of *nutritious / nutrition* nuts and seeds available...at the time." They may also have eaten frogs and lizards, but not humans (or any of our ancient *ancestor / ancestors*).

**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/2112/211223-giant-millipede.html>

\_f\_ y\_\_ \_r\_ \_fr\_\_d\_ \_f\_ \_ns\_cts, th\_s m\_ght b\_\_  
d\_ff\_c\_lt\_ r\_\_d\_ng. \_ f\_ss\_l\_ f\_\_nd\_ \_n\_ b\_\_ch\_ \_n\_  
\_ngl\_nd\_ sh\_ws th\_t th\_ b\_gg\_st\_ b\_g\_ th\_t \_v\_r\_ l\_v\_d\_  
w\_s\_ th\_ s\_z\_ \_f\_ \_ sm\_ll\_ c\_r. Th\_ f\_ss\_l\_ \_s\_ \_f\_ \_  
g\_\_nt\_ m\_ll\_p\_d\_. Th\_s m\_nst\_r\_ cr\_\_t\_r\_ c\_\_ld\_ h\_v\_ h\_d\_  
h\_ndr\_ds\_ \_f\_ l\_gs. \_lth\_\_gh\_ th\_ n\_m\_ "m\_ll\_p\_d\_"  
m\_\_ns\_ "\_n\_ th\_\_s\_nd\_ l\_gs" \_n\_ L\_t\_n, f\_w\_ sp\_c\_\_s\_  
\_ct\_\_lly\_ h\_v\_ 1,000 f\_\_t. Th\_r\_ \_s\_ \_n\_ sp\_c\_\_s\_ th\_t\_  
c\_n\_ h\_v\_ 1,300 l\_gs. Th\_ f\_ss\_l\_ h\_nt\_rs\_ \_n\_ \_ngl\_nd\_  
s\_\_d\_ wh\_t\_ th\_y\_ f\_\_nd\_ \_s\_ "d\_f\_n\_t\_ly\_ th\_ b\_gg\_st\_ b\_g\_  
th\_t\_ \_v\_r\_ l\_v\_d". Th\_y\_ s\_\_d\_ th\_ m\_ll\_p\_d\_ w\_s\_ \_r\_\_nd\_  
2.7 m\_tr\_s\_ l\_ng\_ \_nd\_ w\_\_gh\_d\_ \_v\_r\_ 50kg. Th\_s\_ w\_\_ld\_  
h\_v\_ b\_\_n\_ \_ sc\_ry\_ s\_ght. \_t\_ w\_\_ld\_ n\_\_d\_ \_ h\_g\_  
\_m\_\_nt\_ \_f\_ \_ns\_ct\_ spr\_y\_ t\_ k\_\_p\_ \_t\_ \_w\_y.

Th\_ sc\_\_nt\_sts\_ f\_\_nd\_ th\_ f\_ss\_l\_ by\_ ch\_nc\_. \_  
l\_ct\_r\_r\_ \_t\_ th\_ \_n\_v\_rs\_ty\_ \_f\_ C\_mbr\_dg\_'s\_ d\_p\_rtm\_nt\_  
\_f\_ \_\_rth\_ sc\_\_nc\_s\_ s\_\_d\_ th\_y\_ f\_\_nd\_ \_ r\_ck\_ \_n\_ th\_  
b\_\_ch. \_t\_ h\_d\_ r\_c\_ntly\_ f\_ll\_n\_ fr\_m\_ \_ cl\_ff. H\_ s\_\_d:  
"\_t\_ w\_s\_ \_ c\_mpl\_t\_ fl\_k\_ \_f\_ \_ d\_sc\_v\_ry. \_t\_ w\_s\_ \_n\_  
\_ncr\_d\_bly\_ \_xc\_t\_ng\_ f\_nd." H\_ \_xpl\_\_nd\_ th\_t\_ th\_  
f\_ss\_l\_ d\_t\_s\_ b\_ck\_ \_v\_r\_ 326 m\_ll\_\_n\_ y\_\_rs. Th\_s\_ w\_s\_  
100 m\_ll\_\_n\_ y\_\_rs\_ b\_f\_r\_ th\_ \_g\_ \_f\_ th\_ D\_n\_s\_\_rs.  
Th\_ r\_s\_\_rch\_rs\_ b\_l\_\_v\_ th\_t\_ th\_ m\_ll\_p\_d\_ h\_d\_ \_  
h\_g\_h-n\_tr\_\_nt\_ d\_\_t\_ b\_c\_\_s\_ \_t\_ w\_s\_ s\_ h\_g\_. Th\_y\_  
s\_\_d: "Wh\_l\_ w\_ c\_n't\_ kn\_w\_ f\_r\_ s\_r\_ wh\_t\_ th\_y\_ \_t\_,  
th\_r\_ w\_r\_ pl\_nty\_ \_f\_ n\_tr\_t\_\_s\_ n\_ts\_ \_nd\_ s\_\_ds\_  
\_v\_\_l\_\_bl\_\_...\_t\_ th\_ t\_m\_." Th\_y\_ m\_y\_ \_ls\_ h\_v\_ \_\_t\_n\_  
fr\_gs\_ \_nd\_ l\_z\_rds, b\_t\_ n\_t\_ h\_m\_ns\_ (\_r\_ \_ny\_ \_f\_ \_\_r\_  
\_nc\_\_nt\_ \_nc\_st\_rs).

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2021/12/211223-giant-millipede.html>

if you are afraid of insects this might be difficult reading a fossil found on a beach in england shows that the biggest bug that ever lived was the size of a small car the fossil is of a giant millipede this monster creature could have had hundreds of legs although the name millipede means one thousand legs in latin few species actually have 1000 feet there is one species that can have 1300 legs the fossil hunters in england said what they found is definitely the biggest bug that ever lived they said the millipede was around 27 metres long and weighed over 50kg this would have been a scary sight it would need a huge amount of insect spray to keep it away

the scientists found the fossil by chance a lecturer at the university of cambridges department of earth sciences said they found a rock on the beach it had recently fallen from a cliff he said it was a complete fluke of a discovery it was an incredibly exciting find he explained that the fossil dates back over 326 million years this was 100 million years before the age of the dinosaurs the researchers believe that the millipede had a highnutrient diet because it was so huge they said while we cant know for sure what they ate there were plenty of nutritious nuts and seeds available at the time they may also have eaten frogs and lizards but not humans or any of our ancient ancestors.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2112/211223-giant-millipede.html>

If you are afraid of insects, this might be difficult reading. A fossil found on a beach in England shows that the biggest bug that ever lived was the size of a small car. The fossil is of a giant millipede. This monster creature could have had hundreds of legs. Although the name "millipede" means "one thousand legs" in Latin, few species actually have 1,000 feet. There is one species that can have 1,300 legs. The fossil hunters in England said what they found is "definitely the biggest bug that ever lived". They said the millipede was around 2.7 metres long and weighed over 50 kg. This would have been a scary sight. It would need a huge amount of insects sprayed to keep it away. The scientists found the fossil by chance. A lecturer at the University of Cambridge's department of earth sciences said they found a rock on the beach. It had recently fallen from a cliff. He said: "It was a complete fluke of a discovery. It was an incredibly exciting find." He explained that the fossil dates back over 326 million years. This was 100 million years before the Age of the Dinosaurs. The researchers believe that the millipede had a high-nutrient diet because it was so huge. They said: "While we can't know for sure what they ate, there were plenty of nutritious nuts and seeds available... at the time." They may also have eaten frogs and lizards, but no humans (or any of our ancient ancestors).

# FREE WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2021/12/23-giant-millipede.html>

Write about **giant insects** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner’s paper.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---





# 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. GIANT INSECTS:** Make a poster about giant insects. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. INSECT HELP:** Write a magazine article about people who are afraid of insects getting help to get over their fear. 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 giant insects. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your thoughts on the idea of car-sized insects. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F    2 F    3 T    4 T    5 T    6 T    7 F    8 F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. A beach
2. 1,000 legs
3. 1,300
4. Over 50kg
5. Insect spray
6. The University of Cambridge
7. A cliff
8. Over 326 million years ago
9. Nuts and seeds
10. Humans

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. This monster creature had hundreds of legs.
2. There's one species that can have 1,300 legs.
3. It's definitely the biggest bug that ever lived.
4. This would have been a scary sight.
5. It'd need huge amounts of insect spray.
6. The scientists found the fossil by chance.
7. It had recently fallen from a cliff.
8. Researchers believe the millipede had a high-nutrient diet.
9. We can't know for sure what they ate.
10. They may also have eaten frogs and lizards.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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