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Level 2

Robo-caller fined for 96 million phone calls

14th May, 2018

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1805/180514-nuisance-calls-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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1805/180514-nuisance-calls-2.html>

America's communications commission has fined a man who made nearly 100 million robocalls. A robocall is made by a computer programme. The commission fined the man \$120 million. They say he was a threat to public safety. The man's calls were illegal because many of them were made to "critical emergency phone lines". Many other calls went to mobile phones and home telephones without the person being called wanting that call. This means the call was a nuisance call. This is like spam e-mail, which is also unwanted and annoying.

The man committed a crime. He carried out "one of the largest and most dangerous illegal robocalling campaigns...ever investigated". He made 96 million robocalls in three months in 2016. It was part of a "telemarketing scheme". He used a technique called "neighbor spoofing" to trick people to answer the calls. The people thought the calls were from a local telephone number. He tricked people into believing that the calls were from well-known companies. Callers were passed on to call centres that tried to sell them property. The man said he did nothing wrong.

Sources: <http://money.cnn.com/2018/05/11/news/fcc-robocall-fine/index.html>
<https://www.usatoday.com/story/tech/news/2018/05/11/robocaller-fined-120-million-fcc-nearly-100-million-spoofed-calls/601287002/>
<http://fortune.com/2018/05/11/robocall-lawsuit-settlement-fcc/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1805/180514-nuisance-calls-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. America's communications | a. phone lines |
| 2. fined | b. \$120 million |
| 3. made by a computer | c. to public safety |
| 4. fined the man | d. a man |
| 5. he was a threat | e. being called |
| 6. critical emergency | f. programme |
| 7. the person | g. annoying |
| 8. unwanted and | h. commission |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. The man committed | a. campaigns |
| 2. illegal robocalling | b. property |
| 3. part of a telemarketing | c. people |
| 4. from a local | d. wrong |
| 5. He tricked | e. scheme |
| 6. Callers were passed on | f. a crime |
| 7. tried to sell them | g. telephone number |
| 8. The man said he did nothing | h. to call centres |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1805/180514-nuisance-calls-2.html>

America's communications commission (1) _____ man who (2) _____ million robocalls. A robocall is made by a computer programme. The commission fined the man \$120 million. They say he was a threat (3) _____. The man's calls were illegal because many of them were made to "critical emergency phone lines". Many other (4) _____ mobile phones and home telephones without the (5) _____ wanting that call. This means the call was a nuisance call. This (6) _____ e-mail, which is also unwanted and annoying.

The man committed a crime. He (7) _____ of the largest and most dangerous illegal robocalling campaigns...ever investigated". (8) _____ million robocalls in three months in 2016. It was (9) _____ "telemarketing scheme". He used a technique called "neighbor spoofing" to trick people to answer the calls. The people (10) _____ were from a local telephone number. He (11) _____ believing that the calls were from well-known companies. Callers were passed on to call centres that tried to sell them property. The man said he (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1805/180514-nuisance-calls-2.html>

America's communications commission has fined a man whom it made nearly 100 million robo calls. A robo call is made by a computer programme. The commission fined the man \$120 million. They say he was a threat to public safety. The man's calls were illegal because many of them were made to "critical emergency phone lines". Many other calls went to mobile phones and home telephones without the person being called wanting that call. This means the call was a nuisance call. This is like spam e-mail, which is an unwanted and annoying. The man committed a crime. He carried out "one of the largest and most dangerous illegal robo calling campaigns... ever investigated". He made 96 million robo calls in three months in 2016. It was part of a "telemarketing scheme". He used a technique called "neighbor spoofing" to trick people to answer the calls. The people thought the calls were from a local telephone number. He tricked people into believing that the calls were from well-known companies. Callers were passed onto call centres that tried to sell them property. The man said he did nothing wrong.

NUISANCE CALLS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1805/180514-nuisance-calls-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Nuisance calls 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) _____

