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Level 5

Pope attacks Europe's throwaway culture

27th November, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1411/141127-europe-5.html>

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Please try Level 4 (easier) and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1411/141127-europe-5.html>

Pope Francis had a damning message for European leaders when he addressed them in the European Parliament. He attacked Europe's 'throwaway culture'. He said the elderly, the seriously ill and unborn children are ignored. He said technology and economics are now more important than people. He said men and women were just "cogs in a machine that treats them as items of consumption". He added that: "Whenever a human life no longer proves useful for that machine, it is discarded." He called it the "consequence of a throwaway culture, and an uncontrolled consumerism".

The Pope criticised Europe's politicians and systems. He said Europe's dynamic, caring and artistic cultures were disappearing because of bureaucracy. He said great ideas were being replaced by "the bureaucratic technicalities of its institutions" which were "downright harmful" to people. The Pope warned that Europe risked losing its sense of community. He said: "One of the most common diseases in Europe today is the loneliness typical of those who have no connection with others. This is especially true of the elderly, who are often abandoned to their fate, and also in the young."

Sources: <http://www.irisht Examiner.com/world/pope-denounces-throwaway-culture-of-europe-299590.html>
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/the-pope/11252345/Pope-Francis-warns-European-ideal-replaced-by-bureaucratic-technicalities-of-EU.html>
<http://www.catholicSun.org/2014/11/25/pope-urges-europe-to-nurture-religious-roots-sow-peace-in-its-borders/>

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1411/141127-europe-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. a damning message | a. in a machine |
| 2. when he addressed | b. throwaway culture |
| 3. unborn children | c. them |
| 4. technology and economics are | d. consumerism |
| 5. cogs | e. are ignored |
| 6. Whenever a human life no longer | f. for European leaders |
| 7. the consequence of a | g. now more important |
| 8. uncontrolled | h. proves useful |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. The Pope criticised | a. of community |
| 2. caring and artistic | b. of the elderly |
| 3. disappearing because | c. Europe's politicians |
| 4. harmful | d. common diseases |
| 5. Europe risked losing its sense | e. cultures |
| 6. One of the most | f. with others |
| 7. those who have no connection | g. of bureaucracy |
| 8. This is especially true | h. to people |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1411/141127-europe-5.html>

Pope Francis had (1) _____ for European leaders when he addressed them in the European Parliament. He attacked Europe's 'throwaway culture'. He said the elderly, (2) _____ and unborn (3) _____. He said technology and economics are now more important than people. He said men and women were just "cogs in a machine (4) _____ items of consumption". He added that: "Whenever a human (5) _____ useful for that machine, it is discarded." He called it the "consequence of a throwaway culture, and an (6) _____".

The Pope criticised Europe's (7) _____. He said Europe's dynamic, (8) _____ cultures were disappearing because of bureaucracy. He said great ideas were being replaced by "the bureaucratic technicalities of its institutions" which were "(9) _____" to people. The Pope warned that Europe (10) _____ sense of community. He said: "One of the most (11) _____ Europe today is the loneliness typical of those who have no connection with others. This is especially true of the elderly, who (12) _____ to their fate, and also in the young."

EUROPE SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1411/141127-europe-5.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Europe 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)

g)

h)

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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)

g)

h)

