

Crab Invasion Teacher's Notes

Video **BBC: Cuban Red Crab Invasion (In Class)**
 Swarming Cuban Land Crabs (At Home)

1. Display the word cloud (p3). Tell students that it contains (most of) the words in a clip from a TV programme. Give them a couple of minutes to look at it and decide with a partner what the programme is about. (Obvious words, like *crab*, have been removed)
2. Get some feedback. Tell them it's from a BBC documentary called *Wild Caribbean*, and this particular clip is called *Cuban Red Crab Invasion*.
3. Put students in groups of three and get them to write up to five questions that they would expect the documentary to answer about the crab invasion. If you have a small class, you could ask each group to read all their questions; with larger classes, ask each group to read out their most interesting question.
4. Play the video. How many of their questions were answered? What else did they find out? Play the video again if necessary.
5. If your students are not familiar with the gapped sentences exercise in CAE Use of English, explain that they are going to see groups of three sentences with a gap in each sentence. Their task is to fill the gap with one word that fits all three sentences in the same group. Display the three sentences in the example (p4). Students work together to find one word that fits all three gaps and tell you when they're ready.
6. Say that one of the sentences comes from the video. Play from the beginning to 00:08 for students to check their answer (**yet**).
7. Give students a copy of the gapped sentences on page 5 and let them work on them in groups, using dictionaries and mobiles. Alternatively, display the first group of sentences (p6) for students to work on as they did in the example in step 5. Before you display the next group of sentences (p7-10), tell students to take a photo of the examples on the screen for their vocabulary records.

8. When they've finished, play the video so that they can check their answers.

1. hole 2. cover 3. mind 4. land 5. cast

9. Now play the video section by section as indicated below and students note down what they hear. (If you gave them copies of the gapped handout, tell them not to look at it.) They should be able to do this from a combination of memory and listening.

- (00:08-00:13) It emerges mostly at night and stays close to its hole.
- (00:46-00:51) This marathon can cover nearly 10km and take days.
- (01:14-01:19) They're heading for the Caribbean sea with one purpose in mind.
- (01:21-01:30) These may be air-breathing land crabs, but they still need water for one thing: to breed.
- (01:31-01:39) Each crab is carrying a pouch of precious eggs and now she has to cast them adrift.

10. They mark stress, linking and pauses and practise saying the sentences with their partner. If they're not used to doing this, do the first example with the whole class.

11. To finish off, refer students to the questions they came up with in step 3. Which ones were not answered? Send them the link to the second video to watch at home. In the next class they say which of their questions were answered and what else they found out.



Example

- There's _____ another creature that roams Cuba's underworld.
- Their latest album is their best _____.
- I could do it for you. Better _____, I could show you how to do it.

Gapped Sentences

If you find yourself in a _____, stop digging. (Dennis Healey, retired politician)

I agree with some of what you say, but there's a gaping _____ in your argument.

It (the crab) emerges mostly at night and stays close to its _____.

How many _____ versions can you think of that are better than the original?

I can't remember the last time I read a newspaper from _____ to _____.

This marathon can _____ nearly ten kilometres and take days.

They're heading for the Caribbean sea with one purpose in _____.

You look worried. What's on your _____?

There are several things to bear in _____ when choosing a puppy.

When we retire, we're going to buy some _____ in the country and build a house on it.

These may be air-breathing _____ crabs, but they still need water for one thing: to breed.

If you drop buttered toast, it nearly always seems to _____ butter-side down.

Each crab is carrying a pouch of precious eggs and now she has to _____ them adrift.

The _____ of the film includes both experienced actors and newcomers.

The prosecutor _____ doubt on the defendant's testimony.

1

- If you find yourself in a _____, stop digging.
(Dennis Healey, retired politician)
- I agree with some of what you say, but there's a gaping _____ in your argument.
- It (the crab) emerges mostly at night and stays close to its _____.

2

- How many _____ versions can you think of that are better than the original?
- I can't remember the last time I read a newspaper from _____ to _____ .
- This marathon can _____ nearly ten kilometres and take days.

3

- They're heading for the Caribbean sea with one purpose in _____.
- You look worried. What's on your _____?
- There are several things to bear in _____ when choosing a puppy.

4

- When we retire, we're going to buy some _____ in the country and build a house on it.
- These may be air-breathing _____ crabs, but they still need water for one thing: to breed.
- If you drop buttered toast, it nearly always seems to _____ butter-side down.

5

- Each crab is carrying a pouch of precious eggs and now she has to _____ them adrift.
- The _____ of the film includes both experienced actors and newcomers.
- The prosecutor _____ doubt on the defendant's testimony.