

The texting pigeons

Not everybody (0) the benefits of new developments in communications technology. Indeed, some people fear that text messaging may actually be having a negative (1) on young people's communication and language skills, especially when we hear that primary school children may be at (2) of becoming addicted to the habit. So widespread has texting become, however, that even pigeons have started doing it. (3) , in this case, it's difficult to view the results as anything but positive.

Twenty of the birds are about to (4) to the skies with the task of measuring air pollution, each (5) with sensor equipment and a mobile phone. The (6) made by the sensors will be automatically (7) into text messages and beamed to the Internet – where they will (8) on a dedicated 'pigeon blog'.

The birds will also each have a GPS receiver and a camera to capture aerial photos, and researchers are building a tiny 'pigeon kit' containing all these (9) Each bird will carry these in a miniature backpack, (10) , that is, from the camera, which will hang around its neck.

The data the pigeons text will be displayed in the (11) of an interactive map, which will (12) local residents with up-to-the-minute information on their local air quality.

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|----|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| 0 | A recognises | B believes | C agrees | D approves |
| 1 | A result | B outcome | C effect | D conclusion |
| 2 | A danger | B threat | C risk | D peril |
| 3 | A Therefore | B What's more | C Whereas | D That is |
| 4 | A make | B launch | C reach | D take |
| 5 | A armed | B loaded | C granted | D stocked |
| 6 | A studies | B readings | C reviews | D inquiries |
| 7 | A adapted | B converted | C revised | D applied |
| 8 | A attend | B present | C issue | D appear |
| 9 | A gadgets | B utensils | C appliances | D implements |
| 10 | A instead | B except | C apart | D besides |
| 11 | A shape | B way | C form | D size |
| 12 | A offer | B produce | C donate | D provide |

