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**Level 6 – 2nd October 2023**

## France battles to stop spread of bedbugs

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231002-bedbugs.html>

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

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231002-bedbugs.html>

France is coming under attack from a tiny menace – the bedbug. Many videos have been posted on social media with footage of the bugs crawling around in trains on the Paris metro. Sightings have also been reported in cinemas, museums, and even at Paris' Charles de Gaulle airport. Emmanuel Gregoire, the deputy mayor of Paris, admitted there was a proliferation of the minute creatures. He reassured people by saying his government was taking action to deal with the "widespread" rise in bedbugs. He also said: "You have to understand that in reality, no one is safe. Obviously, there are risk factors, but, you can catch bedbugs anywhere in the world and bring them home."

France's bedbug problem is not new. Three years ago, the government launched an anti-bedbug campaign to reduce the incidences of infestations in cities. However, despite introducing several measures, the numbers of the blood-sucking insects have surged. A new initiative is being introduced to cut bug populations, ahead of the Paris Olympics in 2024. This includes hiring fumigation companies to help exterminate the bugs. Mr Gregoire said: "There is no threat to the Olympic Games." He said: "Bedbugs existed before and they will exist afterwards." A sanitation expert agreed. She said the problem was, "an emerging phenomenon...almost everywhere in the world".

Sources: <https://edition.cnn.com/2023/09/30/europe/france-bedbugs-paris-intl-hnk/index.html>  
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/sep/29/bedbug-crisis-political-row-paris-insect-scourge-continues>  
<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/france-races-stamp-out-bedbug-scourge-before-olympics-2023-09-29/>

# WARM-UPS

**1. BEDBUGS:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about bedbugs. 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?

France / menace / bedbugs / cinemas / airport / proliferation / creatures / risk / problem / campaign / infestation / insects / initiative / Olympics / sanitation / expert

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

**3. EXTERMINATION:** Students A **strongly** believe we should exterminate all bedbugs; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. MENACES:** What do you know about these menaces? How can we deal with them? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What I Know	How We Can Deal with Them
Bed bugs		
Locusts		
Termites		
Hornets		
Slugs		
Aphids		

**5. TINY:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "tiny". 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 most interesting bugs at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Bedbugs
- Ladybirds / Ladybugs
- Fleas
- Centipedes
- Stink bugs
- Ticks
- Spiders
- Mosquitoes

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 1. menace        | a. An instance of seeing or catching sight of something.                                     |
| 2. footage       | b. A circumstance, fact, or influence that contributes to a result.                          |
| 3. crawling      | c. A person or thing that is likely to cause harm; a threat or danger.                       |
| 4. sighting      | d. Of an insect or small animal moving slowly along a surface.                               |
| 5. proliferation | e. Part of a cinema or television film recording a particular event.                         |
| 6. minute        | f. Rapid increase in the number or amount of something, typically something unusual or rare. |
| 7. factor        | g. Very, very small.   |

## Paragraph 2

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 8. incidence    | h. The presence of an unusually large number of insects or animals in a place, typically so as to cause damage or disease. |
| 9. infestation  | i. A plan or course of action taken to achieve a particular purpose.   |
| 10. measure     | j. The action or process of disinfecting or purifying an area with the the smoke of certain chemicals.                     |
| 11. surged      | k. The occurrence, rate, or frequency of a disease, crime, or other undesirable thing.                                     |
| 12. initiative  | l. Destroy (a pest) completely.  |
| 13. fumigation  | m. A strategy intended to resolve a difficulty or improve a situation; a fresh approach to something.                      |
| 14. exterminate | n. A sudden large increase, usually a temporary one.   |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231002-bedbugs.html>

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

1. People posted videos on social media of bedbugs attacking people. **T / F**
2. Bedbugs are arriving in France through international airports. **T / F**
3. Paris' deputy mayor said there was no bedbug problem. **T / F**
4. Paris' deputy mayor said bedbugs are all over the world. **T / F**
5. France had an anti-bedbug drive three years ago. **T / F**
6. The article called bedbugs 'blood-sucking' insects. **T / F**
7. Paris' deputy mayor said bedbugs would be a problem at the Olympics. **T / F**
8. A sanitation expert said bedbugs were decreasing worldwide. **T / F**

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

- |                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. <b>menace</b>        | a. drive          |
| 2. <b>crawling</b>      | b. rapid increase |
| 3. <b>proliferation</b> | c. actions        |
| 4. <b>minute</b>        | d. strategy       |
| 5. <b>rise</b>          | e. occurrence     |
| 6. <b>campaign</b>      | f. creeping       |
| 7. <b>measures</b>      | g. hike           |
| 8. <b>initiative</b>    | h. kill           |
| 9. <b>exterminate</b>   | i. nuisance       |
| 10. <b>phenomenon</b>   | j. tiny           |

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

- |                                       |                            |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. France is coming under attack from | a. sucking insects         |
| 2. footage                            | b. minute creatures        |
| 3. there was a proliferation of the   | c. exterminate the bugs    |
| 4. in reality,                        | d. factors                 |
| 5. risk                               | e. an anti-bedbug campaign |
| 6. the government launched            | f. being introduced        |
| 7. reduce the incidences of           | g. no one is safe          |
| 8. numbers of the blood-              | h. of the bugs             |
| 9. A new initiative is                | i. infestations            |
| 10. fumigation companies to help      | j. a tiny menace           |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231002-bedbugs.html>

France is coming under attack from a tiny (1) \_\_\_\_\_  
– the bedbug. Many videos have been posted on social media with  
(2) \_\_\_\_\_ of the bugs crawling around in trains on  
the Paris metro. Sightings have also been (3) \_\_\_\_\_  
in cinemas, museums, and even at Paris' Charles de Gaulle  
airport. Emmanuel Gregoire, the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ mayor of  
Paris, admitted there was a proliferation of the  
(5) \_\_\_\_\_ creatures. He (6) \_\_\_\_\_  
people by saying his government was taking action to deal with  
the "widespread" (7) \_\_\_\_\_ in bedbugs. He also said:  
"You have to understand that in reality, no one is safe. Obviously,  
there are risk (8) \_\_\_\_\_, but, you can catch bedbugs  
anywhere in the world and bring them home."

*reported*  
*minute*  
*factors*  
*menace*  
*rise*  
*deputy*  
*footage*  
*reassured*

France's bedbug problem is not new. Three years ago, the  
government (9) \_\_\_\_\_ an anti-bedbug campaign to  
reduce the incidences of (10) \_\_\_\_\_ in cities.  
However, despite introducing several measures, the numbers of  
the blood-(11) \_\_\_\_\_ insects have surged. A new  
(12) \_\_\_\_\_ is being introduced to cut bug populations,  
ahead of the Paris Olympics in 2024. This includes hiring  
(13) \_\_\_\_\_ companies to help exterminate the bugs.  
Mr Gregoire said: "There is no (14) \_\_\_\_\_ to the  
Olympic Games." He said: "Bedbugs existed before and they will  
exist afterwards." A (15) \_\_\_\_\_ expert agreed. She  
said the problem was, "an (16) \_\_\_\_\_  
phenomenon...almost everywhere in the world".

*fumigation*  
*infestations*  
*emerging*  
*launched*  
*sanitation*  
*initiative*  
*threat*  
*sucking*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231002-bedbugs.html>

- 1) France is coming under attack from \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. a tiny furnace
  - b. a tiny minutes
  - c. a tiny menace
  - d. a tiny manifest
- 2) Many videos have been posted on social \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. media with footage
  - b. media with footing
  - c. media with footprint
  - d. media with footstep
- 3) the deputy mayor of Paris, admitted there was a proliferation of \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the my newt creatures
  - b. the mine ute creatures
  - c. the mine newt creatures
  - d. the minute creatures
- 4) by saying his government was taking action to deal with \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the widespread rise
  - b. the widespread risen
  - c. the widespread arise
  - d. the widespread writhes
- 5) Obviously, there \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. are risqué factors
  - b. are brisk factors
  - c. are risk factors
  - d. are risks factors
- 6) the government launched an anti-bedbug campaign to reduce the \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. incident soft infestations
  - b. incident off infestations
  - c. incidences of infestations
  - d. coincidence of infestations
- 7) the numbers of the blood-sucking \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. insects have purged
  - b. insects have surged
  - c. insects have urged
  - d. insects have merged
- 8) A new initiative is being introduced to \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. gut bug populations
  - b. cute bug populations
  - c. rut bug populations
  - d. cut bug populations
- 9) This includes hiring fumigation companies to help \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. extra-migrate the bugs
  - b. exterminate the bugs
  - c. examine ate the bugs
  - d. inter mine at the bugs
- 10) A sanitation expert agreed. She said the problem was \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. an emerge in phenomenon
  - b. an emergence phenomenon
  - c. an emerging phenomenon
  - d. an emir gin phenomenon

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231002-bedbugs.html>

France is coming under attack from (1) \_\_\_\_\_ – the bedbug. Many videos have been posted on social (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of the bugs crawling around in trains on the Paris metro. (3) \_\_\_\_\_ been reported in cinemas, museums, and even at Paris' Charles de Gaulle airport. Emmanuel Gregoire, the deputy mayor of Paris, admitted there was a proliferation of (4) \_\_\_\_\_. He reassured people by saying his government was taking action to deal with (5) \_\_\_\_\_ in bedbugs. He also said: "You have to understand that in reality, no one is safe. Obviously, there (6) \_\_\_\_\_, but, you can catch bedbugs anywhere in the world and bring them home."

France's bedbug problem is not new. Three years ago, the government launched an anti-bedbug campaign to reduce the (7) \_\_\_\_\_ in cities. However, despite (8) \_\_\_\_\_, the numbers of the blood-sucking insects have surged. A (9) \_\_\_\_\_ being introduced to cut bug populations, ahead of the Paris Olympics in 2024. This includes hiring fumigation companies to (10) \_\_\_\_\_ bugs. Mr Gregoire said: "There is no threat to the Olympic Games." He said: "Bedbugs existed before and they will exist afterwards." A (11) \_\_\_\_\_. She said the problem (12) \_\_\_\_\_ phenomenon...almost everywhere in the world".



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231002-bedbugs.html>

1. What does the writer call bedbugs in the first sentence?
2. What transport hub have bedbugs been spotted at?
3. Who said there was a proliferation of bedbugs?
4. Who did Paris' deputy mayor say was safe from bedbugs?
5. Where did Paris' deputy mayor say you could catch bedbugs?
6. When did France's government launch an anti-bedbug campaign?
7. What does the article say bedbugs suck?
8. What kind of companies will help to exterminate the bedbugs?
9. What did Paris' deputy mayor say bedbugs would not affect?
10. Who said bedbugs were an emerging phenomenon worldwide?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231002-bedbugs.html>

- 1) What does the writer call bedbugs in the first sentence?
  - a) monsters
  - b) a tiny menace
  - c) blood suckers
  - d) terrifying
- 2) What transport hub have bedbugs been spotted at?
  - a) a Eurostar station
  - b) Gard du Nord
  - c) the port at Calais
  - d) Charles de Gaulle airport
- 3) Who said there was a proliferation of bedbugs?
  - a) Paris' deputy mayor
  - b) a bedbug expert
  - c) a bed manufacturer
  - d) a fumigation company
- 4) Who did Paris' deputy mayor say was safe from bedbugs?
  - a) children
  - b) people who are resistant to bedbugs
  - c) no one
  - d) the rich
- 5) Where did Paris' deputy mayor say you could catch bedbugs?
  - a) in bunk beds
  - b) anywhere in the world
  - c) in water beds
  - d) southern Europe
- 6) When did France's government launch an anti-bedbug campaign?
  - a) three years ago
  - b) a decade ago
  - c) in the early 70s
  - d) 1999
- 7) What does the article say bedbugs suck?
  - a) their thumbs
  - b) sheets
  - c) blood
  - d) mattresses
- 8) What kind of companies will help to exterminate the bedbugs?
  - a) fumigation companies
  - b) chemical companies
  - c) bed manufacturers
  - d) landscape gardeners
- 9) What did Paris' deputy mayor say bedbugs would not affect?
  - a) the 2024 Paris Olympics
  - b) transport
  - c) the Champs Elysée
  - d) cheese
- 10) Who said bedbugs were an emerging phenomenon worldwide?
  - a) entomologists
  - b) a biologist
  - c) people on social media
  - d) a sanitation expert

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231002-bedbugs.html>

## **Role A – Bedbugs**

You think bedbugs are the most interesting bugs. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their bugs. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): ladybugs, stink bugs or fleas.

## **Role B – Ladybugs - UK (Ladybirds - USA)**

You think ladybugs are the most interesting bugs. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their bugs. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): bedbugs, stink bugs or fleas.

## **Role C – Stink Bugs**

You think stink bugs are the most interesting bugs. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their bugs. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): ladybugs, bedbugs or fleas.

## **Role D – Fleas**

You think fleas are the most interesting bugs. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their bugs. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): ladybugs, stink bugs or bedbugs.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231002-bedbugs.html>

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

<b>bedbug</b>	<b>battle</b>
---------------	---------------

- 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>• menace</li><li>• crawling</li><li>• admitted</li><li>• reassured</li><li>• understand</li><li>• risk</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• new</li><li>• reduce</li><li>• surged</li><li>• hiring</li><li>• threat</li><li>• problem</li></ul>
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# BEDBUGS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231002-bedbugs.html>

Write five GOOD questions about bedbugs 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.

# BEDBUGS 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 'bedbug'?
3. What do you know about bedbugs?
4. What harm can bedbugs cause?
5. Do you have any experiences of bedbugs?
6. How can we deal with bedbugs?
7. What bugs do you like and dislike?
8. What would you do if your bed was infested with bedbugs?
9. Why has there been a rise in bedbugs around the world?
10. What do bedbugs look like?

*France battles to stop spread of bedbugs – 2nd October 2023*  
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# BEDBUGS 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 'attack'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you think about bedbugs?
15. What other blood-sucking insects do you know of?
16. How might bedbugs be a problem for the Paris Olympics?
17. What's the best way to exterminate bedbugs?
18. What purpose do bedbugs serve in the natural world?
19. What do you know about bedbug bites?
20. What questions would you like to ask someone with bedbug bites?

# 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//2310/231002-bedbugs.html>

France is coming (1) \_\_\_\_\_ attack from a tiny menace – the bedbug. Many videos have been posted on social media with (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of the bugs crawling around in trains on the Paris metro. (3) \_\_\_\_\_ have also been reported in cinemas, museums, and even at Paris' Charles de Gaulle airport. Emmanuel Gregoire, the deputy mayor of Paris, admitted there was a proliferation of the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ creatures. He reassured people by saying his government was taking action to (5) \_\_\_\_\_ with the "widespread" rise in bedbugs. He also said: "You have to understand that in reality, no one is safe. Obviously, there are risk factors, but, you can (6) \_\_\_\_\_ bedbugs anywhere in the world and bring them home."

France's bedbug problem is not new. Three years ago, the government launched an anti-bedbug campaign to reduce the (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of infestations in cities. However, despite introducing several measures, the numbers of the blood-(8) \_\_\_\_\_ insects have surged. A new initiative is being introduced to cut bug (9) \_\_\_\_\_, ahead of the Paris Olympics in 2024. (10) \_\_\_\_\_ includes hiring fumigation companies to help exterminate the bugs. Mr Gregoire said: "There is no threat to the Olympic Games." He said: "Bedbugs existed before and they will exist (11) \_\_\_\_\_." A sanitation expert agreed. She said (12) \_\_\_\_\_ problem was, "an emerging phenomenon...almost everywhere in the world".

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

- |     |                 |                  |                 |                   |
|-----|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1.  | (a) above       | (b) below        | (c) under       | (d) over          |
| 2.  | (a) footage     | (b) footing      | (c) footer      | (d) foots         |
| 3.  | (a) Sightings   | (b) Viewings     | (c) Look-ins    | (d) Watches       |
| 4.  | (a) minute      | (b) second       | (c) quarter     | (d) humungous     |
| 5.  | (a) account     | (b) exterminate  | (c) hand        | (d) deal          |
| 6.  | (a) haul        | (b) fish         | (c) net         | (d) catch         |
| 7.  | (a) incidences  | (b) coincidences | (c) insistences | (d) incinerations |
| 8.  | (a) skulking    | (b) sulking      | (c) soaking     | (d) sucking       |
| 9.  | (a) populations | (b) populace     | (c) populated   | (d) populates     |
| 10. | (a) There       | (b) This         | (c) Which       | (d) Thus          |
| 11. | (a) accordingly | (b) afterwards   | (c) hence       | (d) ergo          |
| 12. | (a) the         | (b) such         | (c) a           | (d) thus          |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231002-bedbugs.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. under attack from a tiny anecm
2. etagofo of the bugs crawling around
3. the ypudet mayor of Paris
4. a fripltinareoo of the minute creatures
5. He esadursre people
6. there are risk rsacoft

## Paragraph 2

7. the secnincdei of infestations
8. numbers of the blood-sucking insects have uresgd
9. This includes hiring utiofmngani companies
10. help rxtneateiem the bugs
11. A natiisonta expert agreed
12. an emerging nehopmneon

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231002-bedbugs.html>

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

- ( ) rise in bedbugs. He also said: "You have to understand that in reality, no one is safe. Obviously, there are risk
- ( **1** ) France is coming under attack from a tiny menace – the bedbug. Many videos have been posted on social media with
- ( ) measures, the numbers of the blood-sucking insects have surged. A new initiative is being introduced to cut bug
- ( ) footage of the bugs crawling around in trains on the Paris metro. Sightings have also been
- ( ) factors, but, you can catch bedbugs anywhere in the world and bring them home."
- ( ) mayor of Paris, admitted there was a proliferation of the minute creatures. He reassured people
- ( ) by saying his government was taking action to deal with the "widespread"
- ( ) populations, ahead of the Paris Olympics in 2024. This includes hiring fumigation companies to help
- ( ) reported in cinemas, museums, and even at Paris' Charles de Gaulle airport. Emmanuel Gregoire, the deputy
- ( ) France's bedbug problem is not new. Three years ago, the government launched
- ( ) an anti-bedbug campaign to reduce the incidences of infestations in cities. However, despite introducing several
- ( ) exterminate the bugs. Mr Gregoire said: "There is no threat to the Olympic Games." He said: "Bedbugs
- ( ) existed before and they will exist afterwards." A sanitation expert agreed. She said
- ( ) the problem was, "an emerging phenomenon...almost everywhere in the world".

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231002-bedbugs.html>

1. France tiny menace . under is from attack a
2. of crawling in Footage around bugs the trains .
3. was the minute proliferation creatures . There of a
4. widespread Action rise . deal the with to
5. in can bedbugs catch You the world . anywhere
6. numbers the surged . The of blood-sucking insects have
7. new A cut introduced bug to initiative, populations .
8. companies fumigation bugs . to help the Hiring exterminate
9. before existed exist Bedbugs and will afterwards . they
10. world . everywhere phenomenon almost emerging the in An

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231002-bedbugs.html>

France is coming *under / over* attack from a tiny menace – the bedbug. Many videos have been posted *in / on* social media with footage of the bugs crawling *around / abound* in trains on the Paris metro. Sightings have also been reported in cinemas, museums, and *even / ever* at Paris' Charles de Gaulle airport. Emmanuel Gregoire, the deputy mayor *at / of* Paris, admitted there was a *proliferation / profiterole* of the minute creatures. He reassured people *of / by* saying his government was taking action to deal *at / with* the "widespread" rise in bedbugs. He also said: "You have to understand that in reality, no one is safe. Obviously, there are risk *factors / factories*, but, you can catch bedbugs anywhere in the world and *bring / emigrate* them home."

France's bedbug problem is not new. Three years ago, the government *launched / rocketed* an anti-bedbug campaign to reduce the *incident / incidences* of infestations in cities. However, despite introducing several *measures / measurements*, the numbers of the blood-sucking insects have *usurped / surged*. A new initiative is being introduced to cut bug *populace / populations*, ahead *of / on* the Paris Olympics in 2024. This includes hiring fumigation companies to help *exonerate / exterminate* the bugs. Mr Gregoire said: "There is no *treat / threat* to the Olympic Games." He said: "Bedbugs existed before and they will *exist / desist* afterwards." A sanitation expert agreed. She said the problem was, "an *exciting / emerging* phenomenon...almost everywhere in the world".

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

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Fr\_nc\_ \_s c\_m\_ng \_nd\_r \_tt\_ck fr\_m \_ t\_ny m\_n\_c\_ -  
th\_ b\_db\_g. M\_ny v\_d\_\_s h\_v\_ b\_\_n p\_st\_d \_n s\_c\_\_l  
m\_d\_\_ w\_th f\_\_t\_g\_ \_f th\_ b\_gs cr\_wl\_ng \_r\_\_nd \_n  
tr\_\_ns \_n th\_ P\_r\_s m\_tr\_. S\_ght\_ngs h\_v\_ \_ls\_ b\_\_n  
r\_p\_rt\_d \_n c\_n\_m\_s, m\_s\_\_ms, \_nd \_v\_n \_t P\_r\_s'  
Ch\_rl\_s d\_ G\_\_ll\_ \_\_rp\_rt. \_mm\_n\_\_l Gr\_g\_\_r\_, th\_  
d\_p\_ty m\_y\_r \_f P\_r\_s, \_dm\_tt\_d th\_r\_ w\_s \_  
pr\_l\_f\_r\_t\_\_n \_f th\_ m\_n\_t\_ cr\_\_t\_r\_s. H\_ r\_\_ss\_r\_d  
p\_\_pl\_ by s\_y\_ng h\_s g\_v\_rnm\_nt w\_s t\_k\_ng \_ct\_\_n  
t\_ d\_\_l w\_th th\_ "w\_d\_spr\_\_d" r\_s\_ \_n b\_db\_gs. H\_  
\_ls\_ s\_\_d: "Y\_\_ h\_v\_ t\_ \_nd\_rst\_nd th\_t \_n r\_\_l\_ty n\_  
\_n\_ \_s s\_f\_. \_bv\_\_sly, th\_r\_ \_r\_ r\_sk f\_ct\_rs, b\_t,  
y\_\_ c\_n c\_tch b\_db\_gs \_nywh\_r\_ \_n th\_ w\_rld \_nd  
br\_ng th\_m h\_m\_."

Fr\_nc\_'s b\_db\_g pr\_bl\_m \_s n\_t n\_w. Thr\_\_ y\_\_rs \_g\_,  
th\_ g\_v\_rnm\_nt l\_\_nch\_d \_n \_nt\_-b\_db\_g c\_mp\_\_gn t\_  
r\_d\_c\_ th\_ \_nc\_d\_nc\_s \_f \_nf\_st\_t\_\_ns \_n c\_t\_\_s.  
H\_w\_v\_r, d\_sp\_t\_ \_ntr\_d\_c\_ng s\_v\_r\_l m\_\_s\_r\_s, th\_  
n\_mb\_rs \_f th\_ bl\_\_d-s\_ck\_ng \_ns\_cts h\_v\_ s\_rg\_d. \_  
n\_w \_n\_t\_\_t\_v\_ \_s b\_\_ng \_ntr\_d\_c\_d t\_ c\_t b\_g  
p\_p\_l\_t\_\_ns, \_h\_\_d \_f th\_ P\_r\_s \_lymp\_cs \_n 2024.  
Th\_s \_ncl\_d\_s h\_r\_ng f\_m\_g\_t\_\_n c\_mp\_n\_\_s t\_ h\_lp  
\_xt\_rm\_n\_t\_ th\_ b\_gs. Mr Gr\_g\_\_r\_ s\_\_d: "Th\_r\_ \_s n\_  
thr\_\_t t\_ th\_ \_lymp\_c G\_m\_s." H\_ s\_\_d: "B\_db\_gs  
\_x\_st\_d b\_f\_r\_ \_nd th\_y w\_ll \_x\_st \_ft\_rw\_rds." \_  
s\_n\_t\_t\_\_n \_xp\_rt \_gr\_\_d. Sh\_ s\_\_d th\_ pr\_bl\_m w\_s,  
"\_n \_m\_rg\_ng ph\_n\_m\_n\_n...\_lm\_st \_v\_rywh\_r\_ \_n th\_  
w\_rld".

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231002-bedbugs.html>

france is coming under attack from a tiny menace the bedbug many videos have been posted on social media with footage of the bugs crawling around in trains on the paris metro sightings have also been reported in cinemas museums and even at paris charles de gaulle airport emmanuel gregoire the deputy mayor of paris admitted there was a proliferation of the minute creatures he reassured people by saying his government was taking action to deal with the widespread rise in bedbugs he also said you have to understand that in reality, no one is safe obviously there are risk factors but you can catch bedbugs anywhere in the world and bring them home

frances bedbug problem is not new three years ago the government launched an antibedbug campaign to reduce the incidences of infestations in cities however despite introducing several measures the numbers of the bloodsucking insects have surged a new initiative is being introduced to cut bug populations ahead of the paris olympics in 2024 this includes hiring fumigation companies to help exterminate the bugs mr gregoire said there is no threat to the olympic games he said bedbugs existed before and they will exist afterwards a sanitation expert agreed she said the problem was an emerging phenomenon almost everywhere in the world

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com//2310/231002-bedbugs.html>

France is coming under attack from a tiny menace – the bedbug. Many videos have been posted on social media with footage of the bugs scrawling around in trains on the Paris metro. Sightings have also been reported in cinemas, museums, and even at Paris' Charles de Gaulle airport. Emmanuel Gregoire, the deputy mayor of Paris, admitted there was a proliferation of the minute creatures. He reassured people by saying his government was taking action to deal with the "widespread" rise in bedbugs. He also said: "You have to understand that in reality, no one is safe. Obviously, there are risk factors, but, you can catch bedbugs anywhere in the world and bring them home." France's bedbug problem is not new. Three years ago, the government launched an anti-bedbug campaign to reduce the incidences of infestations in cities. However, despite introducing several measures, the numbers of the blood-sucking insect have surged. A new initiative is being introduced to cut bug populations, ahead of the Paris Olympics in 2024. This includes hiring fumigation companies to help exterminate the bugs. Mr Gregoire said: "There is no threat to the Olympic Games." He said: "Bedbugs existed before and they will exist afterwards." A sanitation expert agreed. She said the problem was, "an emerging phenomenon ... almost everywhere in the world".







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

**4. EXTERMINATION:** Write a magazine article about exterminating all bedbugs. 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 bedbugs. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to deal with these tiny creatures. 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)

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

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. A tiny menace
2. Charles de Gaulle airport
3. Paris' deputy mayor
4. No one
5. Anywhere in the world
6. Three years ago
7. Blood
8. Fumigation companies
9. The 2024 Paris Olympics
10. A sanitation expert

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

1. France is under attack from a tiny menace.
2. Footage of the bugs crawling around in trains.
3. There was a proliferation of the minute creatures.
4. Action to deal with the widespread rise.
5. You can catch bedbugs anywhere in the world.
6. The numbers of the blood-sucking insects have surged.
7. A new initiative, introduced to cut bug populations.
8. Hiring fumigation companies to help exterminate the bugs.
9. Bedbugs existed before and they will exist afterwards.
10. An emerging phenomenon almost everywhere in the world.

## 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 ;-)