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Level 2

Man swims to work every day to beat traffic

14th August, 2017

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1708/170814-swimming-to-work-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1708/170814-swimming-to-work-2.html>

A man has started swimming to work after he got fed up with commuting and being stuck in traffic. Benjamin David, 40, now beats the traffic by swimming 2km down the Isar River in Munich, Germany. He puts his laptop, phone and his suit in a waterproof bag that he drags behind him. David got the idea by watching the river outside his apartment. He looked on a map and realized the river went past his office. He decided to swim to work and get some exercise. This was better than fighting commuters on buses and trains or breathing fumes from traffic while cycling.

David's river commute has changed his life. He is fitter and less stressed. Commuting used to make him stressed. He said: "I'm not a monk. When I was on my bike, I would yell at cars. When I was on foot, I would yell at cyclists, and so on." He said: "Just a few metres to the side of [all the traffic] is the river, and if you just swim down that, it's completely relaxing and refreshing." David spoke about the dangers of river swimming. He always checks the water temperature. Not everyone can swim to work in the city. In Central London, it is illegal to swim in the River Thames.

Sources: <http://metro.co.uk/2017/08/07/man-swims-to-work-every-day-with-his-laptop-suit-and-phone-6832657/>
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4767864/German-David-Hasselhoff-SWIMS-2km-work-day.html>
<http://zeenews.india.com/world/how-fitness-conscious-are-you-this-german-swims-a-mile-to-work-every-day-2030950.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1708/170814-swimming-to-work-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. he got fed | a. and his suit |
| 2. being stuck | b. a map |
| 3. his laptop, phone | c. traffic while cycling |
| 4. in a waterproof | d. in traffic |
| 5. He looked on | e. bag |
| 6. get some | f. on buses |
| 7. better than fighting commuters | g. up with commuting |
| 8. breathing fumes from | h. exercise |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. He is fitter and less | a. temperature |
| 2. Commuting used to | b. foot |
| 3. When I was | c. refreshing |
| 4. When I was on | d. on my bike |
| 5. Just a few metres | e. stressed |
| 6. it's completely relaxing and | f. to work in the city |
| 7. He always checks the water | g. to the side |
| 8. Not everyone can swim | h. make him stressed |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1708/170814-swimming-to-work-2.html>

A man has started swimming to work after (1) _____ with commuting and being stuck in traffic. Benjamin David, 40, now (2) _____ by swimming 2km down the Isar River in Munich, Germany. He puts his laptop, phone and (3) _____ waterproof bag that he drags behind him. David (4) _____ watching the river outside his apartment. He looked on a map and realized the river went past his office. He decided (5) _____ and get some exercise. This was better than fighting commuters on buses and (6) _____ fumes from traffic while cycling.

David's river commute has (7) _____. He is fitter and less stressed. Commuting used to make him stressed. He said: "I'm not a monk. (8) _____ my bike, I would yell at cars. When I was on foot, I would (9) _____, and so on." He said: "Just a few metres to the side of [all the traffic] is the river, (10) _____ just swim down that, it's completely relaxing and refreshing." David spoke about the dangers of river swimming. (11) _____ the water temperature. Not everyone can swim to work in the city. In Central London, it is (12) _____ the River Thames.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1708/170814-swimming-to-work-2.html>

Amanhasstartedswimmingtoworkafterhegotfedupwithcommutingandbeingstuckintraffic.BenjaminDavid,40,nowbeatsthetrafficbyswimming2kmdowntheIsarRiverinMunich,Germany.Heputshislaptop,phoneandhissuitinawaterproofbagthathedragsbehindhim.Davidgott heideabywatchingtheriveroutsidehisapartment.Helookedonamapa ndrealizedtheriverwentpasthisoffice.Hedecidedtoswimtoworkandgetsomeexercise.Thiswasbetterthanfightingcommutersonbusesandrainsorbreathingfumesfromtrafficwhilecycling.David'srivercommutehaschangedhislife.Heisfitterandlesstressed.Commutingusedtomakehimstressed.Hesaid:"I'mnotamonk.WhenIwasonmybike,Iwould yellatcars.WhenIwasonfoot,Iwouldyellatcyclists,andsoon."Hesaid:" Justafewmetrestothesideof[allthetraffic]istheriver,andifyoujustswimdownthat,it'scompletelyrelaxingandrefreshing."Davidspokeabout the dangers of riverswimming.Healwayschecksthewatertemperature .Noteveryonecanswimtoworkinthecity.InCentralLondon,itisillegalto swimintheRiverThames.

COMMUTING SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1708/170814-swimming-to-work-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about commuting 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) _____

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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) _____

WRITING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1708/170814-swimming-to-work-2.html>

Write about **commuting** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.
