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Level 0

Future rats could be the size of sheep

6th February, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140206-rats-0.html>

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Please try Levels 1, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140206-rats-0.html>

Rats the size of sheep could be real in the future. Giant rats could weigh 80kg. Rats are now all over the Earth. They are in places that never had rats before. They are the strongest animals in many places. There are fewer and fewer animals that can kill rats. Rats might grow to become the world's largest rodent.

Humans spread rats around the world. They can live almost anywhere. The future might have many kinds of different rats.

After the dinosaurs, many small animals grew bigger. The same thing could happen with rats. They might make other animals extinct. A question is what we would do about giant rats.

Sources: <http://www.express.co.uk/news/nature/457757/Super-sized-rodents-Rats-could-grow-bigger-than-sheep-and-weigh-same-as-average-Briton>
<http://www.skynews.com.au/eco/article.aspx?id=947282>
<http://www.natureworldnews.com/articles/5868/20140203/rats-will-adapt-replace-extinct-animals-become-enormous-expert.htm>

VOCABULARY MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140206-rats-0.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Rats the size of sheep could be | a. the Earth |
| 2. Giant rats could | b. in many places |
| 3. Rats are now all over | c. rats |
| 4. places that never | d. and fewer |
| 5. They are the strongest animals | e. largest rodent |
| 6. There are fewer | f. real in the future |
| 7. animals that can kill | g. weigh 80kg |
| 8. grow to become the world's | h. had rats before |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Humans spread rats | a. animals extinct |
| 2. They can live almost | b. happen with rats |
| 3. many kinds of | c. anywhere |
| 4. After the | d. grew bigger |
| 5. many small animals | e. around the world |
| 6. The same thing could | f. different rats |
| 7. make other | g. about giant rats |
| 8. what we would do | h. dinosaurs |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140206-rats-0.html>

Rats the size of sheep (1) _____ in the future.

Giant rats could weigh 80kg. Rats (2) _____ the

Earth. They are in places that (3) _____. They

are the (4) _____ many places. There are fewer

and (5) _____ can kill rats. Rats might grow to

become the (6) _____.

Humans (7) _____ the world. They can live

almost anywhere. The future (8) _____ kinds of

different rats. After the dinosaurs, (9) _____

grew bigger. The same (10) _____ with rats.

They might make (11) _____. A question is

what we would (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140206-rats-0.html>

Ratsthesizeofsheepcouldberealinthefuture.Giantratscouldweigh
80kg.RatsarenowallovertheEarth.Theyareinplaceshatneverhad
ratsbefore.Theyarethestrongestanimalsinmanyplaces.Therearefewer
andfeweranimals that can kill rats.Rats might grow to become the
world's largest rodent.Humans spread rats around the world.They can
live almost anywhere.The future might have many kinds of different
rats.After the dinosaurs, many small animals grew bigger.They
something could happen with rats.They might make other animals extinct.
A question is what we would do about giant rats.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

WRITING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140206-rats-0.html>

Write about **rats** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.
