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## Level 6

# Massive coral reef found in Amazon River

25th April, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1604/160425-coral-reef.html>

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

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# THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1604/160425-coral-reef.html>

An international team of scientists has discovered a huge coral reef in the Amazon River. The team from the universities of Georgia in the USA and Rio de Janeiro in Brazil was on an expedition to learn more about Amazon River plumes when it made the discovery. Plumes are the areas close to where a river meets the sea and the river's freshwater mixes with the saltwater of the ocean. The reef system spans an area of 5,800 square kilometres, stretching from the coast of French Guiana to the rainforest of the Brazilian state of Maranhao. The finding has surprised marine biologists because reefs are rarely found in large rivers as the water is usually too muddy and dark, and does not contain enough salt.

The scientists only explored 10 per cent of the reef. They said there were many sponges, creatures and other marine life that had adapted to life in the darker waters. They also recorded 73 species of reef fish, many of them carnivorous. Researcher Dr. Patricia Yager enthused about what she had seen. She said: "We brought up the most amazing and colorful animals I have ever seen on an expedition." Sadly, not all news about the reef is good. The whole area has been earmarked for oil exploration. Dr Yager warned that: "From ocean acidification and ocean warming to plans for offshore oil exploration right on top of these new discoveries, the whole system is at risk from human impacts."

Sources: <http://edition.cnn.com/2016/04/23/world/amazon-river-coral-reef-irpt/>  
<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/2016/04/220416-Amazon-coral-reef-Brazil-ocean-river-fish/>  
<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/apr/22/huge-coral-reef-discovered-at-amazon-river-mouth>

# WARM-UPS

**1. CORAL REEFS:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about coral reefs. 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?

*team / scientists / coral / reef / expedition / discovery / area / biologists / muddy / sponges / marine life / darker / species / carnivorous / amazing / exploration / risk*

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

**3. EXPLORATION:** What are the dangers and benefits of exploring these areas? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Dangers	Benefits
Oceans		
Volcanoes		
Mars		
Other galaxies		
The human brain		
Rainforests		

**4. OIL AND REEFS:** Students A **strongly** believe all oil exploration near reefs should be banned; Students B **strongly** believe other wise. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. WATER:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best water forms at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- reefs
- rivers
- lakes
- seas
- ponds
- oases
- waterfalls
- puddles

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

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1604/160425-coral-reef.html>

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

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| a. The research team consisted of two different universities.      | T / F |
| b. The team originally went to investigate plumes of smoke.        | T / F |
| c. The reef stretches from French Guiana.                          | T / F |
| d. Reefs rarely form in rivers because of insufficient salt.       | T / F |
| e. The scientists have explored over half the reef.                | T / F |
| f. The scientists have found 730 species of fish.                  | T / F |
| g. The article says there is nothing but good news about the reef. | T / F |
| h. The reef is at risk from oil exploration.                       | T / F |

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the following synonyms from the article.

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. discovered  | a. animals     |
| 2. expedition  | b. discovery   |
| 3. mixes       | c. set aside   |
| 4. finding     | d. meat-eating |
| 5. enough      | e. unearthed   |
| 6. creatures   | f. entire      |
| 7. adapted     | g. sufficient  |
| 8. carnivorous | h. journey     |
| 9. earmarked   | i. adjusted    |
| 10. whole      | j. combines    |

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

- |                                      |                            |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. An international team             | a. in large rivers         |
| 2. spans an area of                  | b. for oil exploration     |
| 3. marine                            | c. enough salt             |
| 4. reefs are rarely found            | d. species of reef fish    |
| 5. does not contain                  | e. 5,800 sq kilometres     |
| 6. adapted to life in                | f. risk from human impacts |
| 7. They also recorded 73             | g. of scientists           |
| 8. The whole area has been earmarked | h. warming                 |
| 9. ocean                             | i. biologists              |
| 10. the whole system is at           | j. the darker waters       |

# GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1604/160425-coral-reef.html>

An international team of scientists has discovered a (1) \_\_\_\_\_ coral reef in the Amazon River. The team from the universities of Georgia in the USA and Rio de Janeiro in Brazil was on an (2) \_\_\_\_\_ to learn more about Amazon River plumes when it made the (3) \_\_\_\_\_. Plumes are the areas close to where a river meets the sea and the river's freshwater (4) \_\_\_\_\_ with the saltwater of the ocean. The reef system (5) \_\_\_\_\_ an area of 5,800 square kilometres, stretching from the coast of French Guiana to the rainforest of the Brazilian (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of Maranhao. The finding has surprised marine biologists because reefs are (7) \_\_\_\_\_ found in large rivers as the water is usually too muddy and dark, and does not (8) \_\_\_\_\_ enough salt.

*mixes*  
*discovery*  
*state*  
*huge*  
*contain*  
*expedition*  
*rarely*  
*spans*

The scientists only (9) \_\_\_\_\_ 10 per cent of the reef. They said there were many sponges, (10) \_\_\_\_\_ and other marine life that had (11) \_\_\_\_\_ to life in the darker waters. They also recorded 73 species of reef fish, many of them (12) \_\_\_\_\_. Researcher Dr. Patricia Yager enthused about what she had seen. She said: "We brought up the (13) \_\_\_\_\_ amazing and colorful animals I have ever seen on an expedition." Sadly, not all (14) \_\_\_\_\_ about the reef is good. The whole area has been earmarked for oil exploration. Dr Yager warned that: "From ocean acidification and ocean warming to plans for (15) \_\_\_\_\_ oil exploration right on top of these new discoveries, the whole system is at risk from (16) \_\_\_\_\_ impacts."

*creatures*  
*most*  
*human*  
*explored*  
*carnivorous*  
*offshore*  
*adapted*  
*news*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1604/160425-coral-reef.html>

- 1) An international team of scientists has discovered a \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. huge coral reefs
  - b. huge corral reef
  - c. huge coral reef
  - d. huge corral reefs
- 2) Plumes are the areas close to where a river meets the sea and the river's \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. freshwater mixes
  - b. freshwater mix is
  - c. freshwaters mixes
  - d. freshwaters mix
- 3) stretching from the coast of French Guiana to the rainforest of the Brazilian \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. statue of Maranhao
  - b. stated of Maranhao
  - c. states of Maranhao
  - d. state of Maranhao
- 4) The finding has surprised marine biologists because reefs are rarely \_\_\_\_\_ rivers
  - a. found on large
  - b. found in largely
  - c. fund in large
  - d. found in large
- 5) the water is usually too muddy and dark, and does not \_\_\_\_\_ salt
  - a. contains enough
  - b. contain enough
  - c. contained enough
  - d. containing enough
- 6) sponges, creatures and other marine life that had adapted to \_\_\_\_\_ waters
  - a. live in the darker
  - b. life on the darker
  - c. life in the darker
  - d. life in the dark are
- 7) They also recorded 73 species of reef fish, many of \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. them cavernous
  - b. them coniferous
  - c. them carnivals
  - d. them carnivorous
- 8) The whole area has been \_\_\_\_\_ oil exploration
  - a. dog-eared for
  - b. earthed for
  - c. earmarked for
  - d. eared for
- 9) From ocean acidification and ocean warming to plans for offshore \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. oil explorations
  - b. oily exploration
  - c. oily explorations
  - d. oil exploration
- 10) right on top of these new discoveries, the whole system is at risk \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. from human impacts
  - b. from human compacts
  - c. from human in pacts
  - d. from human repacks

## LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1604/160425-coral-reef.html>

An international team of scientists (1) \_\_\_\_\_ huge coral reef in the Amazon River. The team from the universities of Georgia in the USA and Rio de Janeiro in Brazil was (2) \_\_\_\_\_ to learn more about Amazon River plumes when it made the discovery. Plumes are the (3) \_\_\_\_\_ a river meets the sea and the river's freshwater mixes with the saltwater of the ocean. The reef (4) \_\_\_\_\_ area of 5,800 square kilometres, stretching from the coast of French Guiana (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of the Brazilian state of Maranhao. The finding has surprised marine biologists because reefs are rarely found in large rivers as the water is usually too (6) \_\_\_\_\_, and does not contain enough salt.

The scientists (7) \_\_\_\_\_ per cent of the reef. They said there were many sponges, creatures and other marine life that had adapted (8) \_\_\_\_\_ waters. They also recorded 73 species of reef fish, many (9) \_\_\_\_\_. Researcher Dr. Patricia Yager enthused about what she had seen. She said: "We brought up the most (10) \_\_\_\_\_ animals I have ever seen on an expedition." Sadly, not all news about the reef is good. The whole area (11) \_\_\_\_\_ for oil exploration. Dr Yager warned that: "From ocean acidification and ocean warming to plans for offshore oil exploration right on top of these new discoveries, the whole (12) \_\_\_\_\_ from human impacts."

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1604/160425-coral-reef.html>

1. What kind of team discovered the reef?

---

2. What did the team originally set out to study?

---

3. How large is the reef?

---

4. In which country does the river meet the sea?

---

5. What is there usually not enough of in rivers for reefs to develop?

---

6. How much of the reef has the team explored?

---

7. How many different species of reef fish did the scientists find?

---

8. What did the article say about the eating habits of some reef fish?

---

9. What has the area been earmarked for?

---

10. What did the article say the area system was at risk from?

---



# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1604/160425-coral-reef.html>

1. What kind of team discovered the reef?
  - a) a swimming team
  - b) an international one
  - c) a big team
  - d) a soccer team
2. What did the team originally set out to study?
  - a) hues
  - b) dunes
  - c) fumes
  - d) plumes
3. How large is the reef?
  - a) 558,000 sq kms
  - b) 580 sq kms
  - c) 5,800 sq kms
  - d) 55,800 sq kms
4. In which country does the river meet the sea?
  - a) French Guiana
  - b) British Guyana
  - c) Brazil
  - d) Colombia
5. What is there usually not enough of in rivers for reefs to develop?
  - a) water
  - b) salt
  - c) fish
  - d) creatures
6. How much of the reef has the team explored?
  - a) 10%
  - b) 20%
  - c) 30%
  - d) 40%
7. How many different species of reef fish did the scientists find?
  - a) 72
  - b) 74
  - c) 73
  - d) 75
8. What did the article say about the eating habits of some reef fish?
  - a) they are carnivorous
  - b) they are hungry
  - c) they are herbivorous
  - d) they are messy
9. What has the area been earmarked for?
  - a) conservation
  - b) a surfing competition
  - c) a marine park
  - d) oil exploration
10. What did the article say the area system was at risk from?
  - a) shipping
  - b) bleaching
  - c) human impacts
  - d) plankton

# ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1604/160425-coral-reef.html>

## **Role A – Reefs**

You think reefs are the best watery places. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their places aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): lakes, waterfalls or oases.

## **Role B – Lakes**

You think lakes are the best watery places. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their places aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): reefs, waterfalls or oases.

## **Role C – Waterfalls**

You think waterfalls are the best watery places. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their places aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): lakes, reefs or oases.

## **Role D – Oases**

You think oases are the best watery places. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their places aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): lakes, waterfalls or reefs.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1604/160425-coral-reef.html>

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

<b>coral</b>	<b>reef</b>
--------------	-------------

- 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"><li>• huge</li><li>• learn</li><li>• close</li><li>• mixes</li><li>• 5,800</li><li>• salt</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 10</li><li>• 73</li><li>• amazing</li><li>• good</li><li>• plans</li><li>• human</li></ul>
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# CORAL REEFS SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1604/160425-coral-reef.html>

Write five GOOD questions about coral reefs 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.

# CORAL REEFS DISCUSSION

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

- 1) What did you think when you read the headline?
- 2) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'reef'?
- 3) What is the job of reefs?
- 4) Why has it taken so long to find this reef?
- 5) What would it be like to be on a River Amazon expedition?
- 6) How important is the River Amazon?
- 7) What do you know about rainforests?
- 8) What do marine biologists do every day?
- 9) What are the differences between life in rivers and the sea?
- 10) What do you think about what you read?

*Massive coral reef found in Amazon River – 25th April, 2016*  
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# CORAL REEFS DISCUSSION

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

- 11) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- 12) What is your favourite fish, and why?
- 13) What do you think scientists will find in the unexplored 90% of the reef?
- 14) What would you like to see up close in the ocean, and why?
- 15) What kind of expedition would you like to go on?
- 16) What will happen to the reef if oil exploration goes ahead?
- 17) What does global warming do to reefs?
- 18) How do humans impact coral reefs?
- 19) What other reefs do you know about?
- 20) What questions would you like to ask the researchers?

# 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 <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1604/160425-coral-reef.html>

An international team of scientists has (1) \_\_\_\_\_ a huge coral reef in the Amazon River. The team from the universities of Georgia in the USA and Rio de Janeiro in Brazil was (2) \_\_\_\_\_ an expedition to learn more about Amazon River plumes when it (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the discovery. Plumes are the areas close to where a river meets the sea and the river's freshwater mixes with the saltwater of the ocean. The reef system (4) \_\_\_\_\_ an area of 5,800 square kilometres, stretching from the coast of French Guiana to the rainforest of the Brazilian (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of Maranhao. The finding has surprised marine biologists because reefs are rarely found in large rivers as the water is usually too (6) \_\_\_\_\_ and dark, and does not contain enough salt.

The scientists only explored 10 per cent of the reef. They said there were many sponges, creatures and (7) \_\_\_\_\_ marine life that had adapted to life in the darker waters. They also recorded 73 species of reef fish, many of them (8) \_\_\_\_\_. Researcher Dr. Patricia Yager enthused about what she had seen. She said: "We (9) \_\_\_\_\_ up the most amazing and colorful animals I have ever seen on an expedition." Sadly, not all news about the reef is good. The (10) \_\_\_\_\_ area has been earmarked for oil exploration. Dr Yager warned that: "From ocean acidification and ocean (11) \_\_\_\_\_ to plans for offshore oil exploration right on top of these new discoveries, the whole system is (12) \_\_\_\_\_ risk from human impacts."

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

- |     |                |                |                 |               |
|-----|----------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1.  | (a) recovered  | (b) discovered | (c) covered     | (d) unveiled  |
| 2.  | (a) in         | (b) on         | (c) at          | (d) of        |
| 3.  | (a) been       | (b) had        | (c) did         | (d) made      |
| 4.  | (a) spars      | (b) spans      | (c) spats       | (d) spares    |
| 5.  | (a) statue     | (b) state      | (c) stately     | (d) stats     |
| 6.  | (a) muddles    | (b) mud        | (c) muddy       | (d) muddled   |
| 7.  | (a) others     | (b) another    | (c) other       | (d) the other |
| 8.  | (a) coniferous | (b) carnivals  | (c) carnivorous | (d) cavernous |
| 9.  | (a) gave       | (b) bought     | (c) took        | (d) brought   |
| 10. | (a) uncut      | (b) every      | (c) all         | (d) whole     |
| 11. | (a) warming    | (b) tepid      | (c) freezing    | (d) boiling   |
| 12. | (a) of         | (b) by         | (c) at          | (d) on        |

# SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1604/160425-coral-reef.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. An international team of tiecssitsn
2. on an dntxoeeiip
3. when it made the codyiesvr
4. an area of 5,800 uarseq kilometres
5. the acost of French Guiana
6. marine goisobtils

## Paragraph 2

7. there were many enpsgso
8. srreacute and other marine life
9. 73 pscisee of reef fish
10. many of them ivcsrrouona
11. oil opnaertxiol
12. at risk from human icpmats



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1604/160425-coral-reef.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

( <b>1</b> )	An international team of scientists has discovered a huge coral reef in the Amazon River. The team
( )	the sea and the river's freshwater mixes with the saltwater of the ocean. The reef system spans
( )	The scientists only explored 10 per cent of the reef. They said there were many sponges, creatures and other marine
( )	rainforest of the Brazilian state of Maranhao. The finding has surprised marine biologists because reefs are rarely
( )	oil exploration right on top of these new discoveries, the whole system is at risk from human impacts."
( )	from the universities of Georgia in the USA and Rio de Janeiro in Brazil was on an expedition to learn more
( )	found in large rivers as the water is usually too muddy and dark, and does not contain enough salt.
( )	seen. She said: "We brought up the most amazing and colorful animals I have ever seen on an
( )	about Amazon River plumes when it made the discovery. Plumes are the areas close to where a river meets
( )	fish, many of them carnivorous. Researcher Dr. Patricia Yager enthused about what she had
( )	an area of 5,800 square kilometres, stretching from the coast of French Guiana to the
( )	exploration. Dr Yager warned that: "From ocean acidification and ocean warming to plans for offshore
( )	expedition." Sadly, not all news about the reef is good. The whole area has been earmarked for oil
( )	life that had adapted to life in the darker waters. They also recorded 73 species of reef

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1604/160425-coral-reef.html>

1. has discovered a huge coral reef A team of scientists .

---

2. about expedition more plumes an learn Amazon On to .

---

3. are sea river to the meets where areas Plumes the a close .

---

4. square an reef kilometres , area system 5,800 of spans The .

---

5. and is dark usually too The muddy water .

---

6. 10 of The explored cent reef only per the scientists .

---

7. waters darker the in life to adapted had that life Marine .

---

8. , the about news Sadly all not good is reef .

---

9. has for area earmarked exploration whole been oil The .

---

10. at human The is from system risk impacts whole .

---

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1604/160425-coral-reef.html>

An international team of scientists has discovered a *hugely / huge* coral reef in the Amazon River. The team from the *university / universities* of Georgia in the USA and Rio de Janeiro in Brazil was *on / to* an expedition to learn more about Amazon River plumes when it made the *discover / discovery*. Plumes are the areas close *to / at* where a river meets the sea and the river's freshwater *mixtures / mixes* with the saltwater of the ocean. The reef system *spans / spars* an area of 5,800 square kilometres, stretching from the *coast / coats* of French Guiana to the rainforest of the Brazilian state of Maranhao. The finding has surprised marine *biological / biologists* because reefs are rarely found in large rivers as the water is usually too muddy and dark, and does not *contain / contents* enough salt.

The scientists only explored 10 per cent *off / of* the reef. They said there were many sponges, *creative / creatures* and other marine life that had *adapted / adopted* to life in the darker waters. They also recorded 73 species of reef fish, many of them *cavernous / carnivorous*. Researcher Dr. Patricia Yager *enthused / enthusiasm* about what she had seen. She said: "We *brought / bought* up the most *amazing / amazed* and colorful animals I have ever seen on an expedition." Sadly, not *all / the* news about the reef is good. The whole area has been earmarked for oil exploration. Dr Yager warned that: "From ocean *acidification / acrid* and ocean warming to plans for offshore oil exploration right on top of these new discoveries, the whole system is *at / to* risk from human impacts."

**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 <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1604/160425-coral-reef.html>

\_n \_nt\_rn\_t\_\_n\_l t\_\_m \_f sc\_\_nt\_sts h\_s d\_sc\_v\_r\_d \_  
h\_g\_ c\_r\_l r\_\_f \_n th\_ \_m\_z\_n R\_v\_r. Th\_ t\_\_m fr\_m  
th\_ \_n\_v\_rs\_t\_\_s \_f G\_\_rg\_\_ \_n th\_ \_S\_\_nd R\_\_d\_  
J\_n\_\_r\_\_n Br\_z\_l w\_s \_n \_n\_xp\_d\_t\_\_n t\_l\_\_rn m\_r\_  
\_b\_\_t \_m\_z\_n R\_v\_r pl\_m\_s wh\_n \_t m\_d\_ th\_  
d\_sc\_v\_ry. Pl\_m\_s \_r\_ th\_ \_r\_\_s cl\_s\_ t\_ wh\_r\_ \_  
r\_v\_r m\_\_ts th\_ s\_\_ \_nd th\_ r\_v\_r's fr\_shw\_t\_r m\_x\_s  
w\_th th\_ s\_ltw\_t\_r\_f th\_ \_c\_\_n. Th\_ r\_\_f syst\_m sp\_ns  
\_n \_r\_\_ \_f 5,800 sq\_\_r\_ k\_l\_m\_tr\_s, str\_tch\_ng fr\_m  
th\_ c\_\_st \_f Fr\_nch G\_\_n\_ t\_ th\_ r\_\_nf\_r\_st \_f th\_  
Br\_z\_l\_\_n st\_t\_ \_f M\_r\_nh\_\_ . Th\_ f\_nd\_ng h\_s  
s\_rpr\_s\_d m\_r\_n\_ b\_\_l\_g\_sts b\_c\_\_s\_r\_\_fs\_r\_r\_r\_ly  
f\_\_nd \_n l\_rg\_ r\_v\_rs \_s th\_ w\_t\_r \_s \_s\_\_lly t\_\_  
m\_ddy \_nd d\_rk, \_nd d\_\_s n\_t c\_nt\_\_n \_n\_\_gh s\_l\_t.

Th\_ sc\_\_nt\_sts \_nly \_xpl\_r\_d 10 p\_r\_c\_nt \_f th\_ r\_\_f.  
Th\_y s\_\_d th\_r\_ w\_r\_ m\_ny sp\_ng\_s, cr\_\_t\_r\_s \_nd  
\_th\_r m\_r\_n\_ l\_f\_ th\_t h\_d \_d\_pt\_d t\_l\_f\_ \_n th\_  
d\_rk\_r w\_t\_rs. Th\_y \_ls\_ r\_c\_rd\_d 73 sp\_c\_\_s \_f r\_\_f  
f\_sh, m\_ny \_f th\_m c\_rn\_v\_r\_\_s. R\_s\_\_rch\_r Dr.  
P\_tr\_c\_\_ Y\_g\_r\_nth\_s\_d \_b\_\_t wh\_t sh\_h\_d s\_\_n. Sh\_  
s\_\_d: "W\_ br\_\_ght \_p th\_ m\_st \_m\_z\_ng \_nd c\_l\_rf\_l  
\_n\_m\_ls \_h\_v\_ \_v\_rs\_s\_\_n \_n \_n\_xp\_d\_t\_\_n." S\_dly,  
n\_t \_ll n\_ws \_b\_\_t th\_ r\_\_f\_s g\_\_d. Th\_ wh\_l\_ \_r\_\_  
h\_s b\_\_n \_\_rm\_rk\_d f\_r \_\_l \_xpl\_r\_t\_\_n. Dr Y\_g\_r  
w\_rn\_d th\_t: "Fr\_m \_c\_\_n \_c\_d\_f\_c\_t\_\_n \_nd \_c\_\_n  
w\_rm\_ng t\_pl\_ns f\_r \_ffsh\_r\_\_l \_xpl\_r\_t\_\_n r\_gh\_t\_n  
t\_p \_f th\_s \_n\_w\_d\_sc\_v\_r\_\_s, th\_ wh\_l\_ syst\_m \_s\_t  
r\_sk fr\_m h\_m\_n \_mp\_cts."

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1604/160425-coral-reef.html>

an international team of scientists has discovered a huge coral reef in the amazon river the team from the universities of georgia in the usa and rio de janeiro in brazil was on an expedition to learn more about amazon river plumes when it made the discovery plumes are the areas close to where a river meets the sea and the river's freshwater mixes with the saltwater of the ocean the reef system spans an area of 5800 square kilometres stretching from the coast of french guiana to the rainforest of the brazilian state of maranhao the finding has surprised marine biologists because reefs are rarely found in large rivers as the water is usually too muddy and dark and does not contain enough salt

the scientists only explored 10 per cent of the reef they said there were many sponges creatures and other marine life that had adapted to life in the darker waters they also recorded 73 species of reef fish many of them carnivorous researcher dr patricia yager enthused about what she had seen she said "we brought up the most amazing and colorful animals i have ever seen on an expedition" sadly not all news about the reef is good the whole area has been earmarked for oil exploration dr yager warned that "from ocean acidification and ocean warming to plans for offshore oil exploration right on top of these new discoveries the whole system is at risk from human impacts"

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1604/160425-coral-reef.html>

An international team of scientists has discovered a huge coral reef in the Amazon River. The team from the universities of Georgia in the USA and Rio de Janeiro in Brazil was on an expedition to learn more about Amazon River plumes when it made the discovery. Plumes are the areas closest to where a river meets the sea and the river's freshwater mixes with the salt water of the ocean. The reef system spans an area of 5,800 square kilometres, stretching from the coast of French Guiana to the rain forest of the Brazilian state of Maranhao. The finding has surprised marine biologists because reefs are rarely found in larger rivers as the water is usually too muddy and dark, and does not contain enough salt. The scientists only explored 10 per cent of the reef. They said there were many sponges, creatures and other marine life that had adapted to life in the darker waters. They also recorded 73 species of free fish, many of them carnivorous. Researcher Dr. Patricia Yager enthused about what she had seen. She said: "We brought up the most amazing and colorful animals I have ever seen on an expedition." Sadly, not all news about the reef is good. The whole area has been earmarked for oil exploration. Dr Yager warned that: "From ocean acidification and ocean warming to plans for offshore oil exploration right on top of these new discoveries, the whole system is at risk from human impacts."







# 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 the Amazon River coral reef. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. CORAL REEFS:** Make a poster about coral reefs. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. OIL EXPLORATION:** Write a magazine article about oil exploration near coral reefs. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against it.

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 coral reefs. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to protect them. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

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

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. discovered  | a. unearthed   |
| 2. expedition  | b. journey     |
| 3. mixes       | c. combines    |
| 4. finding     | d. discovery   |
| 5. enough      | e. sufficient  |
| 6. creatures   | f. animals     |
| 7. adapted     | g. adjusted    |
| 8. carnivorous | h. meat-eating |
| 9. earmarked   | i. set aside   |
| 10. whole      | j. entire      |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. An international team
2. River plumes
3. 5,800 square kilometres
4. French Guiana
5. Salt
6. 10%
7. 73
8. They are carnivorous
9. Oil exploration
10. Human impacts

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. b    2. d    3. c    4. a    5. b    6. a    7. c    8. a    9. d    10. c

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)