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Level 2 – 14th November 2024

Thousands wait for foul smell of corpse flower

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241114-corpse-flower-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/2411/241114-corpse-flower-2.html>

People who like bad-smelling flowers were in luck this week. They could see and smell the corpse flower - the world's smelliest plant. It gets its name from a corpse – a dead body. The flower attracted thousands of visitors to a botanic garden near Melbourne, Australia. The plant bloomed on Monday. Thousands of people waited to see it. Some people held their nose when they were near the flower. Others coughed and held their breath because of the bad smell. An Australian news channel said visitors described the smell as being like a dead mouse or rotting garbage.

The corpse flower is extremely rare. A conservation group listed it as an endangered species. There are only a few hundred of the plants left in the wild, in Indonesia. A lot of the forest where the plant grows has been cut down to grow palm oil. The flower is one of the biggest in the world. It can grow to three metres high and live over 40 years. However, it flowers just once a decade and opens only for a day or two. The smell of the corpse flower attracts beetles and flies. The insects pollinate the flower so it can bloom again.

Sources: <https://edition.cnn.com/travel/geelong-australia-corpse-flower-intl-hnk/index.html>
<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-11-12/corpse-flower-rare-bloom-pungent-scent-geelong-botanic-gardens/104590534>
<https://www.news.com.au/technology/environment/natural-wonders/thousands-turn-out-to-smell-the-foul-stench-of-a-rare-flower-at-the-geelong-botanic-garden/news-story/df29e2622f7330bf7490753fd2f14e0e>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241114-corpse-flower-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. People who like bad- | a. to see it |
| 2. the world's smelliest | b. breath |
| 3. The flower attracted | c. garden |
| 4. a botanic | d. garbage |
| 5. Thousands of people waited | e. thousands of visitors |
| 6. Some people | f. plant |
| 7. Others coughed and held their | g. held their nose |
| 8. rotting | h. smelling flowers |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. The corpse flower is extremely | a. grow palm oil |
| 2. A conservation | b. a decade |
| 3. an endangered | c. in the wild |
| 4. a few hundred of the plants left | d. the flower |
| 5. cut down to | e. rare |
| 6. it flowers just once | f. attracts beetles |
| 7. The smell of the corpse flower | g. group |
| 8. The insects pollinate | h. species |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241114-corpse-flower-2.html>

People who like bad-smelling flowers were (1) _____ week. They could see and smell the corpse flower - the world's smelliest plant. It (2) _____ from a corpse - a dead body. The flower attracted thousands of visitors to (3) _____ near Melbourne, Australia. The plant bloomed on Monday. Thousands of people waited to see it. Some people (4) _____ when they were near the flower. Others coughed and (5) _____ because of the bad smell. An Australian news channel said visitors described the smell as being like a dead mouse (6) _____.

The corpse flower (7) _____. A conservation group listed it as (8) _____. There are only a few hundred of the plants left (9) _____, in Indonesia. A lot of the forest where the plant grows has been (10) _____ grow palm oil. The flower is one of the biggest in the world. It can grow to three metres high and live over 40 years. However, it flowers just (11) _____ and opens only for a day or two. The smell of the corpse flower attracts beetles and flies. The insects pollinate the flower so (12) _____ again.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241114-corpse-flower-2.html>

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BAD SMELLS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241114-corpse-flower-2.html>

Write five GOOD questions about bad smells 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) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241114-corpse-flower-2.html>

Write about **bad smells** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.
