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Level 5

Thailand to close famous beach to protect coral

7th March, 2018

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1803/180307-beach-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1803/180307-beach-5.html>

Thailand will close one of its famous beaches to try and reverse the damage done to its coral by tourism. The beach is on the island of Koh Phi Phi Leh. It got worldwide attention after it featured in the blockbuster movie *The Beach*. The film put the beach on the bucket lists of millions of travellers. The result has been up to 5,000 sun worshippers a day to its shores. They arrive on hundreds of boats, which have caused irreversible damage to the bay's coral. Officials say that most of the coral has died. The beach will close between June and September to let the coral recover.

Experts predict that 80 per cent of Thailand's coral reefs have been destroyed. Once untouched beaches have been damaged by tourism. A professor at Bangkok's Kasetsart University has criticized the tourism that is damaging Thailand's coastline. He said the biggest problems were beachfront hotels, boat anchors breaking the coral, and plastic waste dumped in the sea. He believes the "ideal solution" is to close Maya Bay permanently. He said: "While it's a very pretty bay, visiting it with a flotilla of boats and hordes of other tourists rather detract from the magic."

Sources: <https://news.sky.com/story/famous-location-for-dicaprio-film-the-beach-being-destroyed-by-tourists-11275464>
<https://www.theguardian.com/travel/2018/feb/14/thailand-maya-bay-the-beach-movie-close-to-tourists-leonardo-dicaprio>
<http://www.foxnews.com/travel/2018/03/04/thai-officials-may-ban-boats-from-bay-where-beach-was-set-to-protect-reef.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1803/180307-beach-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. reverse the damage | a. died |
| 2. It got worldwide | b. movie |
| 3. it featured in the blockbuster | c. lists |
| 4. bucket | d. recover |
| 5. 5,000 sun | e. attention |
| 6. caused irreversible | f. done to its coral |
| 7. most of the coral has | g. damage |
| 8. let the coral | h. worshippers |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. coral reefs have | a. flotilla of boats |
| 2. untouched | b. coastline |
| 3. damaging Thailand's | c. in the sea |
| 4. beachfront | d. from the magic |
| 5. plastic waste dumped | e. been destroyed |
| 6. the "ideal solution" is | f. hotels |
| 7. visiting it with a | g. beaches |
| 8. detract | h. to close Maya Bay |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1803/180307-beach-5.html>

Thailand will close one of (1) _____ to try and reverse the damage done to its (2) _____. The beach is on the island of Koh Phi Phi Leh. It got worldwide attention (3) _____ in the blockbuster movie *The Beach*. The film put the beach on the bucket lists of millions of travellers. The (4) _____ up to 5,000 sun worshippers a day (5) _____. They arrive on hundreds of boats, which have caused irreversible damage to the bay's coral. Officials say that most of the coral has died. The beach will close between June and September to let (6) _____.

Experts predict that 80 per cent of Thailand's (7) _____ been destroyed. Once untouched beaches have been (8) _____. A professor at Bangkok's Kasetsart University has criticized the tourism that is damaging Thailand's coastline. He said the biggest problems were beachfront hotels, (9) _____ the coral, and (10) _____ in the sea. He believes the "ideal solution" is to close Maya Bay permanently. He said: "While it's a (11) _____, visiting it with a flotilla of boats and hordes of other tourists rather detract (12) _____."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1803/180307-beach-5.html>

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BEACHES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1803/180307-beach-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about beaches 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) _____

