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**Level 2 – 28th July, 2019**

## Arctic wildfires visible from space

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires-2.html>

There are hundreds of wildfires all across the Arctic Circle. The smoke from them can be seen from space. The Arctic is warming twice as fast as anywhere else on Earth. The Arctic is having its hottest June ever. It is also having its worst wildfire season on record. There are huge fires covering large areas of Greenland, Siberia, Scandinavia and Alaska. In Alaska, there are 400 fires burning out of control. The vast Greenland ice sheet has started melting a month earlier than usual. The World Meteorological Organization called the Arctic fires "unprecedented".

Scientists say the fires and smoke could affect global warming. A meteorologist explained what is causing the fires. He said: "Temperatures in the Arctic have been increasing at a much faster rate than the global average, and warmer conditions encourage fires to grow and persist once they have been ignited." Dry ground, lightning and strong winds have caused the fires to spread. The flames have set fire to methane below the ice. This is releasing huge amounts of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. The fires have destroyed habitat and killed uncountable numbers of animals.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-49125391>  
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/jul/26/unprecedented-more-than-100-wildfires-burning-in-the-arctic-in-worst-ever-season>  
<https://www.sciencealert.com/unprecedented-wildfires-are-ravaging-the-arctic-and-the-images-from-space-are-astonishing>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                     |                       |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. all across                       | a. June ever          |
| 2. The smoke from them can be       | b. areas of Greenland |
| 3. The Arctic is warming twice      | c. started melting    |
| 4. The Arctic is having its hottest | d. the Arctic Circle  |
| 5. its worst wildfire               | e. as fast            |
| 6. huge fires covering large        | f. of control         |
| 7. 400 fires burning out            | g. seen from space    |
| 8. The vast Greenland ice sheet has | h. season on record   |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                     |                         |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. the fires and smoke could affect | a. dioxide              |
| 2. A meteorologist explained what   | b. the fires to spread  |
| 3. at a much faster                 | c. of animals           |
| 4. strong winds have caused         | d. is causing the fires |
| 5. The flames have set              | e. habitat              |
| 6. huge amounts of carbon           | f. rate                 |
| 7. The fires have destroyed         | g. fire to methane      |
| 8. killed uncountable numbers       | h. global warming       |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires-2.html>

There are hundreds of wildfires (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Arctic Circle. The smoke from them can be (2) \_\_\_\_\_. The Arctic is warming twice as fast as anywhere else on Earth. The Arctic is (3) \_\_\_\_\_ June ever. It is also having its worst wildfire (4) \_\_\_\_\_. There are huge fires covering large areas of Greenland, Siberia, Scandinavia and Alaska. In Alaska, there are 400 fires burning (5) \_\_\_\_\_. The vast Greenland ice sheet has started melting a month (6) \_\_\_\_\_. The World Meteorological Organization called the Arctic fires "unprecedented".

Scientists say the fires and (7) \_\_\_\_\_ global warming. A meteorologist explained what is causing the fires. He said: "Temperatures in the Arctic have been increasing at a (8) \_\_\_\_\_ than the global average, and warmer conditions encourage fires to (9) \_\_\_\_\_ once they have been ignited." Dry ground, lightning and strong winds have caused the fires to spread. The flames (10) \_\_\_\_\_ to methane below the ice. This is releasing (11) \_\_\_\_\_ carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. The fires have destroyed (12) \_\_\_\_\_ uncountable numbers of animals.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires-2.html>

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# THE ARCTIC SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about the Arctic 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.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Arctic wildfires visible from space – 28th July, 2019*  
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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) \_\_\_\_\_

