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Level 6 – 3rd March, 2021

Dog theft on the rise worldwide

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210303-dog-theft.html>

Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	15
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	16
Vocabulary	4	Spelling	17
Before Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	18
Gap Fill	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	19
Match The Sentences And Listen	7	Circle The Correct Word	20
Listening Gap Fill	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	21
Comprehension Questions	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	22
Multiple Choice - Quiz	10	Put A Slash (/) Where The Spaces Are	23
Role Play	11	Free Writing	24
After Reading / Listening	12	Academic Writing	25
Student Survey	13	Homework	26
Discussion (20 Questions)	14	Answers	27

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

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210303-dog-theft.html>

A disturbing new crime is emerging worldwide that should be of concern to dog owners. Criminal gangs are engaged in wide-scale dog theft. In the UK it has turned into a lucrative but illicit industry. A theft in the USA last week became global news as the dog walker of pop singer Lady Gaga was shot in the chest as thieves stole her two pet bulldogs. The UK is experiencing a sharp rise in dog theft. Lockdowns due to coronavirus have led to a boom in pet sales as many people look for solace and companionship in animals. Sales of what are being dubbed "pandemic puppies" have skyrocketed. Unscrupulous criminals are now stealing dogs, often attacking their owners, and selling the canines for up to \$9,000.

The police warned dog owners to take extreme care online and in parks. People have been advised not to post pictures of their pets on social media. Police have also recommended people take their dogs for a walk with a friend and not leave dogs unattended in cars. The organisation DogLost said many people are buying dogs online without asking diligent background questions. A Change.org petition said the punishment for dog theft is the same as for a stolen smartphone. It said: "Dognapping has almost the same effect on a family as kidnapping, as pets are seen as family members. It is time the law reflected this in the sentencing of offenders."

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/feb/26/beware-social-media-warning-uk-dog-owners-thefts-rise>
<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/uk/priti-patel-pet-thieves-dog-theft-pledge-b919636.html>
<https://www.change.org/p/make-pet-theft-a-specific-crime-in-uk-law>

WARM-UPS

1. DOG THEFT: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about dog theft. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

disturbing / concern / dog owners / lucrative / illicit / thieves / coronavirus / puppies / care / social media / walk / diligent / punishment / dognapping / family / offenders

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

3. PRISON: Students A **strongly** believe dog thieves should get a long prison sentence; Students B **strongly** believe otherwise. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. PROS AND CONS: What are the pros and cons of these animals as pets? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Pros	Cons
Dogs		
Goldfish		
Cats		
Hamsters		
Tortoises		
A tarantula		

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

6. PETS: Rank these with your partner. Put the best pets at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Dog
- Cat
- Rabbit
- Tortoise
- Fish
- Snake
- Parrot
- Iguana

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. disturbing | a. Of facts or circumstances becoming known. |
| 2. emerging | b. A great rise in the demand for something. |
| 3. lucrative | c. Forbidden by law; illegal. |
| 4. illicit | d. Producing a great deal of profit. |
| 5. boom | e. Causing anxiety or worry. |
| 6. solace | f. Having or showing no moral principles; not honest or fair. |
| 7. unscrupulous | g. Comfort or consolation in a time of distress or sadness. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 8. extreme | h. Taking someone away illegally by force, usually to get a ransom. |
| 9. unattended | i. Not usual; exceptional. |
| 10. diligent | j. A penalty for an offense or crime. |
| 11. petition | k. A person who commits an illegal act. |
| 12. punishment | l. Having or showing care and conscientiousness in one's work or duties. |
| 13. kidnapping | m. A formal written request, typically one signed by many people, appealing to authority bring about change. |
| 14. offender | n. Not supervised or looked after. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210303-dog-theft.html>

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

- a. The article says dogs worldwide are becoming disturbed. **T / F**
- b. The article says dog theft is an illicit and lucrative business. **T / F**
- c. There has been a very big increase in dog theft in the UK. **T / F**
- d. People bought dogs during lockdown that were called pandemic puppies. **T / F**
- e. The police told dog owners not to take their dogs to the park. **T / F**
- f. The police told people to walk their dogs with a friend. **T / F**
- g. A petition said dognapping is a more serious crime than phone theft. **T / F**
- h. The petition wants punishments for dognapping to be changed. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| 1. disturbing | a. great |
| 2. lucrative | b. nicknamed |
| 3. solace | c. dogs |
| 4. dubbed | d. wrongdoers |
| 5. canines | e. profitable |
| 6. extreme | f. thorough |
| 7. post | g. worrying |
| 8. diligent | h. penalty |
| 9. punishment | i. comfort |
| 10. offenders | j. upload |

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

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1. A disturbing new crime is | a. "pandemic puppies" |
| 2. Criminal gangs are engaged in | b. illicit industry |
| 3. a lucrative but | c. of offenders |
| 4. people look for solace | d. extreme care online |
| 5. Sales of what are being dubbed | e. wide-scale dog theft |
| 6. The police warned dog owners to take | f. questions |
| 7. leave dogs unattended | g. emerging worldwide |
| 8. background | h. for dog theft |
| 9. the punishment | i. and companionship |
| 10. the sentencing | j. in cars |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210303-dog-theft.html>

A disturbing new crime is (1) _____ worldwide that should be of concern to dog owners. Criminal gangs are engaged in wide-(2) _____ dog theft. In the UK it has turned into a (3) _____ but illicit industry. A theft in the USA last week became global news as the dog walker of pop singer Lady Gaga was shot in the (4) _____ as thieves stole her two pet bulldogs. The UK is experiencing a (5) _____ rise in dog theft. Lockdowns due to coronavirus have led to a (6) _____ in pet sales as many people look for solace and companionship in animals. Sales of what are being (7) _____ "pandemic puppies" have skyrocketed. Unscrupulous (8) _____ are now stealing dogs, often attacking their owners, and selling the canines for up to \$9,000.

criminals

emerging

chest

boom

scale

dubbed

sharp

lucrative

The police warned dog owners to take (9) _____ care online and in parks. People have been advised not to post pictures of their pets on social media. Police have also (10) _____ people take their dogs for a walk with a friend and not leave dogs (11) _____ in cars. The organisation DogLost said many people are buying dogs online without asking (12) _____ background questions. A Change.org petition said the (13) _____ for dog theft is the same as for a stolen smartphone. It said: "Dognapping has almost the same (14) _____ on a family as kidnapping, as pets are seen as family members. It is time the law (15) _____ this in the sentencing of (16) _____."

punishment

recommended

reflected

extreme

diligent

offenders

effect

unattended

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210303-dog-theft.html>

- 1) A disturbing new crime is emerging worldwide that should _____
 - a. been off concern
 - b. being of concern
 - c. be of concern
 - d. be off concern
- 2) became global news as the dog walker of pop singer Lady Gaga was shot _____
 - a. inner chest
 - b. in a chesty
 - c. in the chest
 - d. in the chesty
- 3) Lockdowns due to coronavirus have led to a boom in pet sales as many people _____
 - a. look four solace
 - b. look fore solace
 - c. look for solace
 - d. look form solace
- 4) Sales of what are being dubbed "pandemic puppies" _____
 - a. having skyrocketed
 - b. have skied rocketed
 - c. have sky rock it
 - d. have skyrocketed
- 5) now stealing dogs, often attacking their owners, and _____
 - a. sealing the canines
 - b. selling the canines
 - c. sell in the canines
 - d. ceiling the canines
- 6) People have been advised not to post pictures of their pets _____
 - a. on socially media
 - b. on social media
 - c. on social medium
 - d. in social media
- 7) recommended people take their dogs for a walk with a friend and not _____
 - a. leave dogs not attended
 - b. leaves dogs unattended
 - c. leave dog unattended
 - d. leave dogs unattended
- 8) buying dogs online without asking _____ questions
 - a. difference background
 - b. diligent background
 - c. divergence background
 - d. divergent background
- 9) punishment for dog theft is the same as for _____
 - a. a stolen smartphone
 - b. a stealing smartphone
 - c. ace stole smartphone
 - d. ace stolen smartphone
- 10) It is time the law reflected this in the _____
 - a. sentencing of defenders
 - b. sentencing off offenders
 - c. sentencing oft offenders
 - d. sentencing of offenders

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210303-dog-theft.html>

A disturbing new (1) _____ worldwide that should be of concern to dog owners. Criminal (2) _____ in wide-scale dog theft. In the UK it has turned into a (3) _____ industry. A theft in the USA last week became global news as the dog walker of pop singer Lady Gaga was shot in the (4) _____ stole her two pet bulldogs. The UK is experiencing a sharp rise in dog theft. Lockdowns due to coronavirus have led to a boom in pet sales as many people look for solace and companionship in animals. Sales of what (5) _____ "pandemic puppies" have skyrocketed. Unscrupulous criminals are now stealing dogs, often attacking their owners, and selling the (6) _____ to \$9,000.

The police warned dog owners to take (7) _____ and in parks. People have been advised not to (8) _____ their pets on social media. Police have also recommended people take their dogs for a walk with a friend and not leave (9) _____ cars. The organisation DogLost said many people are buying dogs online (10) _____ background questions. A Change.org petition said (11) _____ dog theft is the same as for a stolen smartphone. It said: "Dognapping has almost the same effect on a family as kidnapping, as pets are seen as family members. It is time the law (12) _____ the sentencing of offenders."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210303-dog-theft.html>

1. Who does the article say should be concerned?
2. What does the article say dog theft is besides lucrative?
3. What country is experiencing a sharp rise in dog theft?
4. What are people looking for in animals besides companionship?
5. How much are criminals selling dogs for?
6. Where must dog owners be careful besides online?
7. Who did the police say dog owners should walk their dogs with?
8. What did an organisation say people do not ask when buying dogs?
9. What has the same punishment as dognapping?
10. What did a petition say dogs are seen as?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210303-dog-theft.html>

- 1) Who does the article say should be concerned?
 - a) dogs
 - b) the police
 - c) dognappers
 - d) dog owners
- 2) What does the article say dog theft is besides lucrative?
 - a) wrong
 - b) illicit
 - c) sad
 - d) cruel
- 3) What country is experiencing a sharp rise in dog theft?
 - a) Singapore
 - b) Canada
 - c) the USA
 - d) the UK
- 4) What are people looking for in animals besides companionship?
 - a) walks
 - b) fun
 - c) solace
 - d) security
- 5) How much are criminals selling dogs for?
 - a) around \$9,000
 - b) exactly \$9,000
 - c) less than \$9,000
 - d) up to \$9,000
- 6) Where must dog owners be careful besides online?
 - a) at home
 - b) in malls
 - c) in parks
 - d) in the street
- 7) Who did the police say dog owners should walk their dogs with?
 - a) a friend
 - b) dognappers
 - c) professional dog walkers
 - d) the police
- 8) What did an organisation say people do when buying dogs?
 - a) get the dog microchipped
 - b) get a collar
 - c) ask diligent background questions
 - d) buy a nice kennel
- 9) What has the same punishment as dognapping?
 - a) speeding
 - b) smartphone theft
 - c) shoplifting
 - d) petty theft
- 10) What did a petition say dogs are seen as?
 - a) family members
 - b) canines
 - c) work animals
 - d) cash

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210303-dog-theft.html>

Role A – Dogs

You think dogs are the best pets. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): fish, parrots or tortoises.

Role B – Fish

You think fish are the best pets. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): dogs, parrots or tortoises.

Role C – Parrots

You think parrots are the best pets. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): fish, dogs or tortoises.

Role D – Tortoises

You think tortoises are the best pets. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their pets. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): fish, parrots or dogs.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210303-dog-theft.html>

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

dog	theft

- 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">• crime• scale• shot• boom• dubbed• canines	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• extreme• post• walk• diligent• almost• law
--	---

DOG THEFT SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210303-dog-theft.html>

Write five GOOD questions about dog theft 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.

DOG THEFT DISCUSSION

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

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'dog'?
3. What do you think of dogs?
4. How good are dogs as pets?
5. What do you think of dog theft?
6. What is your favourite dog?
7. What are the good and bad things about dogs as pets?
8. What do you think of the term 'pandemic puppies'?
9. What can police do to catch the dog thieves?
10. What do you know about the Lady Gaga story?

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DOG THEFT DISCUSSION

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

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'theft'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. How can people take greater care when walking their dogs?
15. What do you think of dog pictures on social media?
16. What background questions should you ask before buying a dog?
17. What do you think of dognapping?
18. How can owners get their dogs back?
19. What advice do you have for dog owners?
20. What questions would you like to ask the police?

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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210303-dog-theft.html>

A disturbing new crime is emerging worldwide that should be (1) _____ concern to dog owners. Criminal gangs are engaged (2) _____ wide-scale dog theft. In the UK it has turned into a (3) _____ but illicit industry. A theft in the USA last week became global news as the dog walker of pop singer Lady Gaga was shot in the chest as thieves stole her two pet bulldogs. The UK is experiencing a (4) _____ rise in dog theft. Lockdowns due to coronavirus have led to a boom in pet sales as many people look for (5) _____ and companionship in animals. Sales of what are being (6) _____ "pandemic puppies" have skyrocketed. Unscrupulous criminals are now stealing dogs, often attacking their owners, and selling the canines for up to \$9,000.

The police warned dog owners to (7) _____ extreme care online and in parks. People have been advised not to post pictures of their pets on social media. Police have also recommended people (8) _____ their dogs for a walk with a friend and not leave dogs (9) _____ in cars. The organisation DogLost said many people are buying dogs online without asking diligent background questions. A Change.org petition said the (10) _____ for dog theft is the same as for a stolen smartphone. It said: "Dognapping has almost the same effect (11) _____ a family as kidnapping, as pets are seen as family members. It is time the law reflected this in the (12) _____ of offenders."

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) on | (b) at | (c) to | (d) of |
| 2. | (a) at | (b) as | (c) on | (d) in |
| 3. | (a) locative | (b) lucrative | (c) lactose | (d) laxative |
| 4. | (a) blunt | (b) edged | (c) sharp | (d) bordered |
| 5. | (a) solace | (b) solar | (c) soluble | (d) solemn |
| 6. | (a) dubbed | (b) dabbled | (c) dabbed | (d) daubed |
| 7. | (a) be | (b) have | (c) do | (d) take |
| 8. | (a) take | (b) make | (c) do | (d) show |
| 9. | (a) attention | (b) unattended | (c) attend | (d) attendance |
| 10. | (a) punished | (b) punish | (c) punishment | (d) punisher |
| 11. | (a) of | (b) at | (c) on | (d) to |
| 12. | (a) wording | (b) sentencing | (c) paragraphing | (d) essaying |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210303-dog-theft.html>

Paragraph 1

1. A sntriduigb new crime is emerging
2. rctiveaul but illicit
3. people look for alcsoe and companionship
4. being udbedb "pandemic puppies"
5. uusnsoprucul criminals
6. selling the cinsnea for up to \$9,000

Paragraph 2

7. take rxeeunte care
8. leave dogs ttednaneud
9. asking tniedgli background questions
10. A Change.org oeitptin
11. It is time the law leterfecd this
12. the sentencing of ofedrnfes

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210303-dog-theft.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () chest as thieves stole her two pet bulldogs. The UK is experiencing a sharp rise in dog theft. Lockdowns due to
- () online without asking diligent background questions. A Change.org petition said the punishment
- () industry. A theft in the USA last week became global news as the dog walker of pop singer Lady Gaga was shot in the
- () to post pictures of their pets on social media. Police have also recommended people take their dogs for a
- () coronavirus have led to a boom in pet sales as many people look for solace and companionship in animals. Sales of what are being dubbed
- () "pandemic puppies" have skyrocketed. Unscrupulous criminals are now stealing dogs,
- () walk with a friend and not leave dogs unattended in cars. The organisation DogLost said many people are buying dogs
- (**1**) A disturbing new crime is emerging worldwide that should be of concern to dog owners. Criminal
- () gangs are engaged in wide-scale dog theft. In the UK it has turned into a lucrative but illicit
- () The police warned dog owners to take extreme care online and in parks. People have been advised not
- () almost the same effect on a family as kidnapping, as pets are seen as family
- () for dog theft is the same as for a stolen smartphone. It said: "Dognapping has
- () often attacking their owners, and selling the canines for up to \$9,000.
- () members. It is time the law reflected this in the sentencing of offenders."

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210303-dog-theft.html>

1. emerging new is A worldwide . crime disturbing
2. wide-scale engaged gangs theft . Criminal in are dog
3. theft . a sharp experienced dog rise Britain in
4. led pet boom a Coronavirus to sales . in
5. dubbed are being pandemic puppies . of what Sales
6. dog take extreme warned to care . Police owners
7. have to advised not been post People pictures .
8. for dogs friend . a with walk Take a
9. the same . is punishment theft for The dog
10. Dognapping family . a the same has on effect

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210303-dog-theft.html>

A disturbing new crime is *emerging* / *emerged* worldwide that should be of concern to dog owners. Criminal gangs *are gauged* / *engaged* in wide-scale dog theft. In the UK it has turned into a lucrative *but* / *so* illicit industry. A theft in the USA last week became global news *has* / *as* the dog walker of pop singer Lady Gaga was shot in the *chest* / *chests* as thieves stole her two pet bulldogs. The UK is experiencing a *blunt* / *sharp* rise in dog theft. Lockdowns due to coronavirus have led to a *boom* / *bloom* in pet sales as many people look for solace and companionship *on* / *in* animals. Sales of what are being *daubed* / *dubbed* "pandemic puppies" have skyrocketed. Unscrupulous criminals are now stealing dogs, often attacking their owners, and selling the *canines* / *canes* for up to \$9,000.

The police warned dog owners to take *extremely* / *extreme* care online and in parks. People *have* / *are* been advised not to post pictures of their pets on social media. Police have also *recommendation* / *recommended* people take their dogs for a walk with a friend and not *leave* / *stay* dogs unattended in cars. The organisation DogLost said many people are buying dogs online without asking *diligence* / *diligent* background questions. A Change.org petition said the punishment for dog theft is the same *was* / *as* for a stolen smartphone. It said: "Dognapping has *almost* / *most* the same effect *on* / *in* a family as kidnapping, as pets are *seeing* / *seen* as family members. It is time the law reflected this in the sentencing of *defenders* / *offenders*."

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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210303-dog-theft.html>

_ d_st_rb_ng n_w cr_m_ _s _m_rg_ng w_rldw_d_ th_t
sh__ld b_ _f c_nc_rn t_ d_g _wn_rs. Cr_m_n_l g_ngs
r _ng_g_d _n w_d_-sc_l_ d_g th_ft. _n th_ _K_ t
h_s t_rn_d _nt_ _ l_cr_t_v_ b_t _ll_c_t _ndstry. _
th_ft _n th_ _S_ l_st w__k b_c_m_ gl_b_l n_ws _s
th_ d_g w_lk_r _f p_p s_ng_r L_dy G_g_ w_s sh_t _n
th_ ch_st _s th__v_s st_l_ h_r tw_ p_t b_lld_gs. Th_
K _s _xp_r__nc_ng _ sh_rp r_s_ _n d_g th_ft.
L_ckd_wns d__ t_ c_r_n_v_r_s h_v_ l_d t_ _ b__m _n
p_t s_l_s _s m_ny p__pl_ l__k f_r s_l_c_ _nd
c_mp_n__nsh_p _n _n_m_ls. S_l_s _f wh_t _r_ b__ng
d_bb_d "p_nd_m_c p_pp__s" h_v_ skyr_ck_t_d.
_nscr_p_l__s cr_m_n_ls _r_ n_w st__l_ng d_gs, _ft_n
_tt_ck_ng th__r _wn_rs, _nd s_ll_ng th_ c_n_n_s f_r
p t \$9,000.

Th_ p_l_c_ w_rn_d d_g _wn_rs t_ t_k_ _xtr_m_ c_r_
_nl_n_ _nd _n p_rks. P__pl_ h_v_ b__n _dv_s_d n_t
t_ p_st p_ct_r_s _f th__r p_ts _n s_c__l m_d__.
P_l_c_ h_v_ _ls_ r_c_mm_nd_d p__pl_ t_k_ th__r d_gs
f_r _ w_lk w_th _ fr__nd _nd n_t l__v_ d_gs
_n_tt_nd_d _n c_rs. Th_ _rg_n_s_t__n D_gL_st s__d
m_ny p__pl_ _r_ b_y_ng d_gs _nl_n_ w_th__t _sk_ng
d_l_g_nt b_ckgr__nd q__st__ns. _ Ch_ng_.rg p_t_t__n
s__d th_ p_n_shm_nt f_r d_g th_ft _s th_ s_m_ _s
f_r _ st_l_n sm_rtp_h_n_. _t s__d: "D_gn_pp_ng h_s
_lm_st th_ s_m_ _ff_ct _n _ f_m_ly _s k_dn_pp_ng, _s
p_ts _r_ s__n _s f_m_ly m_mb_rs. _t _s t_m_ th_ l_w
r_fl_ct_d th_s _n th_ s_nt_nc_ng _f _ff_nd_rs."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210303-dog-theft.html>

a disturbing new crime is emerging worldwide that should be of concern to dog owners criminal gangs are engaged in widescale dog theft in the uk it has turned into a lucrative but illicit industry a theft in the usa last week became global news as the dog walker of pop singer lady gaga was shot in the chest as thieves stole her two pet bulldogs the uk is experiencing a sharp rise in dog theft lockdowns due to coronavirus have led to a boom in pet sales as many people look for solace and companionship in animals sales of what are being dubbed pandemic puppies have skyrocketed unscrupulous criminals are now stealing dogs often attacking their owners and selling the canines for up to 9000

the police warned dog owners to take extreme care online and in parks people have been advised not to post pictures of their pets on social media police have also recommended people take their dogs for a walk with a friend and not leave dogs unattended in cars the organisation doglost said many people are buying dogs online without asking diligent background questions a changeorg petition said the punishment for dog theft is the same as for a stolen smartphone it said dognapping has almost the same effect on a family as kidnapping as pets are seen as family members it is time the law reflected this in the sentencing of offenders

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210303-dog-theft.html>

A disturbing new crime is emerging worldwide that should be of concern to dog owners. Criminal gangs are engaged in wide-scaled dog theft. In the UK it has turned into a lucrative but illicit industry. A theft in the USA last week became global news as the dog walker of pop singer Lady Gaga was shot in the chest as thieves stole her two pet bulldogs. The UK is experiencing a sharp rise in dog theft. Lockdowns due to coronavirus have led to a boom in pet sales as many people look for solace and companionship in animals. Sales of what are being dubbed "pandemic puppies" have skyrocketed. Unscrupulous criminals are now stealing dogs, often attacking their owners, and selling the canines for up to \$9,000. The police warned dog owners to take extreme care online and in parks. People have been advised not to post pictures of their pets on social media. Police have also recommended people take their dogs for a walk with a friend and not leave dogs unattended in cars. The organisation Dog Lost said many people are buying dogs online without asking diligent background questions. A Change.org petition said the punishment for dog theft is the same as for a stolen smartphone. It said: "Dognapping has almost the same effect on a family as kidnapping, as pets are seen as family members. It is time the law reflected this in the sentencing of offenders."

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 this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. DOG THEFT: Make a poster about dog theft. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. DOGNAPPING: Write a magazine article about having 20-year prison sentences for dognapping. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

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 an expert on dog theft. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to stop it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. e 2. a 3. d 4. c 5. b 6. g 7. f
8. i 9. n 10. l 11. m 12. j 13. h 14. k

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. g	2. e	3. i	4. b	5. c
6. a	7. j	8. f	9. h	10. d

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Dog owners
2. Illicit
3. The UK
4. Solace
5. Up to \$9,000
6. In parks
7. A friend
8. Diligent background questions
9. Smartphone theft
10. Family members

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. A disturbing new crime is emerging worldwide.
2. Criminal gangs are engaged in wide-scale dog theft.
3. Britain experienced a sharp rise in dog theft.
4. Coronavirus led to a boom in pet sales.
5. Sales of what are being dubbed pandemic puppies.
6. Police warned dog owners to take extreme care.
7. People have been advised not to post pictures.
8. Take dogs for a walk with a friend.
9. The punishment for dog theft is the same.
10. Dognapping has the same effect on a family.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. d 2. b 3. d 4. c 5. d 6. c 7. a 8. c 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 ;-)