

Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"

breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html

Thousands more free lessons
from Sean's other websites

www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html

Level 4 – 25th June, 2018

Birds' stomachs too full of plastic to eat

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180625-plastic-pollution-4.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 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

Twitter



twitter.com/SeanBanville

Facebook



www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176

Google +



<https://plus.google.com/+SeanBanville>

THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180625-plastic-pollution-4.html>

The BBC made a worrying film about the terrible impact plastic is having on seabirds near Australia. The team was on Lord Howe Island for a new documentary. They filmed dead birds with stomachs full of plastic. The birds starved to death because there was no room in their stomachs for food. Marine biologists are working to save the birds. They removed plastic from the stomachs of hundreds of chicks to increase their chance of survival.

A marine biologist explained that the birds were predators that eat anything. She said: "They have no ability to detect...non-plastic, so they eat it." Adult birds then feed the plastic to their chicks without knowing the harm. She said the plastic is "entirely preventable" and could easily be swapped for things like aluminium or wood. She said: "My own toothbrush is made of bamboo." A BBC presenter said: "We saw...90 pieces of plastic come out of one of the chicks."

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-44579422>
<https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/birds-are-dropping-dead-off-australia-s-coast-and-it-s-all-our-fault-20180518-p4zg4t.html>
<http://en.mercopress.com/2018/06/23/seabirds-starving-to-death-because-of-plastic-pollution-reveals-documentary>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180625-plastic-pollution-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. The BBC made | a. to save the birds |
| 2. the terrible impact plastic | b. to death |
| 3. birds with stomachs | c. of survival |
| 4. The birds starved | d. a worrying film |
| 5. no room in their | e. of chicks |
| 6. biologists are working | f. full of plastic |
| 7. the stomachs of hundreds | g. is having |
| 8. increase their chance | h. stomachs for food |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. the birds were predators | a. non-plastic |
| 2. They have no ability to detect | b. of plastic |
| 3. feed the plastic | c. aluminium |
| 4. entirely | d. the chicks |
| 5. swapped for things like | e. to their chicks |
| 6. My own toothbrush is | f. preventable |
| 7. 90 pieces | g. that eat anything |
| 8. one of | h. made of bamboo |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180625-plastic-pollution-4.html>

The BBC made a worrying film about (1) _____ plastic is having on seabirds near Australia. The (2) _____ Lord Howe Island for a new documentary. They filmed dead birds (3) _____ of plastic. The birds (4) _____ because there was no room in their stomachs for food. Marine biologists are (5) _____ the birds. They removed plastic from the stomachs of hundreds of chicks to (6) _____ of survival.

A marine biologist explained that the birds (7) _____ eat anything. She said: "They have (8) _____ detect...non-plastic, so they eat it." Adult birds (9) _____ plastic to their chicks without knowing the harm. She said the plastic is "entirely preventable" and could (10) _____ for things like aluminium or wood. She said: "My own toothbrush (11) _____ bamboo." A BBC presenter said: "We saw...90 pieces of plastic (12) _____ one of the chicks."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180625-plastic-pollution-4.html>

TheBBCmadeaworryingfilmabouttheterribleimpactplasticishavingon seabirdsnearAustralia.TheteamwasonLordHoweIslandforanewdocumentary.Theyfilmeddeadbirdswithstomachsfullofplastic.Thebirdsstarvedtodeathbecausetherewasnoroomintheirstomachsforfood.Marinebiologistsareworkingtosavethebirds.Theyremovedplasticfromthestomachsofhundredsofchickstoincrease theirchanceofsurvival.Amarinebiologistexplainedthatthebirdswerepredatorsthateatanything.Shesaid:"Theyhavenoabilitytodetect...non-plastic,sotheyeatit."Adultbirdsthenfeedtheplastictotheirchickswithoutknowingtheharm.Shesaidtheplasticis"entirelypreventable"andcouldeasilybeswappedforthingslikealuminiumorwood.Shesaid:"Myowntoothbrushismadeofbamboo."ABBCpresentersaid:"Wesaw...90piecesofplasticcomeoutofoneofthechicks."

PLASTIC POLLUTION SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180625-plastic-pollution-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about plastic pollution 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) _____

Birds' stomachs too full of plastic to eat – 25th June, 2018
More free lessons at breakingnewsenglish.com

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

