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Level 4 – 11th March 2024

It once rained for two million years, say scientists

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240311-rain-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/2403/240311-rain-4.html>

Farmers pray for the heavens to open in times of drought. However, they could never imagine a period of rain lasting two million years. A U.K. geologist has found that 200-300 million years ago, when there was just a single landmass, it rained non-stop for up to two million years. This helped the development of flowers and animals all over the globe. The geologist believes the rain may have been caused by a huge rise in humidity following massive volcanic eruptions.

The geologist based his findings on research conducted on ancient rock in Europe in the 1970s. There were strange deposits in the rock. The geologist said this suggests the long wet period may have been the "trigger" that allowed dinosaurs and modern animals to diversify. He added: "It may have been one of the most important events in the history of life." It could be how many of the creatures we see today started, like turtles, crocodiles, lizards and mammals.

Sources: <https://www.unilad.com/news/proof-rained-million-years-earth-carnian-pluvial-event-840634-20240305>
<https://www.earth.com/news/earth-endured-a-million-years-of-rain-in-the-carnian-pluvial-event/>
<https://www.iflscience.com/the-carnian-pluvial-event-when-it-rained-for-2-million-years-on-earth-73205>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240311-rain-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Farmers pray for the heavens | a. rise in humidity |
| 2. in times | b. landmass |
| 3. A U.K. | c. the globe |
| 4. when there was just a single | d. of drought |
| 5. the development of | e. eruptions |
| 6. all over | f. geologist |
| 7. caused by a huge | g. to open |
| 8. massive volcanic | h. flowers and animals |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. research conducted | a. important events |
| 2. There were strange deposits | b. and mammals |
| 3. the long wet | c. animals to diversify |
| 4. allowed dinosaurs and modern | d. in the rock |
| 5. one of the most | e. we see today |
| 6. the history of | f. on ancient rock |
| 7. many of the creatures | g. period |
| 8. crocodiles, lizards | h. life |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240311-rain-4.html>

Farmers pray for the heavens to open in (1) _____.

However, they could never (2) _____ of rain lasting two

million years. A U.K. geologist has found that 200-300 million years ago,

when there was just (3) _____, it rained non-stop for

up to two million years. This (4) _____ of flowers and

animals all over the globe. The geologist believes the rain may have

(5) _____ a huge rise in humidity following

(6) _____.

The geologist (7) _____ on research conducted on

ancient rock in Europe in the 1970s. There were

(8) _____ the rock. The geologist said this suggests the

long wet period may have been (9) _____ allowed

dinosaurs and modern (10) _____. He added: "It may

have been one of the most important events in the

(11) _____." It could be how many of the creatures we

see today started, like turtles, crocodiles, (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240311-rain-4.html>

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RAIN SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240311-rain-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about rain 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) _____

