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## Level 0

### Potato shortage causes 'chipocalypse'

19th October, 2017

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171019-potato-chips-0.html>

## Contents

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| The Reading          | 2 |
| Phrase Matching      | 3 |
| Listening Gap Fill   | 4 |
| No Spaces            | 5 |
| Survey               | 6 |
| Writing and Speaking | 7 |
| Writing              | 8 |

Please try Levels 1, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171019-potato-chips-0.html>

There is a potato problem in New Zealand. Potato chip lovers are calling it a "chipocalypse". A very wet winter has hit potato farmers. In some areas, farmers lost a third of the potatoes used to make potato chips. Companies will make fewer potato chips. The price of potato chips will be higher.

The Potatoes New Zealand group said: "It started raining in March, and it...hasn't stopped. We've had the entire year's worth of rainfall already." The ground never dries out. He said potatoes need to breathe, but they are drowning and rotting. A big supermarket said it was working to make sure potatoes are in the shops.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-41633997>  
<http://www.radionz.co.nz/news/national/341595/chips-are-down-as-potato-shortage-bites>  
[http://www.nzherald.co.nz/business/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=3&objectid=11933616](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/business/news/article.cfm?c_id=3&objectid=11933616)

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171019-potato-chips-0.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. There is a potato       | a. fewer potato chips |
| 2. Potato chip             | b. areas              |
| 3. A very wet winter has   | c. problem            |
| 4. In some                 | d. of potato chips    |
| 5. farmers lost a third of | e. hit potato farmers |
| 6. used to                 | f. the potatoes       |
| 7. Companies will make     | g. lovers             |
| 8. The price               | h. make potato chips  |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                            |                         |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. It started raining      | a. of rainfall          |
| 2. it hasn't               | b. drowning and rotting |
| 3. the entire year's worth | c. in the shops         |
| 4. The ground never dries  | d. stopped              |
| 5. potatoes need to        | e. sure                 |
| 6. they are                | f. breathe              |
| 7. it was working to make  | g. in March             |
| 8. potatoes are            | h. out                  |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171019-potato-chips-0.html>

There is a potato problem in New Zealand. Potato

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ calling it a "chipocalypse". A

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ has hit potato farmers.

(3) \_\_\_\_\_, farmers lost (4) \_\_\_\_\_

the potatoes (5) \_\_\_\_\_ potato chips. Companies

will make fewer potato chips. The price of potato chips

(6) \_\_\_\_\_.

The Potatoes New Zealand group said: "It

(7) \_\_\_\_\_ March, and it...hasn't stopped. We've

had the entire (8) \_\_\_\_\_ rainfall already." The

ground (9) \_\_\_\_\_. He said potatoes need to

breathe, (10) \_\_\_\_\_ drowning and rotting. A big

supermarket (11) \_\_\_\_\_ working to make sure

potatoes (12) \_\_\_\_\_ shops.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171019-potato-chips-0.html>

There is a potato problem in New Zealand. Potato chip lovers are calling it a "chipocalypse". A very wet winter has hit potato farmers. In some areas, farmers lost a third of the potatoes used to make potato chips. Companies will make fewer potato chips. The price of potato chips will be higher. The Potatoes New Zealand group said: "It started raining in March, and it... hasn't stopped. We've had the entire year's worth of rain fall already." The ground never dries out. He said potatoes need to breathe, but they are drowning and rotting. A big supermarket said it was working to make sure potatoes are in the shops.

# POTATO CHIPS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171019-potato-chips-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about potato chips 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<br>_____ | STUDENT 2<br>_____ | STUDENT 3<br>_____ |
|------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 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.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

*Potato shortage causes 'chipocalypse' – 19th October, 2017*  
More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

