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**Level 1** – 29th August, 2020

## Black wind-turbine blade cuts bird deaths

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200829-wind-turbine-1.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200829-wind-turbine-1.html>

There are good things about wind farms. They provide green energy. However, there are also bad things. One is wind-turbine blades kill thousands of birds. They accidentally fly into the blades. Researchers have an answer. Painting one blade black helps birds see the blades. This cut bird deaths by 70 per cent. A researcher said bird deaths was "one of the main environmental concerns related to wind energy". The research is published in a journal.

Researchers looked at making wind-turbine blades safer. They painted one blade of four turbines black. The turbines with one black blade reduced bird deaths. A bird protection group was happy with the black blades. It said wind farms needed to be "in harmony with nature". It added: "Wind turbines are the right technology when we find the right places for them." It said wind farms should not be a risk to wildlife.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-53909825>  
<https://www.cnet.com/news/10-generators-to-keep-your-lights-on/>  
<https://bgr.com/2020/08/26/wind-turbine-birds-death/>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200829-wind-turbine-1.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                              |                    |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. green                     | a. by 70 per cent  |
| 2. blades kill thousands     | b. energy          |
| 3. They accidentally fly     | c. of birds        |
| 4. Researchers have          | d. in a journal    |
| 5. This cut bird deaths      | e. an answer       |
| 6. environmental             | f. energy          |
| 7. wind                      | g. concerns        |
| 8. The research is published | h. into the blades |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                    |                    |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. making wind-turbine blades      | a. group           |
| 2. They painted                    | b. deaths          |
| 3. bird                            | c. to wildlife     |
| 4. The turbines with one           | d. safer           |
| 5. A bird protection               | e. places for them |
| 6. be in harmony                   | f. one blade       |
| 7. when we find the right          | g. with nature     |
| 8. wind farms should not be a risk | h. black blade     |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200829-wind-turbine-1.html>

There are (1) \_\_\_\_\_ wind farms. They provide green energy. However, there (2) \_\_\_\_\_ things. One is wind-turbine (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of birds. They accidentally fly (4) \_\_\_\_\_. Researchers have an answer. Painting one blade (5) \_\_\_\_\_ see the blades. This cut bird deaths by 70 per cent. A researcher said bird deaths was "one of the main environmental concerns related to wind energy". The (6) \_\_\_\_\_ in a journal.

Researchers (7) \_\_\_\_\_ wind-turbine blades safer. They painted one (8) \_\_\_\_\_ turbines black. The turbines with one black blade (9) \_\_\_\_\_. A bird protection group was happy with the black blades. It said wind farms needed to be "(10) \_\_\_\_\_ nature". It added: "Wind turbines are the (11) \_\_\_\_\_ we find the right places for them." It said wind farms should not be a (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200829-wind-turbine-1.html>

There are good things about wind farms. They provide green energy. However, there are also bad things. One is wind-turbine blades kill thousands of birds. They accidentally fly into the blades. Researchers have an answer. Painting one blade black helps birds see the blades. This cut bird deaths by 70 percent. A researcher said bird death was "one of the main environmental concerns related to wind energy". The research is published in a journal. Researchers looked at making wind-turbine blades safer. They painted one blade of four turbines black. The turbines with one black blade reduced bird deaths. A bird protection group was happy with the black blades. It said wind farms needed to be "in harmony with nature". It added: "Wind turbines are the right technology when we find the right places for them." It said wind farms should not bear risk to wildlife.

# WIND TURBINES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200829-wind-turbine-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about wind turbines 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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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

