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**Level 4** – 7th February, 2020

## Worst locust invasion in East Africa in 70 years

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2002/200207-locust-invasion-4.html>

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Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2002/200207-locust-invasion-4.html>

Millions of farmers' lives in Africa are at risk from locusts. Swarms of locusts have destroyed large areas of farmland and crops in Somalia, Kenya and Uganda. The locusts are spreading and could go to other countries. The United Nations' Food and Agricultural Organisation say swarms have been seen as far away as Oman in the Gulf. It is the worst locust invasion in 70 years. Some say it is like a scene from the Bible.

The invasion affects over 12 million people. Many of these have little food due to poor harvests and no rain. The locusts will make things worse. Locusts are very hungry pests. One locust can eat its body weight in 24 hours. A small swarm could eat enough to feed 35,000 people for a day. A worried farmer said: "We depend a lot on this season and we worry that the locusts will destroy our harvest. We will end up...hungry through the rest of the year."

Sources: <https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/scienceandhealth/Locust-swarms-threaten-more-countries-in-eastern-Africa-FAO/3073694-5443824-vpesa1/index.html>  
<https://news.sky.com/story/worst-locust-invasion-in-70-years-threatens-countries-in-eastern-africa-11925606>  
<https://www.ecowatch.com/locusts-somalia-national-emergency-2645027649.html>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2002/200207-locust-invasion-4.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                      |                         |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. at risk                           | a. countries            |
| 2. Swarms                            | b. and crops            |
| 3. destroyed large areas of farmland | c. from the Bible       |
| 4. The locusts are                   | d. of locusts           |
| 5. could go to other                 | e. invasion in 70 years |
| 6. seen as far                       | f. spreading            |
| 7. It is the worst locust            | g. from locusts         |
| 8. it is like a scene                | h. away as Oman         |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                              |                           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. The invasion affects      | a. body weight            |
| 2. Many of these have little | b. things worse           |
| 3. due to poor               | c. destroy our harvest    |
| 4. The locusts will make     | d. harvests               |
| 5. Locusts are very          | e. over 12 million people |
| 6. One locust can eat its    | f. on this season         |
| 7. We depend a lot           | g. hungry pests           |
| 8. the locusts will          | h. food                   |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2002/200207-locust-invasion-4.html>

Millions of farmers' lives in Africa (1) \_\_\_\_\_ from locusts.

Swarms of locusts have destroyed large areas of (2) \_\_\_\_\_

in Somalia, Kenya and Uganda. The locusts (3) \_\_\_\_\_ could

go (4) \_\_\_\_\_. The United Nations' Food and Agricultural

Organisation say swarms have been seen (5) \_\_\_\_\_ as

Oman in the Gulf. It is the worst locust invasion in 70 years. Some say it is

(6) \_\_\_\_\_ from the Bible.

The (7) \_\_\_\_\_ 12 million people. Many of these have little

food due to (8) \_\_\_\_\_ no rain. The locusts will make things

worse. Locusts are (9) \_\_\_\_\_. One locust can eat its body

weight in 24 hours. A small swarm (10) \_\_\_\_\_ to feed

35,000 people for a day. A worried farmer said: "We

(11) \_\_\_\_\_ on this season and we worry that the locusts will

destroy our harvest. We will end up...hungry (12) \_\_\_\_\_ of

the year."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2002/200207-locust-invasion-4.html>

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# LOCUSTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2002/200207-locust-invasion-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about locusts 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.

## 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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More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

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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) \_\_\_\_\_

