

在伦敦,鸽子绰号“飞鼠”,因其粪便污染环境而臭名昭著。如今营销公司DigitasLBi的主管Pierre Duquesnoy突发奇想利用鸽子来监测空气质量,其目的是引起人们对空气污染的关注,从此鸽子便成了伦敦新的环保卫士。

## Pigeons are London's newest pollution fighters

### 鸽子化身伦敦的环保卫士

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题材	体裁	文章词数	难度	建议用时
环保	说明文	363	★★★	6 分钟



reputation /ˌrepjuˈteɪʃn/ n. 名誉;名声



Pigeons in London have a bad **reputation**. Some people call them flying rats. And many blame them for causing pollution with their droppings. But now the birds are being used to fight another kind of pollution in this city.

“The problem of air pollution is that it’s been largely ignored as an issue for a long time,” says Andrea Lee, who works for the London-based environmental organization ClientEarth.

“People don’t realize how bad it is, and how it actually affects their health. London’s poor air quality is linked to nearly 10,000 early deaths a year,” Lee says, citing a report released by the city manager last year. If people were better informed about the pollution they’re breathing, she says, they could pressure the government to do something about it.

Nearby, on a windy hill in London's Regent's Park, an experiment is underway that could help—the first week of flights by the Pigeon Air Patrol. It all began when Pierre Duquesnoy, the director for DigtasLBi, a marketing firm, won a London Design Festival contest last year to show how a world problem could be solved using Twitter. Duquesnoy, from France, chose the problem of air pollution.

“Basically, I realized how important the problem was,” he says. “But also I realized that most of the people around me didn't know anything about it.” ***Duquesnoy says he wants to better measure pollution while making the results accessible to the public through Twitter.***

“So,” he wondered, “how could we go across the city quickly collecting as much data as possible?” Drones were his first thought. But it's illegal to fly them over London. “But pigeons can fly above London, right?” he says. “They live here—actually, they are Londoners as well. So, yeah, I thought about using pigeons equipped with mobile apps. And we can use not just street pigeons, but racing pigeons, because they fly pretty quickly and pretty low.”

So it might be time for Londoners to have more respect for their pigeons. The birds may just be helping to improve the quality of the city's air.



1. What can we infer about London's air quality from paragraph 2?
  - A. Londoners are very satisfied with it.
  - B. The government is trying to improve it.
  - C. Londoners should pay more attention to it.
  - D. The government has done a lot to improve it.
2. Duquesnoy attended the London Design Festival to \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. entertain Londoners
  - B. display the way of solving a problem
  - C. design a product for sale
  - D. protect animals like pigeons
3. Why did Duquesnoy give up using drones to fly across London?
  - A. They fly too high.
  - B. They are forbidden.
  - C. They fly too quickly.
  - D. They are too expensive.



### Difficult sentence

Duquesnoy says he wants to better measure pollution while making the results accessible to the public through Twitter.

【翻译】\_\_\_\_\_

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