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Level 5 – 18th March 2024

Giant blueberry smashes record for heaviest ever

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240318-giant-blueberry-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240318-giant-blueberry-5.html>

A farmer in Australia has entered the record books for growing the world's biggest ever blueberry. The giant berry weighed 20.4 grams. This obliterated the previous record, which was 16.2 grams. The record-breaker was as wide as a table tennis ball. It was 39.31 millimetres in diameter and 12.35 centimetres in circumference. It was 10 times heavier than a regular blueberry. The fruit was grown by horticulturalist Brad Hocking. He said he was overjoyed to be officially verified by Guinness World Records. He said it was "a combination of good breeding and good growing".

Mr Hocking said his blueberry was from the Eterna variety, known for its crisp texture and long shelf life. He told reporters Eterna is "a consistently large fruit" with a great flavour. He added: "While the fruit is large, there's absolutely no compromise on quality or flavour, as would be expected when developing a premium variety." At first, he was unsure whether or not he had broken the record. He said he had to recalibrate the scales to make sure. When asked what he would do with his prize berry, he said he might make a smoothie out of it.

Sources: <https://www.guinnessworldrecords.com/news/2024/3/behemoth-blueberry-grown-in-australia-verified-as-heaviest-ever-767762>
<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-03-14/guinness-world-records-worlds-heaviest-blueberry-costa-berries/103585822>
<https://edition.cnn.com/2024/03/15/australia/worlds-heaviest-blueberry-scli-intl/index.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240318-giant-blueberry-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. entered the record | a. Guinness World Records |
| 2. The giant berry weighed | b. previous record |
| 3. This obliterated the | c. in circumference |
| 4. as wide as | d. and good growing |
| 5. 12.35 centimetres | e. 20.4 grams |
| 6. 10 times heavier than | f. books |
| 7. officially verified by | g. a regular blueberry |
| 8. a combination of good breeding | h. a table tennis ball |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. known for its crisp | a. scales to make sure |
| 2. a consistently large fruit with | b. on quality or flavour |
| 3. no compromise | c. with his prize berry |
| 4. developing a premium | d. a great flavour |
| 5. unsure whether or not he had | e. out of it |
| 6. he had to recalibrate the | f. texture |
| 7. what he would do | g. broken the record |
| 8. he might make a smoothie | h. variety |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240318-giant-blueberry-5.html>

A farmer in Australia has (1) _____ books for growing the world's biggest ever blueberry. The giant berry weighed 20.4 grams. This (2) _____ record, which was 16.2 grams. The record-breaker was as wide as a table tennis ball. It was 39.31 millimetres (3) _____ 12.35 centimetres in circumference. It was 10 times heavier than a regular blueberry. The fruit was (4) _____ Brad Hocking. He said he was overjoyed to be (5) _____ Guinness World Records. He said it was "a combination of (6) _____ good growing".

Mr Hocking said his blueberry was from the Eterna variety, known for (7) _____ and long shelf life. He told reporters Eterna is "a (8) _____" with a great flavour. He added: "While the fruit is large, there's absolutely no (9) _____ or flavour, as would be expected when developing (10) _____." At first, he was unsure whether or not he had broken the record. He said he had to (11) _____ to make sure. When asked what he would do with his prize berry, he said he might make a (12) _____ it.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240318-giant-blueberry-5.html>

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BLUEBERRIES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2403/240318-giant-blueberry-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about blueberries 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) _____

