

www.**Breaking News English**.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

**"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"**

www.breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html

**Thousands more free lessons
from Sean's other websites**

www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html

Level 5

Hurricane Irma slams into Caribbean

9th September, 2017

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1709/170909-hurricane-irma-5.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 4 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 <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1709/170909-hurricane-irma-5.html>

A record-breaking hurricane is causing death and destruction in the Caribbean. On Thursday, Hurricane Irma devastated Caribbean islands, including Barbuda and St. Martin. The Prime Minister of Barbuda said about 95 per cent of the buildings on the island had been damaged. He said: "It's absolute devastation. The island is literally under water....Barbuda is barely habitable." A government official for St Martin said: "There is massive destruction. We'll [focus] our first efforts so that in the next hours, people can get access to food and drinking water."

Hurricane Irma is a category 5 storm – the strongest on the 1-5 scale. It is the strongest ever hurricane recorded east of the Caribbean Sea. Irma has had wind speeds close to 300kph for more than 24 hours. This is the longest period ever recorded. Hurricane Irma is over 1,200km wide. It is likely to be a Category 4 when it hits Florida on Saturday morning. Florida officials have already ordered people to evacuate the southern part of the state. Residents there are getting ready for winds of up to 300kph. There will also be massive and damaging storm surges.

Sources: <https://www.wired.com/story/hurricane-irma-a-practically-impossible-storm/>
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-41182991>
<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/09/07/world/americas/hurricane-irma-caribbean.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1709/170909-hurricane-irma-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. A record- | a. habitable |
| 2. Hurricane Irma devastated | b. been damaged |
| 3. buildings on the island had | c. to food |
| 4. The island is literally | d. breaking hurricane |
| 5. Barbuda is barely | e. destruction |
| 6. A government | f. Caribbean islands |
| 7. There is massive | g. under water |
| 8. people can get access | h. official |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Hurricane Irma is a category | a. evacuate |
| 2. the strongest on the | b. close to 300kph |
| 3. It is the strongest ever | c. 1-5 scale |
| 4. Irma has had wind speeds | d. storm surges |
| 5. This is the longest period | e. over 1,200km wide |
| 6. Hurricane Irma is | f. 5 storm |
| 7. ordered people to | g. hurricane recorded |
| 8. massive and damaging | h. ever recorded |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1709/170909-hurricane-irma-5.html>

A record-breaking hurricane (1) _____ and destruction in the Caribbean. On Thursday, Hurricane Irma (2) _____ islands, including Barbuda and St. Martin. The Prime Minister of Barbuda said about 95 per cent of the (3) _____ island had been damaged. He said: "(4) _____ devastation. The island is literally under water....Barbuda (5) _____." A government official for St Martin said: "There is massive destruction. We'll [focus] our first efforts so that in the next hours, people (6) _____ to food and drinking water."

Hurricane Irma is a (7) _____ - the strongest on the 1-5 scale. It is the strongest ever hurricane (8) _____ the Caribbean Sea. Irma has had wind speeds close to 300kph for more than 24 hours. This is the longest (9) _____. Hurricane Irma is over 1,200km wide. It (10) _____ a Category 4 when it hits Florida on Saturday morning. Florida (11) _____ ordered people to evacuate the southern part of the state. Residents there are getting ready (12) _____ to 300kph. There will also be massive and damaging storm surges.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1709/170909-hurricane-irma-5.html>

A record-breaking hurricane is causing death and destruction in the Caribbean. On Thursday, Hurricane Irma devastated Caribbean islands, including Barbuda and St. Martin. The Prime Minister of Barbuda said about 95 percent of the buildings on the island had been damaged. He said: "It's a total devastation. The island is literally underwater.... Barbuda is barely habitable." A government official for St. Martin said: "There is massive destruction. We'll [focus] our first efforts so that in the next hours, people can get access to food and drinking water." Hurricane Irma is a category 5 storm – the strongest on the 1-5 scale. It is the strongest ever hurricane recorded east of the Caribbean Sea. Irma has had wind speeds close to 300 kph for more than 24 hours. This is the longest period ever recorded. Hurricane Irma is over 1,200 km wide. It is likely to be a Category 4 when it hits Florida on Saturday morning. Florida officials have already ordered people to evacuate the southern part of the state. Residents there are getting ready for winds of up to 300 kph. There will also be massive and damaging storm surges.

HURRICANES SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1709/170909-hurricane-irma-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about hurricanes 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) _____

Hurricane Irma slams into Caribbean – 9th September, 2017
More free lessons at www.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) _____

