

Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

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

breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html

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

www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html

Level 3 – 9th April 2026

Robot lawn mowers are a danger to hedgehogs

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260409-hedgehogs-and-lawn-mowers.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).

X (Twitter)



[X.com/SeanBanville](https://x.com/SeanBanville)

Facebook



www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176

THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260409-hedgehogs-and-lawn-mowers.html>

Animals face many dangers in their daily lives. These include climate change, habitat loss, and pollution. Mayors in Germany have highlighted a new danger – robot lawn mowers. These are the small machines that automatically go up and down people's gardens to cut the grass. German mayors say the devices are killing hedgehogs and other small animals, especially at night. The cities of Munich and Cologne have started a night-time ban on the use of the lawn mowers. However, officials want a nationwide ban. Hedgehogs are particularly at risk. They curl up into a ball when they sense danger. This makes it more difficult for a robot mower's sensors to detect a curled-up hedgehog.

Hedgehogs are protected under German law. People who injure, trap, or kill them could get a fine of up to €65,000 (\$75,000). The animals have been on the "near threatened" list of the International Union for Conservation of Nature since 2024. This is because their numbers dropped by over 30 per cent in the previous decade. Mayor Claudia Kalisch has asked lawn mower makers to do more to protect hedgehogs. She said: "We are calling on manufacturers to find solutions to ensure that small animals are no longer endangered by robot lawn mowers." She added: "This is a key step towards protecting animals and enriching the quality of life in the city through biodiversity."

Sources: <https://www.dw.com/en/hedgehogs-threatened-by-robot-mowers-german-activists-warn/a-70160521>
<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2026/apr/06/german-mayors-call-for-night-time-ban-on-robot-lawnmowers-to-protect-hedgehogs>
<https://nerdbot.com/2026/04/06/germanys-hedgehog-population-threatened-by-robot-lawnmowers/>

WARM-UPS

1. HEDGEHOGS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about hedgehogs. 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?

animals / dangers / daily life / climate change / pollution / hedgehogs / ban / at night
get a fine / conservation / nature / the previous decade / lawn mowers / biodiversity

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

3. BIG FINES: Students A **strongly** believe there should be very big fines for anyone who hurts animals; Students B **strongly** believe small fines are OK. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. DANGERS TO ANIMALS: How serious are these dangers to animals? Why? What can we do about it? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

Danger	Seriousness	Why?	Solutions
Climate change			
Habitat loss			
Pollution			
Invasive species			
Cars			
Hunting			

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

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

- Robot lawn mowers
- Drone deliveries
- Massage chairs
- Translation aids
- Vacuum cleaners
- Robotic window cleaners
- Driverless cars
- AI companions

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. face (verb) | a. The place where an animal or plant lives. |
| 2. habitat | b. Machines or tools that do a job. |
| 3. pollution | c. To have something happen to you. |
| 4. devices | d. To say that something is not allowed. |
| 5. officials | e. People with important jobs in the government. |
| 6. ban (verb) | f. To find or notice something. |
| 7. detect | g. Dirty or harmful things in the air, water, or ground. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 8. protected | h. All the different plants and animals in a place. |
| 9. law | i. In danger of being hurt or lost. |
| 10. fine (noun) | j. Happening or existing before now. |
| 11. threatened | k. Kept safe from danger or harm. |
| 12. previous | l. A rule that everyone must follow. |
| 13. decade | m. A time of ten years. |
| 14. biodiversity | n. Money that you must pay because you did something wrong. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260409-hedgehogs-and-lawn-mowers.html>

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

1. The article says animals face very few dangers every day. **T / F**
2. German mayors are worried that hedgehogs will damage lawn mowers. **T / F**
3. German mayors say robot lawn mowers harm hedgehogs at night. **T / F**
4. Hedgehogs curl up in a ball when they feel they are in danger. **T / F**
5. People in Germany can get fined \$75,000 for injuring animals. **T / F**
6. The numbers of hedgehogs halved over the past decade. **T / F**
7. A mayor asked lawn mower makers to make their products safer. **T / F**
8. Lawn mowers help to increase the biodiversity in cities. **T / F**

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

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| 1. machines | a. penalty |
| 2. cut | b. countrywide |
| 3. nationwide | c. notice |
| 4. particularly | d. answers |
| 5. detect | e. kept safe |
| 6. protected | f. devices |
| 7. fine | g. put at risk |
| 8. decade | h. especially |
| 9. solutions | i. 10 years |
| 10. endangered | j. trim |

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

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| 1. Animals face many dangers in | a. a ball |
| 2. climate change, habitat loss, | b. find solutions |
| 3. small machines that automatically go | c. their daily lives |
| 4. cut the | d. longer endangered |
| 5. They curl up into | e. grass |
| 6. Hedgehogs are protected | f. and pollution |
| 7. their numbers dropped | g. of life |
| 8. We are calling on manufacturers to | h. by over 30 per cent |
| 9. ensure that small animals are no | i. up and down |
| 10. the quality | j. under German law |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260409-hedgehogs-and-lawn-mowers.html>

Animals face many dangers in their (1) _____ lives. These include climate change, habitat (2) _____, and pollution. Mayors in Germany have highlighted a new danger – robot lawn mowers. These are the small (3) _____ that automatically go up and down people's gardens to (4) _____ the grass. German mayors say the devices are killing hedgehogs and other small animals, (5) _____ at night. The cities of Munich and Cologne have started a night-time ban on the use of the lawn mowers. However, (6) _____ want a nationwide ban. Hedgehogs are particularly at risk. They (7) _____ up into a ball when they sense danger. This makes it more difficult for a robot mower's (8) _____ to detect a curled-up hedgehog.

officials

loss

cut

sensors

daily

curl

especially

machines

Hedgehogs are protected under German law. People who (9) _____, trap, or kill them could get a (10) _____ of up to €65,000 (\$75,000). The animals have been on the "(11) _____ threatened" list of the International Union for Conservation of Nature since 2024. This is because their numbers (12) _____ by over 30 per cent in the previous decade. Mayor Claudia Kalisch has asked lawn mower (13) _____ to do more to protect hedgehogs. She said: "We are calling on manufacturers to find (14) _____ to ensure that small animals are no longer endangered by robot lawn mowers." She added: "This is a (15) _____ step towards protecting animals and enriching the quality of (16) _____ in the city through biodiversity."

makers

fine

key

dropped

life

injure

near

solutions

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260409-hedgehogs-and-lawn-mowers.html>

- 1) Animals face many dangers in their daily lives. These include climate _____
 - a. change, habitat lost
 - b. change, habitat floss
 - c. change, habitat loss
 - d. change, habitat moss
- 2) Mayors in Germany have highlighted _____
 - a. a new dangers
 - b. a newly danger
 - c. a new dangerous
 - d. a new danger
- 3) small machines that automatically go up and down people's gardens to _____
 - a. cut the grass
 - b. cut the glass
 - c. cut a grass
 - d. cut a glass
- 4) However, officials want a nationwide ban. Hedgehogs are _____
 - a. particularly at risky
 - b. particularly at risk
 - c. particularly at frisk
 - d. particularly are risk
- 5) This makes it more difficult for a robot mower's sensors to detect a _____
 - a. curled-down hedgehog
 - b. curled-up hedgehog
 - c. curled-in hedgehog
 - d. curled-on hedgehog
- 6) protected under German law. People who injure, trap, or kill them could _____
 - a. get a find
 - b. get a fined
 - c. get a fines
 - d. get a fine
- 7) their numbers dropped by over 30 per cent in _____
 - a. the previous decade
 - b. the previously decade
 - c. the previous deck aid
 - d. the previously deck aid
- 8) She said: "We are calling on manufacturers _____"
 - a. to find solution
 - b. to find solutions
 - c. to fund solutions
 - d. too find solutions
- 9) This is a key step _____
 - a. towards protection animals
 - b. towards protecting animal
 - c. towards protecting animals
 - d. forwards protecting animals
- 10) enriching the quality of life in the _____
 - a. city though biodiversity
 - b. city thought biodiversity
 - c. city through biodiversity
 - d. city thorough biodiversity

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260409-hedgehogs-and-lawn-mowers.html>

Animals face many dangers in (1) _____. These include climate change, habitat loss, and pollution. Mayors in Germany have highlighted (2) _____ – robot lawn mowers. These are the small machines that automatically go up and down people's gardens to cut the grass. German mayors (3) _____ are killing hedgehogs and other small animals, especially at night. The cities of Munich and Cologne have started a night-time ban on (4) _____ the lawn mowers. However, officials want a nationwide ban. Hedgehogs are (5) _____. They curl up into a ball when they sense danger. This makes it more difficult for a robot mower's sensors (6) _____ curled-up hedgehog.

Hedgehogs (7) _____ German law. People who injure, trap, or kill them could get a (8) _____ to €65,000 (\$75,000). The animals have been on the "near threatened" list of the International Union for Conservation of Nature since 2024. This is because their (9) _____ over 30 per cent in the previous decade. Mayor Claudia Kalisch has asked lawn mower makers to do (10) _____ hedgehogs. She said: "We are calling on manufacturers to find solutions to ensure that small animals (11) _____ endangered by robot lawn mowers." She added: "This is a key step towards protecting animals and enriching (12) _____ life in the city through biodiversity."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260409-hedgehogs-and-lawn-mowers.html>

1. When does the article say animals face many dangers?
2. What danger does the article mention besides habitat loss and pollution?
3. What do the robot lawn mowers cut?
4. How many German cities have a night-time ban on robot lawn mowers?
5. What do hedgehogs do when they feel they are in danger?
6. What in Germany protects hedgehogs?
7. Since when have hedgehogs been on a near threatened list?
8. By how much have hedgehog numbers dropped in the past decade?
9. What did a German mayor ask manufacturers to find?
10. What does the German mayor hope to enrich in her city?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260409-hedgehogs-and-lawn-mowers.html>

- 1) When does the article say animals face many dangers?
 - a) in their daily lives
 - b) when there are dogs
 - c) when they cross the road
 - d) in the mornings
- 2) What danger does the article mention besides habitat loss and pollution?
 - a) humans
 - b) snakes
 - c) climate change
 - d) heavy rain
- 3) What do the robot lawn mowers cut?
 - a) flowers
 - b) grass
 - c) fingers
 - d) trees
- 4) How many German cities have a night-time ban on robot lawn mowers?
 - a) five
 - b) four
 - c) three
 - d) two
- 5) What do hedgehogs do when they feel they are in danger?
 - a) curl up
 - b) run
 - c) scream
 - d) attack
- 6) What in Germany protects hedgehogs?
 - a) environmentalists
 - b) the hedgehog police
 - c) long grass
 - d) German law
- 7) Since when have hedgehogs been on a near threatened list?
 - a) since 2025
 - b) since 2024
 - c) since 2023
 - d) since 2022
- 8) By how much have hedgehog numbers dropped in the past decade?
 - a) by over 60%
 - b) by over 50%
 - c) by over 40%
 - d) by over 30%
- 9) What did a German mayor ask manufacturers to find?
 - a) a hedgehog app
 - b) her pet hedgehog
 - c) solutions
 - d) a hedgehog house
- 10) What does the German mayor hope to enrich in her city?
 - a) hedgehog habitats
 - b) the quality of life
 - c) people
 - d) hedgehog owners

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260409-hedgehogs-and-lawn-mowers.html>

Role A – Robot Lawn Mowers

You think robot lawn mowers is the best technology. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): massage chairs, driverless cars or drone deliveries.

Role B – Massage Chairs

You think massage chairs is the best technology. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): robot lawn mowers, driverless cars or drone deliveries.

Role C – Driverless Cars

You think driverless cars is the best technology. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): massage chairs, robot lawn mowers or drone deliveries.

Role D – Drone Deliveries

You think drone deliveries is the best technology. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): massage chairs, driverless cars or robot lawn mowers.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260409-hedgehogs-and-lawn-mowers.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look online / in your dictionary to find collocates, information on, synonyms for... the words 'hedgehog' and 'lawn mower'.

hedgehog	lawnmower
-----------------	------------------

- 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">• face• highlight• cut• cities• ball• detect	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• kill• list• near• numbers• ensure• quality
---	---

HEDGEHOGS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260409-hedgehogs-and-lawn-mowers.html>

Write five GOOD questions about hedgehogs 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.

HEDGEHOGS 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 'hedgehog'?
3. What do you think of hedgehogs?
4. What everyday dangers do animals face?
5. What dangers do you face every day?
6. How does climate change affect animals?
7. What do you think of lawn mowers?
8. Why do people like to cut the grass in their gardens?
9. How might very short grass in a garden affect animals?
10. What advice do you have for hedgehogs?

Robot lawn mowers are a danger to hedgehogs – 9th April 2026
Thousands more free lessons at breakingnewsenglish.com

HEDGEHOGS 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 'lawn mower'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you know about hedgehogs?
15. Should robot lawn mowers be banned at night?
16. What do you think of the \$75,000 fine for harming animals?
17. Do you prefer a garden with short or long grass?
18. What animals do you see every day?
19. How sad are you at the loss of biodiversity?
20. What questions would you like to ask an expert on hedgehogs?

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 2026

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/2604/260409-hedgehogs-and-lawn-mowers.html>

Animals face many (1) _____ in their daily lives. These include climate change, habitat (2) _____, and pollution. Mayors in Germany have highlighted a new danger – robot lawn mowers. These are the small machines that automatically (3) _____ up and down people's gardens to cut the grass. German mayors say the devices are killing hedgehogs and other small animals, especially (4) _____ night. The cities of Munich and Cologne have started a night-time ban on the (5) _____ of the lawn mowers. However, officials want a nationwide ban. Hedgehogs are particularly at risk. They curl up into a ball when they sense danger. This makes it more difficult for a robot mower's sensors to (6) _____ a curled-up hedgehog.

Hedgehogs are protected (7) _____ German law. People who injure, trap, or kill them could get a fine of up to €65,000 (\$75,000). The animals have been on the "near threatened" (8) _____ of the International Union for Conservation of Nature since 2024. This is because their numbers dropped (9) _____ over 30 per cent in the previous decade. Mayor Claudia Kalisch has asked lawn mower makers to do (10) _____ to protect hedgehogs. She said: "We are calling on manufacturers to find solutions to ensure that small animals are no (11) _____ endangered by robot lawn mowers." She added: "This is a key step towards protecting animals and enriching the quality (12) _____ life in the city through biodiversity."

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) dangerous | (b) danger | (c) dangers | (d) endangers |
| 2. | (a) loss | (b) lost | (c) lose | (d) loses |
| 3. | (a) cut | (b) go | (c) weed | (d) mow |
| 4. | (a) to | (b) in | (c) on | (d) at |
| 5. | (a) useful | (b) usually | (c) use | (d) used |
| 6. | (a) infect | (b) detect | (c) inject | (d) detest |
| 7. | (a) under | (b) below | (c) beneath | (d) down |
| 8. | (a) writing | (b) paragraph | (c) sentence | (d) list |
| 9. | (a) at | (b) in | (c) by | (d) on |
| 10. | (a) any | (b) some | (c) many | (d) more |
| 11. | (a) longing | (b) longer | (c) longs | (d) long |
| 12. | (a) of | (b) at | (c) on | (d) in |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260409-hedgehogs-and-lawn-mowers.html>

Paragraph 1

1. teilcam change
2. habitat loss, and ltoilpuon
3. These are the small amhnsacie
4. the secdvie are killing hedgehogs
5. Hedgehogs are allyciupartr at risk
6. edttce a curled-up hedgehog

Paragraph 2

7. Hedgehogs are ertodctpe under German law
8. on the near ehadttrene list
9. in the vipeurso decade
10. calling on manufacturers to find usootslni
11. enriching the ialtquy of life
12. in the city through sriditoebiyv

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260409-hedgehogs-and-lawn-mowers.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () 30 per cent in the previous decade. Mayor Claudia Kalisch has asked lawn mower makers to do more to protect
- () and pollution. Mayors in Germany have highlighted a new danger – robot lawn mowers. These are the small
- (**1**) Animals face many dangers in their daily lives. These include climate change, habitat loss,
- () are killing hedgehogs and other small animals, especially at night. The cities of Munich and Cologne have started a night-
- () for a robot mower's sensors to detect a curled-up hedgehog.
- () for Conservation of Nature since 2024. This is because their numbers dropped by over
- () Hedgehogs are protected under German law. People who injure, trap, or kill them could get a fine of up
- () hedgehogs. She said: "We are calling on manufacturers to find solutions to ensure
- () machines that automatically go up and down people's gardens to cut the grass. German mayors say the devices
- () risk. They curl up into a ball when they sense danger. This makes it more difficult
- () step towards protecting animals and enriching the quality of life in the city through biodiversity."
- () that small animals are no longer endangered by robot lawn mowers." She added: "This is a key
- () time ban on the use of the lawn mowers. However, officials want a nationwide ban. Hedgehogs are particularly at
- () to €65,000 (\$75,000). The animals have been on the "near threatened" list of the International Union

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260409-hedgehogs-and-lawn-mowers.html>

1. Animals daily dangers face in lives many their .
2. a danger Germany have highlighted in Mayors new .
3. and automatically down go machines Small that up .
4. are devices German hedgehogs killing mayors say the .
5. a ball Curl danger into there's up when .
6. \$75,000 a could fine get of They .
7. do hedgehogs Makers more must protect to .
8. are calling find manufacturers on solutions to We .
9. a animals is key protecting step This towards .
10. city Enriching in life of quality the the .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260409-hedgehogs-and-lawn-mowers.html>

Animals face many *dangerous / dangers* in their daily lives. These include climate change, habitat loss, and *pollutes / pollution*. Mayors in Germany have highlighted a new danger – robot lawn mowers. These are the small machines that automatically *go / grow* up and down people's gardens to cut *the / a* grass. German mayors say the *device / devices* are killing hedgehogs and other small animals, especially *at / in* night. The cities of Munich and Cologne have started a night-time ban *in / on* the use of the lawn mowers. However, officials want a nationwide *bin / ban*. Hedgehogs are particularly at risk. They curl up *into / onto* a ball when they sense danger. This makes it more difficult for a robot mower's sensors *for / to* detect a curled-up hedgehog.

Hedgehogs are protected *under / over* German law. People who injure, trap, or kill them could get a fine of *up / down* to €65,000 (\$75,000). The animals have been on the "near threatened" *lost / list* of the International Union for Conservation of Nature since 2024. This is because their numbers *drops / dropped* by over 30 per cent in the *previous / previously* decade. Mayor Claudia Kalisch has *answered / asked* lawn mower makers to do more to protect hedgehogs. She said: "We are *calling / call* on manufacturers to find solutions to *sure / ensure* that small animals are no longer endangered by robot lawn mowers." She added: "This is a key *stair / step* towards protecting animals and enriching the quality of *life / live* in the city through biodiversity."

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/2604/260409-hedgehogs-and-lawn-mowers.html>

_n_m_ls f_c_ m_ny d_ng_rs _n th__r d__ly l_v_s.
Th_s_ _ncl_d_ cl_m_t_ ch_ng_, h_b_t_t l_ss, _nd
p_ll_t__n. M_y_rs _n G_rm_ny h_v_ h_ghl_gh_t_d _ n_w
d_ng_r - r_b_t l_wn m_w_rs. Th_s_ _r_ th_ sm_ll
m_ch_n_s th_t __t_m_t_c_lly g_ _p _nd d_wn p__pl_'s
g_rdn_s t_ c_t th_ gr_ss. G_rm_n m_y_rs s_y th_
d_v_c_s _r_ k_ll_ng h_dg_h_gs _nd _th_r sm_ll
_n_m_ls, _sp_c__lly _t n_gh_t. Th_ c_t__s _f M_n_ch
_nd C_l_gn_ h_v_ st_r_t_d _ n_gh_t-t_m_ b_n _n th_
s _f th_ l_wn m_w_rs. H_w_v_r, _ff_c__ls w_nt _
n_t__nw_d_ b_n. H_dg_h_gs _r_ p_r_t_c_l_rly _t r_sk.
Th_y c_rl _p _nt_ _ b_ll wh_n th_y s_n_s_ d_ng_r.
Th_s m_k_s _t m_r_ d_ff_c_l_t f_r _ r_b_t m_w_r's
s_n_s_rs t_ d_t_c_t _ c_rl_d-p h_dg_h_g.

H_dg_h_gs _r_ p_r_t_c_t_d _nd_r G_rm_n l_w. P__pl_ wh_
_nj_r_, tr_p, _r k_ll th_m c__ld g_t _ f_n_ _f _p t_
€65,000 (\$75,000). Th_ _n_m_ls h_v_ b__n _n th_
"n__r thr__t_n_d" l_st _f th_ _nt_rn_t__n_l _n__n f_r
C_n_s_rv_t__n _f N_t_r_ s_n_c_ 2024. Th_s _s b_c__s_
th__r n_m_b_rs dr_pp_d by _v_r 30 p_r c_nt _n th_
pr_v__s d_c_d_. M_y_r Cl__d__ K_l_sch h_s _sk_d
l_wn m_w_r m_k_rs t_ d_ m_r_ t_ p_r_t_c_t h_dg_h_gs.
Sh_ s__d: "W_ _r_ c_ll_ng _n m_n_f_c_t_r_rs t_ f_nd
s_l_t__ns t_ _ns_r_ th_t sm_ll _n_m_ls _r_ n_ l_ng_r
_nd_ng_r_d by r_b_t l_wn m_w_rs." Sh_ _dd_d: "Th_s
_s _ k_y st_p t_w_rds p_r_t_c_t_ng _n_m_ls _nd
_nr_ch_ng th_ q__l_ty _f l_f_ _n th_ c_ty thr__gh
b__d_v_rs_ty."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260409-hedgehogs-and-lawn-mowers.html>

animals face many dangers in their daily lives these include climate change habitat loss and pollution mayors in germany have highlighted a new danger robot lawn mowers these are the small machines that automatically go up and down peoples gardens to cut the grass german mayors say the devices are killing hedgehogs and other small animals especially at night the cities of munich and cologne have started a nighttime ban on the use of the lawn mowers however officials want a nationwide ban hedgehogs are particularly at risk they curl up into a ball when they sense danger this makes it more difficult for a robot mowers sensors to detect a curledup hedgehog

hedgehogs are protected under german law people who injure trap or kill them could get a fine of up to 65000 75000 the animals have been on the near threatened list of the international union for conservation of nature since 2024 this is because their numbers dropped by over 30 per cent in the previous decade mayor claudia kalisch has asked lawn mower makers to do more to protect hedgehogs she said we are calling on manufacturers to find solutions to ensure that small animals are no longer endangered by robot lawn mowers she added this is a key step towards protecting animals and enriching the quality of life in the city through biodiversity

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2604/260409-hedgehogs-and-lawn-mowers.html>

Animals face many dangers in their daily lives. These include climate change, habitat loss, and pollution. Mayors in Germany have highlighted a new danger – robot lawn mowers. These are the small machines that automatically go up and down people's garden to cut the grass. German mayors say the devices are killing hedgehogs and other small animals, especially at night. The cities of Munich and Cologne have started a night-time ban on the use of the lawn mowers. However, officials want a nationwide ban. Hedgehogs are particularly at risk. They curl up into a ball when they sense danger. This makes it more difficult for a robot mower's sensor to detect a curled-up hedgehog. Hedgehogs are protected under German law. People who injure, trap, or kill them could get a fine of up to €65,000 (\$75,000). The animals have been on the "near threatened" list of the International Union for Conservation of Nature since 2024. This is because their numbers dropped by over 30 percent in the previous decade. Mayor Claudia Kalisch has asked lawn mower makers to do more to protect hedgehogs. She said: "We are calling on manufacturers to find solutions to ensure that small animals are no longer endangered by robot lawn mowers." She added: "This is a key step towards protecting animals and enriching the quality of life in the city through biodiversity."

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

4. FINES AND PRISON: Write a magazine article about introducing huge fines and prison sentences for anyone who harms 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 hedgehogs. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to protect them. 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. a 3. g 4. b 5. e 6. d 7. f
8. k 9. l 10. n 11. i 12. j 13. m 14. h

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. In their daily lives
2. Climate change
3. Grass
4. Two
5. Curl up
6. German law
7. Since 2024
8. By over 30 per cent
9. Solutions
10. The quality of life

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. Animals face many dangers in their daily lives.
2. Mayors in Germany have highlighted a new danger.
3. Small machines that automatically go up and down.
4. German mayors say the devices are killing hedgehogs.
5. Curl up into a ball when there's danger.
6. They could get a fine of \$75,000.
7. Makers must do more to protect hedgehogs.
8. We are calling on manufacturers to find solutions.
9. This is a key step towards protecting animals.
10. Enriching the quality of life in the city.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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