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## **Level 2**

# **New action to stop nuisance phone calls**

**15th January, 2016**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1601/160115-nuisance-calls-2.html>

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**Please try Levels 0 and 1 (easier) and the 26–page Level 3 (harder).**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1601/160115-nuisance-calls-2.html>

People hate nuisance telephone calls - those from companies trying to sell us something that we do not want. They are also called 'cold calls'. Britain's government is thinking about stopping these calls. It wants to make sure the company that calls cannot hide its telephone number. With most nuisance calls, we cannot see the telephone number, but that could change. People could report companies who make nuisance calls. Britain's government is also looking at fining companies that make nuisance calls. Cold callers could get a fine of up to \$720,000.

Three-quarters of people with a landline in Britain get monthly cold calls. The number of people who get monthly nuisance calls on their mobiles increased by 20 per cent in the last two years. One company made 40 million cold calls in three months. Britain's minister for data protection said: "There is no simple solution to the problem of nuisance calls, but making direct marketing companies display their telephone number will help consumers...take action." She added: "Being pestered by marketing calls is annoying at the best of times, and at its worst it can bring real misery for...people."

Sources: <http://www.computerweekly.com/news/4500270607/New-rules-to-clamp-down-on-nuisance-calls>  
<http://www.themoneypages.com/latest-news/cold-callers-could-be-fined-500000-in-new-crackdown/>  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-35290780>

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1601/160115-nuisance-calls-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. sell us something that                  | a. the telephone number |
| 2. They are also called                    | b. make nuisance calls  |
| 3. thinking about stopping                 | c. we do not want       |
| 4. hide its                                | d. up to \$720,000      |
| 5. With most nuisance calls, we cannot see | e. these calls          |
| 6. People could report                     | f. telephone number     |
| 7. fining companies that                   | g. companies            |
| 8. get a fine of                           | h. 'cold calls'         |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| 1. Three-quarters of people               | a. in three months     |
| 2. people who get monthly                 | b. the last two years  |
| 3. increased by 20 per cent in            | c. marketing companies |
| 4. One company made 40 million cold calls | d. to the problem      |
| 5. data                                   | e. with a landline     |
| 6. There is no simple solution            | f. protection          |
| 7. direct                                 | g. by marketing calls  |
| 8. Being pestered                         | h. nuisance calls      |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1601/160115-nuisance-calls-2.html>

People hate nuisance telephone calls - those from companies trying to sell (1) \_\_\_\_\_ we do not want. They are also (2) \_\_\_\_\_. Britain's government is thinking about stopping these calls. It wants (3) \_\_\_\_\_ company that calls cannot hide its telephone number. With most nuisance calls, we cannot see (4) \_\_\_\_\_, but that could change. People could report companies who make nuisance calls. Britain's government (5) \_\_\_\_\_ fining companies that make nuisance calls. Cold callers (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of up to \$720,000.

Three-quarters of people (7) \_\_\_\_\_ Britain get monthly cold calls. The number of people (8) \_\_\_\_\_ nuisance calls on their mobiles increased by 20 per cent in the last two years. One company (9) \_\_\_\_\_ cold calls in three months. Britain's minister for (10) \_\_\_\_\_ said: "There is no simple solution to the problem of nuisance calls, but making direct marketing companies display their telephone number (11) \_\_\_\_\_...take action." She added: "Being pestered by marketing calls is annoying at the best of times, and at its worst it can (12) \_\_\_\_\_ for...people."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1601/160115-nuisance-calls-2.html>

People hate nuisance telephone calls - those from companies trying to sell us something that we do not want. They are also called 'cold calls'. Britain's government is thinking about stopping these calls. It wants to make sure the company that calls cannot hide its telephone number. With most nuisance calls, we cannot see the telephone number, but that could change. People could report companies who make nuisance calls. Britain's government is also looking at fining companies that make nuisance calls. Cold callers could get a fine of up to \$720,000. Three-quarters of people with a landline in Britain get monthly cold calls. The number of people who get monthly nuisance calls on their mobiles increased by 20 percent in the last two years. One company made 40 million cold calls in three months. Britain's minister for data protection said: "There is no simple solution to the problem of nuisance calls, but making direct marketing companies display their telephone number will help consumers... take action." She added: "Being pestered by marketing calls is annoying at the best of times, and at its worst it can bring real misery for... people."

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a)

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b)

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c)

---

d)

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e)

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f)

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g)

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h)

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*New action to stop nuisance phone calls – 15th January, 2016*  
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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)

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e)

---

f)

---

g)

---

h)

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