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Level 6 – 17th November 2025

Japan creates emergency plan to stop bear attacks

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https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251117-japanese-bear-attacks.html

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

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THE ARTICLE

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251117-japanese-bear-attacks.html

Japan's government has created emergency measures to address record numbers of bear attacks. The Ministry of Environment reported that 13 people have been killed, and more than 100 have been injured by bears since April. The death toll is the highest since records began in 2006. Wildlife management experts have devised a plan to reduce the increasing numbers of fatalities, injuries, and encounters with bears. Part of this plan is to reduce bear populations in areas where the animals have been sighted. Another feature is the establishment of region-specific capture targets. Authorities will also set up a buffer zone in many areas to try to separate bear habitats from human residential areas.

There are two species of bear in Japan and their numbers have surged in the past decade. Estimates suggest the Asian black bear population has roughly tripled since 2012 — rising from about 15,000 to around 44,000. The larger and more dangerous Ussuri brown bears, native to the northern island of Hokkaido, have doubled in number. There are several reasons for the growth in bear populations. One is the shortage of beech nuts, which scientists attribute to climate change. Another reason is a declining number of licensed hunters, who were largely responsible for bear culls. Finally, a depopulation of rural areas means bears are venturing into towns and villages.

Sources: https://www.**japantimes.co.jp**/news/2025/11/14/japan/japan-bear-attacks-measures/
https://www.**aljazeera.com**/news/2025/11/14/whats-behind-a-surge-in-bear-attacks-in-japan
https://english.**kyodonews.net**/articles/-/64878

WARM-UPS

1. BEARS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about Bears. 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?

> Japan / government / bears / bear attacks / environment / plan / wildlife / rural areas
> species / the past decade / dangerous / nuts / climate change / hunters / villages

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

3. NO CULLS: Students A **strongly** believe it is wrong to cull wild animals; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. BEAR SPECIES: What do you know about these species of bear? What do you want to know? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What I Know	What I Want to Know
Grizzly bear		
Black bear		
Polar bear		
Giant panda		
Sloth bear		
Tibetan blue bear		

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

6. DANGEROUS CREATURES: Rank these with your partner. Put the most dangerous at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Bears
- Mosquitos
- Tarantulas
- Sharks
- Scorpions
- Pythons
- Murder hornets
- Wolves

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

1.	measures	a.	People who have died in an accident, wars, disasters, pandemics, etc.
2.	address	b.	An area that separates two places.
3.	toll	c.	Actions people take to solve a problem.
4.	devised	d.	Deal with or try to fix a problem.
5.	fatalities	e.	Planned or thought of.
6.	capture	f.	Take control of or catch.
7.	buffer zone	g.	The number of people hurt or killed.

Paragraph 2

8.	species	h.	The killing of some animals to control numbers.
9.	surged	i.	Say that something is caused by something.
10.	tripled	j.	Coming from a place originally.
11.	native	k.	A group of animals or plants that are the same type.
12.	attribute to	l.	Going somewhere new or dangerous.
13.	culls	m.	Went up quickly.
14.	venturing	n.	Became three times bigger or more.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251117-japanese-bear-attacks.html

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

1. Japan's government said bears have killed 13 people this year. **T / F**
2. The number of fatalities is the highest for over 100 years. **T / F**
3. Wildlife experts have revised a plan to keep a check on bear injuries. **T / F**
4. Authorities will create an area to keep bears away from housing areas. **T / F**
5. The number of black bears in Japan has risen three-fold since 2012. **T / F**
6. There are about 44,000 brown bears living on the island of Hokkaido. **T / F**
7. The number of bear hunters in Japan is going down. **T / F**
8. Bears are entering villages because of people leaving them. **T / F**

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

1. measures	a. increased three-fold
2. toll	b. came up with
3. devised	c. escalated
4. fatalities	d. scarcity
5. buffer	e. actions
6. surged	f. indigenous
7. tripled	g. deaths
8. native	h. straying
9. shortage	i. tally
10. venturing	j. cushion

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

1. Japan's government has created emergency	a. past decade
2. address record	b. fatalities
3. death	c. numbers
4. reduce the increasing numbers of	d. island of Hokkaido
5. separate bear habitats from human	e. culls
6. their numbers have surged in the	f. residential areas
7. the Asian black bear population has roughly	g. measures
8. native to the northern	h. tripled since 2012
9. responsible for bear	i. into towns
10. bears are venturing	j. toll

GAP FILL

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251117-japanese-bear-attacks.html

Japan's government has created emergency (1) _____ to address record numbers of bear attacks. The Ministry of Environment reported that 13 people have been killed, and more than 100 have been injured by bears since April. The death (2) _____ is the highest since records began in 2006. Wildlife management experts have (3) _____ a plan to reduce the increasing numbers of fatalities, injuries, and (4) _____ with bears. Part of this plan is to reduce bear populations in areas where the animals have been (5) _____. Another feature is the establishment of region-specific (6) _____ targets. Authorities will also set up a (7) _____ zone in many areas to try to separate bear (8) _____ from human residential areas.

devised

capture

measures

habitats

encounters

toll

sighted

buffer

There are two (9) _____ of bear in Japan and their numbers have surged in the past decade. Estimates suggest the Asian black bear population has roughly (10) _____ since 2012 — rising from about 15,000 to around 44,000. The larger and more dangerous Ussuri brown bears, (11) _____ to the northern island of Hokkaido, have doubled in number. There are (12) _____ reasons for the growth in bear populations. One is the (13) _____ of beech nuts, which scientists (14) _____ to climate change. Another reason is a declining number of licensed hunters, who were (15) _____ responsible for bear culls. Finally, a depopulation of rural areas means bears are (16) _____ into towns and villages.

attribute

species

shortage

native

venturing

largely

tripled

several

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251117-japanese-bear-attacks.html

1) Japan's government has created emergency measures to _____
   a. redress record numbers
   b. undress record numbers
   c. a dress record numbers
   d. address record numbers
2) reduce the increasing numbers of fatalities, injuries, and _____
   a. encounter with bears
   b. encounters wither bears
   c. encounters with bears
   d. encounters within bears
3) Another feature is the establishment of region-_____
   a. specify capture targets
   b. special capture targets
   c. specific capture targets
   d. specifics capture targets
4) Authorities will also set up _____
   a. a buffer zone
   b. a suffer zone
   c. a puffer zone
   d. a huffer zone
5) in many areas to try to separate bear habitats from _____
   a. human residential areas
   b. humane residential areas
   c. human residence area
   d. humane ready-dental areas
6) There are two species of bear in Japan and their _____
   a. numbers have splurged
   b. numbers have surged
   c. numbers have surge
   d. numbers have surging
7) Estimates suggest the Asian black bear population has roughly _____
   a. triplet since 2012
   b. triplets since 2012
   c. tripled since 2012
   d. triple since 2012
8) brown bears, native to the northern island of Hokkaido, have _____
   a. doubled on number
   b. doubled in number
   c. doubled at number
   d. doubled up number
9) Another reason is a declining number _____
   a. of licensed hunter
   b. off licensed hunters
   c. of licensed hunters
   d. of license hunters
10) Finally, a depopulation of rural areas means bears are _____
   a. venturing it to towns
   b. venturing unto towns
   c. venturing onto towns
   d. venturing into towns

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251117-japanese-bear-attacks.html

Japan's government has created emergency (1) _____ record numbers of bear attacks. The Ministry of Environment reported that 13 people have been killed, and more than 100 have been injured by bears since April. The (2) _____ the highest since records began in 2006. Wildlife management experts have devised a plan to reduce the increasing (3) _____, injuries, and encounters with bears. Part of this plan is to reduce bear populations in areas where the animals have been sighted. Another feature is (4) _____ region-specific capture targets. Authorities will also set up a (5) _____ many areas to try to separate bear habitats from (6) _____.

There are two species of bear in Japan and their (7) _____ in the past decade. Estimates suggest the Asian black bear population has (8) _____ 2012 — rising from about 15,000 to around 44,000. The larger and more dangerous Ussuri brown bears, (9) _____ northern island of Hokkaido, have doubled in number. There are several reasons for the growth in bear populations. One is (10) _____ beech nuts, which scientists (11) _____ change. Another reason is a declining number of licensed hunters, who were largely responsible for bear culls. Finally, a depopulation of rural areas means bears (12) _____ towns and villages.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251117-japanese-bear-attacks.html

1. What has Japan's government created to address record bear attacks?

2. How many people have bears injured since April?

3. When did Japan start keeping records of bear attacks?

4. Who came up with a plan to reduce increasing numbers of deaths?

5. What will authorities set up to separate bears and humans?

6. Roughly how many black bears are there in Japan?

7. By how much has the brown bear population increased in recent years?

8. What food are brown bears having problems finding?

9. What is happening to the number of licensed hunters in Japan?

10. What are bears doing as a result of depopulation in rural areas?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251117-japanese-bear-attacks.html

1) What has Japan's government created to address record bear attacks?
a) a bear database
b) emergency measures
c) special anti-bear spray
d) a CCTV network in the countryside

2) How many people have bears injured since April?
a) just fewer than 100
b) 121
c) more than 100
d) several dozen

3) When did Japan start keeping records of bear attacks?
a) 1906
b) 1956
c) 1996
d) 2006

4) Who came up with a plan to reduce increasing numbers of deaths?
a) the Japanese prime minister
b) wildlife management experts
c) a zoologist
d) bear hunters

5) What will authorities set up to separate bears and humans?
a) a buffer zone
b) a giant wall
c) a moat
d) a system of nets

6) Roughly how many black bears are there in Japan?
a) around 44,000
b) just fewer than 44,000
c) more than 44,000
d) exactly 44,000

7) By how much has the brown bear population increased in recent years?
a) It has tripled.
b) It has quadrupled.
c) It has increased ten-fold.
d) It has doubled.

8) What food are brown bears having problems finding?
a) chestnuts
b) acorns
c) beech nuts
d) salmon

9) What is happening to the number of licensed hunters in Japan?
a) It is fluctuating.
b) Nothing
c) It is escalating.
d) It is declining.

10) What are bears doing as a result of depopulation in rural areas?
a) making homes in abandoned houses
b) venturing into towns and villages
c) looking for fast food restaurants
d) becoming very confident

ROLE PLAY

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251117-japanese-bear-attacks.html

Role A – Bears

You think bears are the most dangerous creatures. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their creatures aren't so dangerous. Also, tell the others which is the least dangerous of these (and why): mosquitos, sharks or tarantulas.

Role B – Mosquitos

You think mosquitos are the most dangerous creatures. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their creatures aren't so dangerous. Also, tell the others which is the least dangerous of these (and why): bears, sharks or tarantulas.

Role C – Sharks

You think sharks are the most dangerous creatures. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their creatures aren't so dangerous. Also, tell the others which is the least dangerous of these (and why): mosquitos, bears or tarantulas.

Role D – Tarantulas

You think tarantulas are the most dangerous creatures. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their creatures aren't so dangerous. Also, tell the others which is the least dangerous of these (and why): mosquitos, sharks or bears.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251117-japanese-bear-attacks.html

1. WORD SEARCH: Look online / in your dictionary to find collocates, information on, synonyms for… the words 'bear' and 'attack'.

bear	**attack**

- 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:

• measures • 100 • 2006 • devised • part • zone	• two • since • native • growth • reason • finally

BEARS SURVEY

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251117-japanese-bear-attacks.html

Write five GOOD questions about Bears 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.

BEARS 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 'bear'?
3. What do you know about bears?
4. What should you do if you encounter a bear?
5. What dangerous animals are there in your country?
6. How can Japan reduce the numbers of fatalities from bear attacks?
7. What would you do if you sighted a bear?
8. Why are bears seen as cute in books and movies?
9. How important are bears?
10. What advice do you have for people living in areas with bears?

BEARS 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 of bears?
15. What bear species do you think is best?
16. Is the rising number of bears good or bad?
17. How is climate change affecting animal numbers?
18. What do you think of culling bears?
19. What should you do if a bear attacks?
20. What questions would you like to ask a bear hunter?

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/2511/251117-japanese-bear-attacks.html

Japan's government has created emergency measures to (1) _____ record numbers of bear attacks. The Ministry of Environment reported that 13 people have been killed, and more than 100 have been injured by bears since April. The death (2) _____ is the highest since records began in 2006. Wildlife management (3) _____ have devised a plan to reduce the increasing numbers of fatalities, injuries, and encounters (4) _____ bears. Part of this plan is to reduce bear populations in areas where the animals have been (5) _____. Another feature is the establishment of region-specific capture targets. Authorities will also set up a (6) _____ zone in many areas to try to separate bear habitats from human residential areas.

There are two species of bear in Japan and their numbers have (7) _____ in the past decade. Estimates suggest the Asian black bear population has roughly tripled since 2012 — rising from about 15,000 to around 44,000. The larger and more dangerous Ussuri brown bears, native (8) _____ the northern island of Hokkaido, have doubled (9) _____ number. There are several reasons for the growth in bear populations. One is the shortage of beech nuts, which scientists (10) _____ to climate change. Another reason is a declining number of (11) _____ hunters, who were largely responsible for bear culls. Finally, a depopulation of rural areas means bears are (12) _____ into towns and villages.

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

1.	(a)	label	(b)	envelope	(c)	mail	(d)	address
2.	(a)	tool	(b)	toil	(c)	atoll	(d)	toll
3.	(a)	expats	(b)	experts	(c)	expertise	(d)	exports
4.	(a)	by	(b)	at	(c)	with	(d)	on
5.	(a)	sated	(b)	slighted	(c)	sighted	(d)	sought
6.	(a)	buffer	(b)	duffer	(c)	puffer	(d)	suffer
7.	(a)	doubted	(b)	surged	(c)	realized	(d)	capitulated
8.	(a)	to	(b)	of	(c)	at	(d)	up
9.	(a)	at	(b)	in	(c)	of	(d)	to
10.	(a)	attributive	(b)	attribution	(c)	attribute	(d)	attributing
11.	(a)	licentious	(b)	lice	(c)	licensed	(d)	lice-ridden
12.	(a)	plunging	(b)	enterprising	(c)	vacationing	(d)	venturing

SPELLING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251117-japanese-bear-attacks.html

Paragraph 1

1. emergency smaeesur

2. death lotl

3. the increasing numbers of tilatsfiea

4. the establishment of region-specific auprtce targets

5. set up a bfferu zone

6. human niaitsedler areas

Paragraph 2

7. two ipsesec of bear

8. their numbers have sredgu

9. the eahgtsro of beech nuts

10. which scientists etritaubt to climate change

11. a declining number of eelcndis hunters

12. bears are netnivurg into towns

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251117-japanese-bear-attacks.html

Number these lines in the correct order.

( ) animals have been sighted. Another feature is the establishment of region-specific capture targets. Authorities will also set

( ) culls. Finally, a depopulation of rural areas means bears are venturing into towns and villages.

( ) decade. Estimates suggest the Asian black bear population has roughly tripled

( ) encounters with bears. Part of this plan is to reduce bear populations in areas where the

( ) experts have devised a plan to reduce the increasing numbers of fatalities, injuries, and

( ) growth in bear populations. One is the shortage of beech nuts, which scientists attribute

( ) injured by bears since April. The death toll is the highest since records began in 2006. Wildlife management

(***1***) Japan's government has created emergency measures to address record numbers

( ) of bear attacks. The Ministry of Environment reported that 13 people have been killed, and more than 100 have been

( ) since 2012 — rising from about 15,000 to around 44,000. The larger and more dangerous Ussuri brown bears, native

( ) There are two species of bear in Japan and their numbers have surged in the past

( ) to climate change. Another reason is a declining number of licensed hunters, who were largely responsible for bear

( ) to the northern island of Hokkaido, have doubled in number. There are several reasons for the

( ) up a buffer zone in many areas to try to separate bear habitats from human residential areas.

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251117-japanese-bear-attacks.html

1. to Measures record address of numbers attacks bear .

2. More 100 than been have by injured bears .

3. tolls Death the are since highest began records .

4. Plans reduce to increasing the of numbers fatalities .

5. up Set buffer a in zone areas many .

6. There two are of species in bear Japan .

7. numbers Their surged have the in decade past .

8. Several for reasons growth the bear in populations .

9. is One shortage the beech of nuts .

10. reason Another a is number declining hunters of .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251117-japanese-bear-attacks.html

Japan's government has created emergency *measurements / measures* to address record numbers of bear attacks. The Ministry of Environment *reported / retorted* that 13 people have been killed, and more than 100 have been *injured / injurious* by bears since April. The death *atoll / toll* is the highest since *record / records* began in 2006. Wildlife management experts have *devised / defiled* a plan to reduce the increasing numbers of fatalities, injuries, and encounters *with / at* bears. Part of this plan is to reduce bear populations in areas where the animals have been *sighted / sighting*. Another feature is the establishment *at / of* region-specific capture targets. Authorities will also set up a buffer zone in many areas to try to separate bear habitats *of / from* human residential areas.

There are two species of bear in Japan and their numbers have *splurged / surged* in the past decade. *Estimates / Estimation* suggest the Asian black bear population has *roughed / roughly* tripled since 2012 — rising from about 15,000 to around 44,000. The larger and more dangerous Ussuri brown bears, native *at / to* the northern island of Hokkaido, have doubled *in / to* number. There are several reasons for the growth *in / on* bear populations. One is the *shortage / shortening* of beech nuts, which scientists attribute *to / of* climate change. Another reason is a declining number of licensed hunters, who were largely responsible *for / at* bear culls. Finally, a depopulation of rural areas means bears are *venting / venturing* into towns and villages.

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)

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251117-japanese-bear-attacks.html

J_p_n's g_v_rnm_nt h_s cr__t_d _m_rg_ncy m__s_r_s t_ _ddr_ss r_c_rd n_mb_rs _f b__r _tt_cks. Th_ M_n_stry _f _nv_r_nm_nt r_p_rt_d th_t 13 p__pl_ h_v_ b__n k_ll_d, _nd m_r_ th_n 100 h_v_ b__n _nj_r_d by b__rs s_nc_ _pr_l. Th_ d__th t_ll _s th_ h_gh_st s_nc_ r_c_rds b_g_n _n 2006. W_ldl_f_ m_n_g_m_nt _xp_rts h_v_ d_v_s_d _ pl_n t_ r_d_c_ th_ _ncr__s_ng n_mb_rs _f f_t_l_t__s, _nj_r__s, _nd _nc__nt_rs w_th b__rs. P_rt _f th_s pl_n _s t_ r_d_c_ b__r p_p_l_t__ns _n _r__s wh_r_ th_ _n_m_ls h_v_ b__n s_ght_d. _n_th_r f__t_r_ _s th_ _st_bl_shm_nt _f r_g__n-sp_c_f_c c_pt_r_ t_rg_ts. __th_r_t__s w_ll _ls_ s_t _p _ b_ff_r z_n_ _n m_ny _r__s t_ try t_ s_p_r_t_ b__r h_b_t_ts fr_m h_m_n r_s_d_nt__l _r__s.

Th_r_ _r_ tw_ sp_c__s _f b__r _n J_p_n _nd th__r n_mb_rs h_v_ s_rg_d _n th_ p_st d_c_d_. _st_m_t_s s_gg_st th_ _s__n bl_ck b__r p_p_l_t__n h_s r__ghly tr_pl_d s_nc_ 2012 — r_s_ng fr_m _b__t 15,000 t_ _r__nd 44,000. Th_ l_rg_r _nd m_r_ d_ng_r__s _ss_r_ br_wn b__rs, n_t_v_ t_ th_ n_rth_rn _sl_nd _f H_kk__d_, h_v_ d__bl_d _n n_mb_r. Th_r_ _r_ s_v_r_l r__s_ns f_r th_ gr_wth _n b__r p_p_l_t__ns. _n_ _s th_ sh_rt_g_ _f b__ch n_ts, wh_ch sc__nt_sts _ttr_b_t_ t_ cl_m_t_ ch_ng_. _n_th_r r__s_n _s _ d_cl_n_ng n_mb_r _f l_c_ns_d h_nt_rs, wh_ w_r_ l_rg_ly r_sp_ns_bl_ f_r b__r c_lls. F_n_lly, _ d_p_p_l_t__n _f r_r_l _r__s m__ns b__rs _r_ v_nt_r_ng _nt_ t_wns _nd v_ll_g_s.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251117-japanese-bear-attacks.html

japans government has created emergency measures to address record numbers of bear attacks the ministry of environment reported that 13 people have been killed and more than 100 have been injured by bears since april the death toll is the highest since records began in 2006 wildlife management experts have devised a plan to reduce the increasing numbers of fatalities injuries and encounters with bears part of this plan is to reduce bear populations in areas where the animals have been sighted another feature is the establishment of regionspecific capture targets authorities will also set up a buffer zone in many areas to try to separate bear habitats from human residential areas

there are two species of bear in japan and their numbers have surged in the past decade estimates suggest the asian black bear population has roughly tripled since 2012 rising from about 15000 to around 44000 the larger and more dangerous ussuri brown bears native to the northern island of hokkaido have doubled in number there are several reasons for the growth in bear populations one is the shortage of beech nuts which scientists attribute to climate change another reason is a declining number of licensed hunters who were largely responsible for bear culls finally a depopulation of rural areas means bears are venturing into towns and villages

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251117-japanese-bear-attacks.html

Japan'sgovernmenthascreatedemergencymeasurestoaddressrecordnumbersofbearattacks.TheMinistryofEnvironmentreportedthat13peoplehavebeenkilled,andmorethan100havebeeninjuredbybearssinceApril.Thedeathtollisthehighestsincerecordsbeganin2006.Wildlifemanagementexpertshavedevisedaplantoreducetheincreasingnumbersoffatalities,injuries,andencounterswithbears.Partofthisplanistoreducebearpopulationsinareaswheretheanimalshavebeensighted.Anotherfeatureistheestablishmentofregion-specificcapturetargets.Authoritieswillalsosetupabufferzoneinmanyareastotrytoseparatebearhabitatsfromhumanresidentialareas.TherearetwospeciesofbearinJapanandtheirnumbershavesurgedinthepastdecade.EstimatessuggesttheAsianblackbearpopulationhasroughlytripledsince2012—risingfromabout15,000toaround44,000.Thelargerandmoredangerous Ussuribrownbears,nativetothenorthernislandofHokkaido,havedoubledinnumber.Thereareseveralreasonsforthegrowthinbearpopulations.Oneistheshortageofbeechnuts,whichscientistsattributetoclimatechange.Anotherreasonisadecliningnumberoflicensedhunters,whoarelargelyresponsibleforbearculls.Finally,adepopulationofruralareasmeansbearsareventuringintotownsandvillages.

FREE WRITING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251117-japanese-bear-attacks.html

Write about **bears** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

ACADEMIC WRITING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2511/251117-japanese-bear-attacks.html

We should never kill wild animals even if they kill people. Discuss.

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

4. CULLING OF ANIMALS: Write a magazine article about the culling of animals. 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 bears. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how we can deter bears from entering towns. 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.	d	3.	g	4.	e	5.	a	6.	f	7.	b
8.	k	9.	m	10.	n	11.	j	12.	i	13.	h	14.	l

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Emergency measures
2. More than 100
3. 2006
4. Wildlife management experts
5. A buffer zone
6. Around 44,000
7. It has doubled.
8. Beech nuts
9. It is declining.
10. Venturing into towns and villages

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. Measures to address record numbers of bear attacks.
2. More than 100 have been injured by bears.
3. Death tolls are the highest since records began.
4. Plans to reduce the increasing numbers of fatalities.
5. Set up a buffer zone in many areas.
6. There are two species of bear in Japan.
7. Their numbers have surged in the past decade.
8. Several reasons for the growth in bear populations.
9. One is the shortage of beech nuts.
10. Another reason is a declining number of hunters.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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