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Level 2 – 24th April 2025

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

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250424-radio-wave-weapon-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250424-radio-wave-weapon-2.html>

The British Army has tested a new weapon to destroy drones. It is a radio-wave weapon system that can knock drones out of the sky. Many armies use drones to attack enemy soldiers, tanks, and cities. Drones are good at attacking enemies and can cause a lot of damage. Britain's new weapon uses high-frequency radio waves to destroy the computer chips inside drones. This causes the drones to crash. The British Army said the system could bring down more than 100 drones almost instantly. This could give the Army a big advantage on the battlefield.

The U.K. spent \$53 million developing the anti-drone weapon. The weapon is cheap to operate. It costs 18 cents to fire one shot at a swarm of drones. This is one-tenth of the price of a British Army bullet. A spokesperson said it was important to find cheaper ways to defend British soldiers. He pointed to Russia's use of drones in its three-year war against Ukraine. The U.K. government said: "Drone swarms are increasingly seen in use in frontline combat in Ukraine. U.K. intelligence estimates that last year, Ukraine had to defend 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-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. tested a new weapon | a. radio waves |
| 2. knock drones | b. enemy soldiers |
| 3. use drones to attack | c. lot of damage |
| 4. Drones are good at | d. on the battlefield |
| 5. cause a | e. to destroy drones |
| 6. high-frequency | f. to crash |
| 7. This causes the drones | g. out of the sky |
| 8. give the Army a big advantage | h. attacking enemies |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. developing the | a. against attacks |
| 2. The weapon is cheap | b. tenth of the price |
| 3. fire one shot at a swarm | c. war against Ukraine |
| 4. This is one- | d. seen in use |
| 5. its three-year | e. anti-drone weapon |
| 6. Drone swarms are increasingly | f. combat |
| 7. frontline | g. of drones |
| 8. defend | h. to operate |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250424-radio-wave-weapon-2.html>

The British Army has tested a new (1) _____.
drones. It is a radio-wave weapon system that can knock drones
out (2) _____. Many armies use drones to attack
(3) _____, and cities. Drones are good at
attacking enemies and can cause a (4) _____.
Britain's new weapon uses high-frequency radio waves to destroy
the computer chips inside drones. This causes the
(5) _____. The British Army said the system could
bring down more than 100 drones almost instantly. This could give
the Army (6) _____ on the battlefield.

The U.K. spent \$53 million developing the anti-drone weapon. The
weapon is (7) _____. It costs 18 cents to fire one
shot at a swarm of drones. This is (8) _____ price
of a British Army bullet. A spokesperson said it was important to
find cheaper (9) _____ British soldiers. He pointed
to Russia's use of drones in (10) _____ against
Ukraine. The U.K. government said: "Drone swarms are increasingly
seen in use (11) _____ in Ukraine. U.K. intelligence
estimates that last year, Ukraine had to defend
(12) _____ more than 18,000 drones."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250424-radio-wave-weapon-2.html>

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DRONES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2504/250424-radio-wave-weapon-2.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) _____

