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Level 6

Australia to dump sludge in Great Barrier Reef

4th February, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140204-great-barrier-reef.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140204-great-barrier-reef.html>

Australia's government has approved a plan to dump massive amounts of sludge in the Great Barrier Reef. The mud will come from a project to expand a coal port at Abbot Point, on the coast near the reef. The decision to give the go-ahead to the dumping of the sludge was made by Australia's Environment Minister in December. It has caused environmentalists to be up in arms about the possible damage to the world's largest and most famous coral reef. They say it is outrageous to put corporate profits ahead of such an important marine environment. About 3 million cubic meters of mud will be poured into the reef's waters. Authorities say the sludge will not be dumped on top of any coral.

The Barrier Reef is the world's largest coral reef system. It stretches for over 2,600 kilometres, covering an area of approximately 344,400 square kilometres. It receives special protection from Australia's government to limit the impact of fishing and tourism. Climate change is already damaging its delicate ecosystems by bleaching and killing the coral. The reef creates \$3 billion a year in tourism revenue. Greenpeace warned that the dumping, "is one more body blow for the Reef which further threatens marine life, its World Heritage status and Australia's tourism and fishing industries". The World Wildlife Fund said the decision marked, "a sad day for the reef and anyone who cares about its future".

Sources: <http://edition.cnn.com/2014/01/31/world/asia/great-barrier-reef-dump-approved/>
<http://www.smh.com.au/national/grief-for-great-barrier-reef-say-environmentalists-20140131-31sjj.html>
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Great_Barrier_Reef

WARM-UPS

1. THE GREAT BARRIER REEF: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about the *Great Barrier Reef*. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

approved / plan / project / Great Barrier Reef / environmentalists / up in arms / profits / system / protection / fishing / tourism / delicate / marine life / decision / sad day

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. WHAT WOULD THEY SAY?: What would these people say about the plan to pour 3 million cubic meters of mud into the Great Barrier Reef? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What they'd say	Do you agree?
The coal mine CEO		
A marine biologist		
A scuba-diving tourist		
Greenpeace		
A reef tour operator		
Australia's leader		

4. PROFITS?: Students A **strongly** believe profits are more important than the environment; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. GREAT BARRIER REEF JOBS: Rank these and share with your partner. Put the most important jobs at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- fisherman
- marine biologist
- Greenpeace activist
- scuba-diving teacher
- environmental scientist
- coal mine CEO
- underwater photographer
- reef security

6. MUD: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "mud". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140204-great-barrier-reef.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| a. Australia's government wants to stop a mine putting mud in the reef. | T / F |
| b. Australia's Environment Minister approved the dumping plan. | T / F |
| c. Environmentalists are worried it will cost an arm and a leg. | T / F |
| d. Around 3 million cubic metres of sludge will be poured into the reef. | T / F |
| e. The reef covers an area of approximately 2,600 square kilometres. | T / F |
| f. The sun is already bleaching and killing coral. | T / F |
| g. The reef generates about \$3 million a year through tourism. | T / F |
| h. Greenpeace said the decision was a body blow for the reef. | T / F |

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1. approved | a. green light |
| 2. expand | b. fragile |
| 3. go-ahead | c. spans |
| 4. up in arms | d. develop |
| 5. outrageous | e. OK'd |
| 6. stretches | f. endangers |
| 7. receives | g. shocking |
| 8. delicate | h. represented |
| 9. threatens | i. angry |
| 10. marked | j. gets |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. approved | a. be up in arms |
| 2. dump massive | b. 344,400 square km |
| 3. The decision to give | c. amounts of sludge |
| 4. It has caused environmentalists to | d. a sad day for the reef |
| 5. 3 million cubic | e. a plan |
| 6. approximately | f. delicate ecosystems |
| 7. limit the impact | g. meters of mud |
| 8. damaging its | h. blow for the Reef |
| 9. one more body | i. of fishing and tourism |
| 10. the decision marked | j. the go-ahead |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140204-great-barrier-reef.html>

Australia's government has (1) _____ a plan to dump massive amounts of sludge in the Great Barrier Reef. The mud will come from a project to (2) _____ a coal port at Abbot Point, on the coast near the reef. The decision to give the (3) _____ to the dumping of the sludge was made by Australia's Environment Minister in December. It has caused environmentalists to be up in (4) _____ about the possible damage to the world's largest and most famous coral reef. They say it is (5) _____ to put corporate profits ahead of such an important (6) _____ environment. About 3 million cubic meters of mud will be (7) _____ into the reef's waters. Authorities say the sludge will not be dumped on top of any (8) _____.

coral
outrageous
go-ahead
approved
marine
expand
poured
arms

The Barrier Reef is the world's largest coral reef (9) _____. It stretches for over 2,600 kilometres, covering an area of (10) _____ 344,400 square kilometres. It receives special protection from Australia's government to (11) _____ the impact of fishing and tourism. Climate change is already damaging its (12) _____ ecosystems by bleaching and killing the coral. The reef creates \$3 billion a year in (13) _____ revenue. Greenpeace warned that the dumping, "is one more (14) _____ blow for the Reef which further threatens marine life, its World Heritage (15) _____ and Australia's tourism and fishing industries". The World Wildlife Fund said the decision (16) _____, "a sad day for the reef and anyone who cares about its future".

status
approximately
tourism
system
limit
marked
delicate
body

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140204-great-barrier-reef.html>

- 1) Australia's government has approved a plan to dump massive _____
 - a. amount of sludge
 - b. amounts of sludge
 - c. a mounts of sludge
 - d. a mount of sludge
- 2) The mud will come from a project to expand _____
 - a. a coal port
 - b. a coal part
 - c. a coal pert
 - d. a coal post
- 3) It has caused environmentalists to _____
 - a. be up in alms
 - b. be up in arms
 - c. be up in aims
 - d. be up in arm
- 4) it is outrageous to put corporate profits ahead of such an important _____
 - a. mariner environment
 - b. mariners environment
 - c. marring environment
 - d. marine environment
- 5) Authorities say the sludge will not be dumped on top _____
 - a. of any coral
 - b. of any corral
 - c. of any quarrels
 - d. of any quarrel
- 6) It stretches for over 2,600 kilometres, covering an area of approximately _____
 - a. 344,400 squared km
 - b. 344,400 squares km
 - c. 344,400 squarely km
 - d. 344,400 square km
- 7) limit the impact of _____
 - a. fishing and tourist
 - b. fish in and tourism
 - c. fishing and tourism
 - d. fish and tourists
- 8) Climate change is already damaging its _____
 - a. deli cat ecosystems
 - b. delicacy ecosystems
 - c. dedicate ecosystems
 - d. delicate ecosystems
- 9) The reef creates \$3 billion a year in _____
 - a. tourism revenues
 - b. tourist revenue
 - c. tourism revenue
 - d. tourist revenues
- 10) The World Wildlife Fund said the decision _____
 - a. harked a sad day
 - b. marked a sad day
 - c. barked a sad day
 - d. parked a sad day

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140204-great-barrier-reef.html>

Australia's government has approved a plan to (1) _____ of sludge in the Great Barrier Reef. The mud will come from a project to (2) _____ at Abbot Point, on the coast near the reef. The decision to (3) _____ to the dumping of the sludge was made by Australia's Environment Minister in December. It has caused environmentalists to be (4) _____ the possible damage to the world's largest and most famous coral reef. They (5) _____ put corporate profits ahead of such an important marine environment. About 3 million (6) _____ will be poured into the reef's waters. Authorities say the sludge will not be dumped on top of any coral.

The Barrier Reef is the world's largest coral reef system. It stretches for over 2,600 kilometres, covering an (7) _____ 344,400 square kilometres. It receives special protection from Australia's government to (8) _____ fishing and tourism. Climate change is already damaging its (9) _____ by bleaching and killing the coral. The reef creates \$3 billion a year in tourism revenue. Greenpeace warned that the dumping, "is (10) _____ for the Reef which further threatens marine life, its (11) _____ and Australia's tourism and fishing industries". The World Wildlife Fund said the decision marked, "a sad day for the reef and (12) _____ about its future".

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140204-great-barrier-reef.html>

1. What is being expanded?

2. Who gave the green light for the project?

3. What was the reaction of environmentalists?

4. What do environmentalists think is being put before the environment?

5. How much sludge will end up in the Great Barrier Reef?

6. How big is the Great Barrier Reef?

7. What is climate change doing to the coral?

8. How much money does the reef generate in tourism?

9. Who said the plan to dump the sludge was a "body blow" for the reef?

10. What kind of day did the World Wildlife Fund say it was?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140204-great-barrier-reef.html>

1. What is being expanded?
 - a) the reef
 - b) environmental protection plans
 - c) a coal port
 - d) coral
2. Who gave the green light for the project?
 - a) Australia's Environment Minister
 - b) Greenpeace
 - c) the local fishing industry
 - d) a scuba-diving operator
3. What was the reaction of environmentalists?
 - a) they were out of their heads
 - b) they were up in arms
 - c) they were up to their neck
 - d) they were all fingers and toes
4. What do environmentalists think is being put before the environment?
 - a) the environment
 - b) fish
 - c) decisions
 - d) profits
5. How much sludge will end up in the Great Barrier Reef?
 - a) 300,000 sq metres
 - b) 30,000,000 cubic metres
 - c) About 3 million m³
 - d) 344,400 square kilometres
6. How big is the Great Barrier Reef?
 - a) 344,400 km³
 - b) 344,400 km²
 - c) 344,400 cubic kilometres
 - d) 344,400 circular kilometres
7. What is climate change doing to the coral?
 - a) flattening it
 - b) making it bigger
 - c) diversifying it
 - d) bleaching it
8. How much money does the reef generate in tourism?
 - a) \$30,000 a week
 - b) \$3 billion a year
 - c) \$300,000,000 a year
 - d) \$3 million a day
9. Who said the plan to dump the sludge was a "body blow" for the reef?
 - a) Friends of Nemo
 - b) Greenpeace
 - c) a tour operator
 - d) The World Wildlife Fund
10. What kind of day did the World Wildlife Fund say it was?
 - a) a sad one
 - b) a windy one
 - c) a calamitous one
 - d) one to visit the reef

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140204-great-barrier-reef.html>

Role A – Marine biologist

You think a marine biologist is the best job. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their jobs. Also, tell the others which is the least attractive of these (and why): a Greenpeace activist, an underwater photographer or a scuba-diving teacher.

Role B – Greenpeace activist

You think a Greenpeace activist is the best job. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their jobs. Also, tell the others which is the least attractive of these (and why): a marine biologist, an underwater photographer or a scuba-diving teacher.

Role C – Underwater photographer

You think an underwater photographer is the best job. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their jobs. Also, tell the others which is the least attractive of these (and why): a Greenpeace activist, a marine biologist or a scuba-diving teacher.

Role D – Scuba-diving teacher

You think a scuba-diving teacher is the best job. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their jobs. Also, tell the others which is the least attractive of these (and why): a Greenpeace activist, an underwater photographer or a marine biologist.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140204-great-barrier-reef.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'barrier' and 'reef'.

barrier	reef
----------------	-------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• plan• near• arms• ahead• waters• top	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• area• special• change• year• life• future
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

THE OCEAN SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140204-great-barrier-reef.html>

Write five GOOD questions about the ocean 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.

THE OCEAN DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'reef'?
- c) What do you think of the plan?
- d) Are you surprised Australia's government OK'd it?
- e) What damage do you think this sludge might cause?
- f) When was the last time you were up in arms about something?
- g) Are environmentalists right to be up in arms about this?
- h) Do you think profits are being put ahead of the environment?
- i) Do you believe the authorities who say sludge will not be dumped on top of any coral?
- j) Why dump in the Great Barrier Reef?

Australia to dump sludge in Great Barrier Reef – 4th February, 2014
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THE OCEAN DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) What do you know about the Great Barrier Reef?
- c) Why is it important to protect the Great Barrier Reef?
- d) What will the rest of the world think about Australia over this decision?
- e) Should all fishing and tourism be banned on the Great Barrier Reef?
- f) What do you know about the Great Barrier Reef?
- g) How likely is it that the dumpers know what they are doing?
- h) What message would you like to give Australia's Environment Minister?
- i) What do you think the future holds for the Great Barrier Reef?
- j) What questions would you like to ask Australia's Environment Minister?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140204-great-barrier-reef.html>

Australia's government has (1) _____ a plan to dump massive amounts of sludge in the Great Barrier Reef. The mud will come from a project to (2) _____ a coal port at Abbot Point, on the coast near the reef. The decision to give the (3) _____ to the dumping of the sludge was made by Australia's Environment Minister in December. It has caused environmentalists to be up in (4) _____ about the possible damage to the world's largest and most famous coral reef. They say it is outrageous to put corporate profits (5) _____ of such an important marine environment. About 3 million (6) _____ meters of mud will be poured into the reef's waters. Authorities say the sludge will not be dumped on top of any coral.

The Barrier Reef is the world's largest coral reef system. It (7) _____ for over 2,600 kilometres, covering an area of (8) _____ 344,400 square kilometres. It receives special protection from Australia's government to limit the impact of fishing and tourism. Climate change is already damaging its (9) _____ ecosystems by bleaching and killing the coral. The reef creates \$3 billion a year in tourism revenue. Greenpeace warned that the dumping, "is one more (10) _____ blow for the Reef which further threatens (11) _____ life, its World Heritage status and Australia's tourism and fishing industries". The World Wildlife Fund said the decision (12) _____, "a sad day for the reef and anyone who cares about its future".

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. | (a) approval | (b) approving | (c) approved | (d) approves |
| 2. | (a) expand | (b) expend | (c) expunge | (d) expound |
| 3. | (a) go-ahead | (b) get-go | (c) go-go | (d) go-between |
| 4. | (a) arms | (b) the clouds | (c) the air | (d) smoke |
| 5. | (a) front | (b) ahead | (c) before | (d) forward |
| 6. | (a) diced | (b) squared | (c) circular | (d) cubic |
| 7. | (a) elongates | (b) lengthens | (c) stretches | (d) broadens |
| 8. | (a) approximated | (b) approximates | (c) approximate | (d) approximately |
| 9. | (a) delicate | (b) delicacy | (c) dedicate | (d) dedicated |
| 10. | (a) body | (b) head | (c) foot | (d) back |
| 11. | (a) mariner | (b) marine | (c) marring | (d) marinade |
| 12. | (a) attested | (b) graded | (c) marked | (d) scarred |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140204-great-barrier-reef.html>

Paragraph 1

1. pardoepva plan
2. aeimssv amounts
3. give the hd-oeag
4. an important ienmar environment
5. About 3 million bciuc meters
6. seArouthtii say the sludge will not be dumped

Paragraph 2

7. an area of yeatrapmixplo 344,400 square kilometres
8. special oitnteocrp
9. eetdliac ecosystems
10. \$3 billion a year in tourism eereunv
11. its World tgaerHie status
12. tourism and fishing istreuidns

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140204-great-barrier-reef.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () profits ahead of such an important marine environment. About 3 million cubic meters of mud will be
- (**1**) Australia's government has approved a plan to dump massive amounts of sludge in the Great Barrier Reef. The mud will
- () The Barrier Reef is the world's largest coral reef system. It stretches for over 2,600 kilometres, covering an
- () ahead to the dumping of the sludge was made by Australia's Environment Minister in
- () marked, "a sad day for the reef and anyone who cares about its future".
- () bleaching and killing the coral. The reef creates \$3 billion a year in tourism revenue. Greenpeace warned that the
- () come from a project to expand a coal port at Abbot Point, on the coast near the reef. The decision to give the go-
- () area of approximately 344,400 square kilometres. It receives special protection from Australia's government to
- () December. It has caused environmentalists to be up in arms about the possible
- () dumping, "is one more body blow for the Reef which further threatens marine life, its World Heritage
- () damage to the world's largest and most famous coral reef. They say it is outrageous to put corporate
- () status and Australia's tourism and fishing industries". The World Wildlife Fund said the decision
- () poured into the reef's waters. Authorities say the sludge will not be dumped on top of any coral.
- () limit the impact of fishing and tourism. Climate change is already damaging its delicate ecosystems by

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140204-great-barrier-reef.html>

1. plan massive sludge a dump of Approved to amounts.

2. a project come The coal to from mud port expand a will.

3. to decision The dumping the to ahead - go the give.

4. arms has to in It environmentalists up caused be.

5. meters cubic million 3 About mud of.

6. Covering an area of approximately 344,400 square km.

7. change delicate is ecosystems already damaging Climate its.

8. revenue tourism in year a billion \$3 creates reef The.

9. The the body is dumping Reef blow one for more.

10. The reef the for day sad a marked decision.

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140204-great-barrier-reef.html>

Australia's government has *approved / approval* a plan to dump massive amounts of sludge in the Great Barrier Reef. The mud will come from a project to *expend / expand* a coal port at Abbot Point, *in / on* the coast near the reef. The decision to give the *go-ahead / get-go* to the dumping of the sludge was made by Australia's Environment Minister in December. It has caused environmentalists to be *an arm and a leg / up in arms* about the possible damage to the world's largest and most famous coral reef. They say it is *outlandish / outrageous* to put corporate profits *ahead / front* of such an important *marine / maritime* environment. About 3 million cubic meters of mud will be poured into the reef's *watery / waters*. *Authorities / Authorises* say the sludge will not be dumped on top of any coral.

The Barrier Reef is the world's largest coral reef *systematic / system*. It stretches for over 2,600 kilometres, covering an area of *approximated / approximately* 344,400 *square / circular* kilometres. It receives special protection from Australia's government to *delimit / limit* the impact of fishing and tourism. Climate change is already damaging its *delicacy / delicate* ecosystems by *bleaching / belching* and killing the coral. The reef creates \$3 billion a year in *tourism / tourists* revenue. Greenpeace warned that the dumping, "is one more body *brow / blow* for the Reef which further threatens marine life, its World Heritage *statues / status* and Australia's tourism and fishing industries". The World Wildlife Fund said the decision *graded / marked*, "a sad day for the reef and anyone who cares about its future".

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140204-great-barrier-reef.html>

__str_l__'s g_v_rnm_nt h_s _ppr_v_d _ pl_n t_ d_mp
m_ss_v__m__nts _f sl_dg__n th_ Gr__t B_rr__r R__f.
Th_ m_d_w_ll c_m_ fr_m _ pr_j_ct t_ _xp_nd _ c__l
p_rt _t _bb_t P__nt, _n th_ c__st n__r th_ r__f. Th_
d_c_s__n t_ g_v_ th_ g_-h__d t_ th_ d_mp_ng _f th_
sl_dg_ w_s m_d_ by __str_l__'s _nv_r_nm_nt M_n_st_r
_n D_c_mb_r. _t h_s c__s_d _nv_r_nm_nt_l_sts t_ b_
_p _n _rms _b__t th_ p_ss_bl_ d_m_g_ t_ th_ w_rld's
l_rg_st _nd m_st_f_m__s c_r_l_r__f. Th_y s_y _t _s
__tr_g__s t_ p_t c_rp_r_t_ pr_f_ts _h__d _f_s_ch_n
_mp_rt_nt m_r_n_ _nv_r_nm_nt. _b__t 3 m_ll__n
c_b_c m_t_rs _f m_d_w_ll b_p__rd_nt_ th_ r__f's
w_t_rs. __th_r_t_s_s_y th_ sl_dg_ w_ll n_t b_d_mp_d
_n t_p_f_ny c_r_l.

Th_ B_rr__r R__f _s th_ w_rld's l_rg_st c_r_l_r__f
syst_m. _t str_tch_s _f_r _v_r 2,600 k_l_m_tr_s,
c_v_r_ng _n _r__ _f _ppr_x_m_t_ly 344,400 sq__r_
k_l_m_tr_s. _t r_c__v_s sp_c__l pr_t_ct__n fr_m
__str_l__'s g_v_rnm_nt t_l_m_t th_ _mp_ct _f f_sh_ng
_nd t_r_sm. Cl_m_t_ch_ng__s _lr__dy d_m_g_ng _ts
d_l_c_t__c_syst_ms by bl__ch_ng _nd k_ll_ng th_
c_r_l. Th_ r__f cr__t_s \$3 b_ll__n _y__r _n t_r_sm
r_v_n__. Gr__np_c_ w_rn_d th_t th_ d_mp_ng, "_s
_n_m_r_ b_dy bl_w_f_r th_ R__f wh_ch_f_rth_r
thr__t_ns m_r_n_l_f_, _ts W_rld_H_r_t_g_st_t_s _nd
__str_l__'s t_r_sm _nd f_sh_ng _nd_str__s". Th_
W_rld_W_ldl_f_F_nds_s__d th_ d_c_s__n m_rk_d, "_s_d
d_y_f_r th_ r__f _nd _ny_n_ wh_ c_r_s _b__t _ts
f_t_r_".

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140204-great-barrier-reef.html>

australia's government has approved a plan to dump massive amounts of sludge in the great barrier reef the mud will come from a project to expand a coal port at abbot point on the coast near the reef the decision to give the go-ahead to the dumping of the sludge was made by australia's environment minister in december it has caused environmentalists to be up in arms about the possible damage to the world's largest and most famous coral reef they say it is outrageous to put corporate profits ahead of such an important marine environment about 3 million cubic meters of mud will be poured into the reef's waters authorities say the sludge will not be dumped on top of any coral

the barrier reef is the world's largest coral reef system it stretches for over 2600 kilometres covering an area of approximately 344400 square kilometres it receives special protection from australia's government to limit the impact of fishing and tourism climate change is already damaging its delicate ecosystems by bleaching and killing the coral the reef creates \$3 billion a year in tourism revenue greenpeace warned that the dumping "is one more body blow for the reef which further threatens marine life its world heritage status and australia's tourism and fishing industries" the world wildlife fund said the decision marked "a sad day for the reef and anyone who cares about its future"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140204-great-barrier-reef.html>

Australia's government has approved a plan to dump a massive amount of sludge in the Great Barrier Reef. The mud will come from a project to expand a coal port at Abbot Point, on the coast near the reef. The decision to give the go-ahead to the dumping of the sludge was made by Australia's Environment Minister in December. It has caused environmentalists to be up in arms about the possible damage to the world's largest and most famous coral reef. They say it is outrageous to put corporate profit ahead of such an important marine environment. About 3 million cubic meters of mud will be poured into the reef's waters. Authorities say the sludge will not be dumped on top of any coral. The Barrier Reef is the world's largest coral reef system. It stretches for over 2,600 kilometres, covering an area of approximately 344,400 square kilometres. It receives special protection from Australia's government to limit the impact of fishing and tourism. Climate change is already damaging its delicate ecosystems by bleaching and killing the coral. The reef creates \$3 billion a year in tourism revenue. Greenpeace warned that the dumping, "is one more body blow for the Reef which further threatens marine life, its World Heritage status and Australia's tourism and fishing industries". The World Wildlife Fund said the decision marked, "a sad day for the reef and anyone who cares about its future".

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about the ocean. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. DANGERS: Make a poster about the dangers the oceans face from human activity. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. GREAT BARRIER REEF: Write a magazine article about the Great Barrier Reef and the dumping. Include imaginary interviews with the CEO of the port, a Greenpeace official and a fish who lives in the reef.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to Australia's Environment Minister. Ask him three questions about the dumping. Give him three pieces of advice on what to do from now. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F b T c F d T e F f T g F h T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1. approved | a. OK'd |
| 2. expand | b. develop |
| 3. go-ahead | c. green light |
| 4. up in arms | d. angry |
| 5. outrageous | e. shocking |
| 6. stretches | f. spans |
| 7. receives | g. gets |
| 8. delicate | h. fragile |
| 9. threatens | i. endangers |
| 10. marked | j. represented |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. A coal port
2. Australia's Environment Minister
3. They were up in arms
4. Profits
5. About 3 million cubic meters
6. Approximately 344,400 square kilometres
7. Bleaching and killing it
8. \$3 billion
9. Greenpeace
10. A sad one

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. c 2. a 3. b 4. d 5. c 6. b 7. d 8. b 9. b 10. a

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)