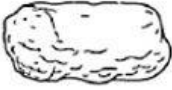


NAME: _____ DATE: _____

LOUD NOISES

Noise can be a big problem in the workplace. When working in noisy places, workers may use ear protection. Look at the pictures of various ear protection devices and answer the questions which follow

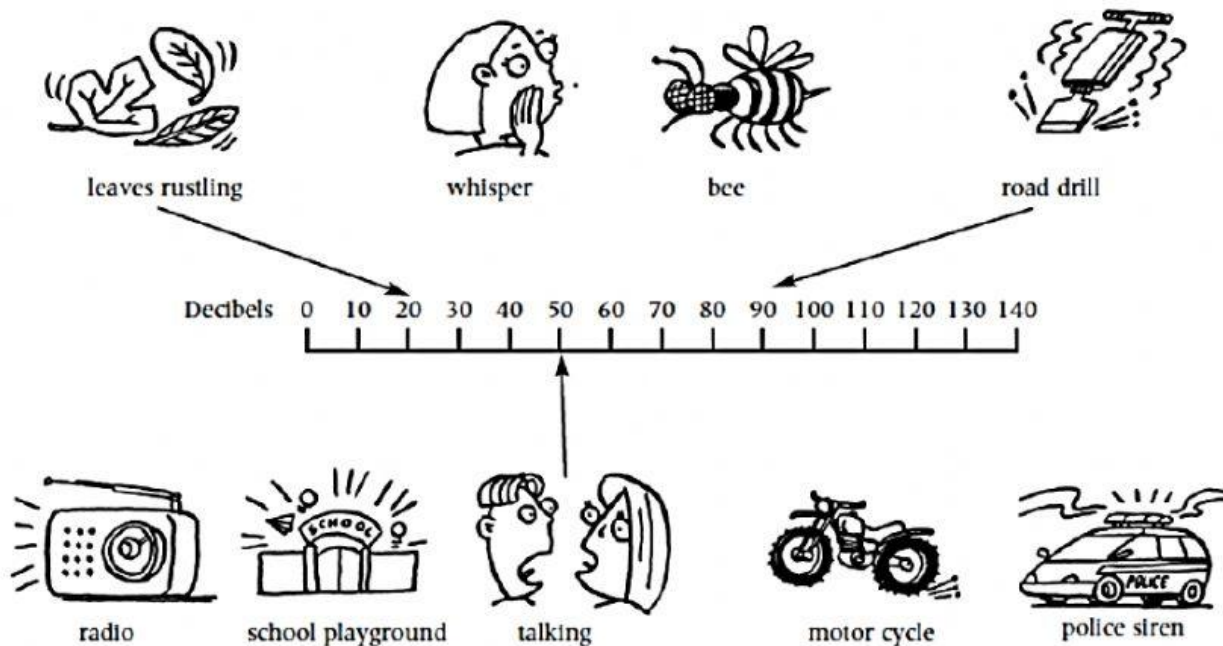
Type of ear protector		Reduces noise levels by	Disadvantage
A Cotton wool plug		10 dB	Works loose, needs clean hands to replace
B Greased cotton wool plug		30 dB	Works loose, needs clean hands to replace, could cause irritation
C Polystyrene ear plug		30 dB	Can be uncomfortable as it fits tightly in the ear, causes sweating, needs clean hands to fit
D Ear muffs containing sound absorbing materials such as foam, attached to a helmet		40 dB	Can be uncomfortable as it covers the ear, causes sweating, not as well fitting as the headband type.
E Ear muffs containing sound absorbing material such as foam, attached to a head band		50 dB	Can be uncomfortable as it covers the ear, causes sweating

For all questions below, type the LETTERS of the correct answers.

- Which ear protectors:
 - Would be best to use in a noisy work environment? _____ and _____
 - Reduce noise levels by the same amount? _____ and _____
 - Are likely to fall off? _____ and _____
 - Can become uncomfortable? _____ and _____
 - Give the least protection from noise? _____ and _____
 - Need clean hands to put them in place? _____ and _____
- Trapped air is a good sound insulator. Which of the ear protectors above traps air in the ear canal? _____ and _____
- Soft materials absorb sound. Which of the ear protectors above have soft materials in them? _____ and _____

NOISE

The loudness of a sound is measured in **decibels (dB)**. A sound which is 0 dB is so quiet that we can only just hear it.



1. Look at the pictures above showing different sounds. In the box below each picture, write ONE possible value from the decibel scale above that would represent the loudness of the sound in the picture. **Just write the number in the space provided.**

2 Fill in the gaps in these sentences using words from the box below or information from the pictures above.

The units for measuring the loudness of a sound are _____. We cannot hear any sounds quieter than _____ dB.

When leaves rustle, they have a loudness of _____ dB. People usually talk with a loudness of _____ dB.

Loud noises can _____ our ears and make us deaf. A very loud noise can break the _____. The cochlea can also be damaged by _____ noise.

There are laws to protect people who work in noisy _____. The loudest sound allowed is 90 dB. This is the same loudness as a _____. _____ and explosions are louder than this.

damage decibels eardrum factories loud
police sirens road drill