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Level 1 – 24th April 2025

U.K. Army tests anti-drone radio-wave weapon

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250424-radio-wave-weapon-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/2504/250424-radio-wave-weapon-1.html>

The British Army tested a weapon to destroy drones. The weapon uses radio waves to knock drones out of the sky. Many armies use drones to attack enemy soldiers and cities. Drones are good at attacking enemies. They can cause a lot of damage. Britain's new weapon uses radio waves to damage the computer chips inside drones. This makes the drones crash. The weapon can quickly bring down 100 drones. This gives armies an advantage in a war.

The U.K. spent \$53 million on the anti-drone weapon. It is cheap to operate. It costs 18 cents to fire one shot at drones. A British Army bullet costs ten times more. The Army wanted to find cheaper ways to defend its soldiers. An Army spokesperson said drones are seen more and more in combat in Ukraine. He said that last year, Ukraine had to defend itself against attacks from more than 18,000 drones.

Sources: <https://www.defensenews.com/global/europe/2025/04/17/in-first-british-army-uses-radio-wave-weapon-to-knock-out-drone-swarm/>
<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/uk-new-radio-wave-weapon-rapiddestroyer-takes-down-drone-swarms/>
<https://www.ft.com/content/41703199-201e-4702-b34a-a0a633cdfcf5>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250424-radio-wave-weapon-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. attack enemy | a. down 100 drones |
| 2. Drones are good at | b. radio waves |
| 3. They can cause a lot | c. attacking enemies |
| 4. Britain's new weapon uses | d. in a war |
| 5. damage the computer chips | e. soldiers |
| 6. This makes the drones | f. inside drones |
| 7. quickly bring | g. crash |
| 8. This gives armies an advantage | h. of damage |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. The U.K. spent | a. to fire one shot |
| 2. It is cheap | b. soldiers |
| 3. It costs 18 cents | c. against attacks |
| 4. A British Army bullet costs ten | d. \$53 million |
| 5. find cheaper | e. more in combat |
| 6. defend its | f. to operate |
| 7. drones are seen more and | g. times more |
| 8. defend itself | h. ways |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250424-radio-wave-weapon-1.html>

The British Army (1) _____ to destroy drones. The weapon uses radio waves to knock drones out (2) _____. Many armies use drones to attack enemy soldiers and cities. Drones are (3) _____ enemies. They can cause a lot of damage. Britain's new weapon uses radio (4) _____ the computer chips inside drones. (5) _____ drones crash. The weapon can quickly bring down 100 drones. This gives armies (6) _____ a war.

The U.K. spent \$53 (7) _____ anti-drone weapon. It is (8) _____. It costs 18 cents to (9) _____ at drones. A British Army bullet costs ten times more. The Army wanted to find cheaper (10) _____ its soldiers. An Army spokesperson said drones are seen more and (11) _____ in Ukraine. He said that last year, Ukraine had to defend itself (12) _____ more than 18,000 drones.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250424-radio-wave-weapon-1.html>

The British Army tested a weapon to destroy drones. The weapon uses a radio wave to knock drones out of the sky. Many armies use drones to attack enemy soldiers and cities. Drones are good at attacking enemies. They can cause a lot of damage. Britain's new weapon uses radio waves to damage the computer chips inside drones. This makes the drones crash. The weapon can quickly bring down 100 drones. This gives armies an advantage in a war. The U.K. spent \$53 million on the anti-drone weapon. It is cheap to operate. It costs 18 cents to fire one shot at drones. A British Army bullet cost ten times more. The Army wanted to find a cheaper way to defend its soldiers. An Army spokesman said drones are seen more and more in combat in Ukraine. He said that last year, Ukraine had to defend itself against attacks from more than 18,000 drones.

DRONES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250424-radio-wave-weapon-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about drones 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) _____

