

# Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

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

[breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html](http://breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html)

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

[www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean\\_banville\\_lessons.html](http://www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html)

**Level 3 – 28th July, 2019**

## Arctic wildfires visible from space

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires.html>

### Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	15
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	16
Vocabulary	4	Spelling	17
Before Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	18
Gap Fill	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	19
Match The Sentences And Listen	7	Circle The Correct Word	20
Listening Gap Fill	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	21
Comprehension Questions	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	22
Multiple Choice - Quiz	10	Put A Slash ( / ) Where The Spaces Are	23
Role Play	11	Free Writing	24
After Reading / Listening	12	Academic Writing	25
Student Survey	13	Homework	26
Discussion (20 Questions)	14	Answers	27

**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).**

**Twitter**



[twitter.com/SeanBanville](https://twitter.com/SeanBanville)

**Facebook**



[www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176](https://www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176)

# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires.html>

Hundreds of huge wildfires have broken out all across the Arctic Circle. Areas in the Arctic are warming twice as fast as anywhere else on the planet. There are so many fires and they are so big that the smoke from them can be seen from space. Meteorologists report that the Arctic is having its hottest June ever and is suffering its worst wildfire season on record. There are huge blazes covering large areas of Greenland, Siberia, Scandinavia and Alaska. In Alaska, there are as many as 400 fires burning out of control. In Greenland, melting on the vast Greenland ice sheet has started a month earlier than usual. The World Meteorological Organization has said the Arctic fires are "unprecedented".

Scientists say the fires and suffocating smoke could have an effect on global warming. Meteorologist Mark Parrington explained what is causing the wildfires. He said: "Temperatures in the Arctic have been increasing at a much faster rate than the global average, and warmer conditions encourage fires to grow and persist once they have been ignited." Dry ground, more lightning strikes and strong winds have caused the fires to spread very quickly. A lot of ice has melted and the flames have set fire to methane-filled earth below the ice. This is releasing huge amounts of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. The fires have also caused serious habitat loss and have killed uncountable numbers of animals.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-49125391>  
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/jul/26/unprecedented-more-than-100-wildfires-burning-in-the-arctic-in-worst-ever-season>  
<https://www.sciencealert.com/unprecedented-wildfires-are-ravaging-the-arctic-and-the-images-from-space-are-astonishing>

# WARM-UPS

**1. THE ARCTIC:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about the Arctic. 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?

wildfires / Arctic Circle / planet / smoke / space / meteorologists / Alaska / Siberia / global warming / temperatures / average / lightning / ice / methane / atmosphere

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

**3. WILDFIRES:** Students A **strongly** believe all countries should send resources to put out the Arctic Circle wildfires; Students B **strongly** believe that's not necessary. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. CLIMATE CHANGE:** How serious are these problems? How can we deal with this? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How Serious?	What We Can Do
Wildfires		
Droughts		
Hurricanes		
Heatwaves		
Rising sea levels		
Melting glaciers		

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

**6. GLOBAL WARMING:** Rank these with your partner. Put the biggest causes of global warming at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- wildfires
- cars
- deforestation
- use of coal
- factory farming
- use of aerosols
- overfishing
- inability to change

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |              |                                                                |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. huge      | a. A giant rock mass moving around a sun (like Earth or Mars). |
| 2. broken    | b. A very large or fiercely burning fire.                      |
| 3. planet    | c. Very, very, very big.                                       |
| 4. suffering | d. Something bad suddenly started.                             |
| 5. on record | e. The state of undergoing pain, distress, or hardship.        |
| 6. blaze     | f. Ever.                                                       |
| 7. vast      | g. Of very great extent or quantity.                           |

## Paragraph 2

- |                  |                                                                            |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8. suffocating   | h. Continue doing something even if it is difficult.                       |
| 9. meteorologist | i. Die or cause to die from lack of air or inability to breathe.           |
| 10. temperature  | j. Give support, confidence, or hope to someone.                           |
| 11. encourage    | k. Became liquid or soft and runny because of heat.                        |
| 12. persist      | l. An expert in or student of the weather.                                 |
| 13. melted       | m. The natural home or environment of an animal, plant, or other organism. |
| 14. habitat      | n. How hot or cold something is in Celsius (°C) of Fahrenheit (°F).        |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires.html>

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

- a. The article said there are thousands of fires burning in the Arctic Circle. **T / F**
- b. The Arctic Circle is warming at half the speed as the rest of the planet. **T / F**
- c. This wildfire season is the worst ever for the Arctic Circle. **T / F**
- d. The Greenland ice sheet started melting a month later than usual. **T / F**
- e. The smoke from the fires will not affect global warming. **T / F**
- f. Dry ground has caused the fires to spread more quickly. **T / F**
- g. The fires have ignited methane in the earth below the ice. **T / F**
- h. The article said the fires have killed uncountable numbers of animals. **T / F**

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>1. broken out</b>    | a. huge                |
| <b>2. suffering</b>     | b. speed               |
| <b>3. covering</b>      | c. unheard of          |
| <b>4. vast</b>          | d. volume              |
| <b>5. unprecedented</b> | e. experiencing        |
| <b>6. suffocating</b>   | f. set alight          |
| <b>7. rate</b>          | g. started             |
| <b>8. ignited</b>       | h. natural environment |
| <b>9. amounts</b>       | i. blanketing          |
| <b>10. habitat</b>      | j. choking             |

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

- |                                                |                             |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Hundreds of huge wildfires have             | a. large areas of Greenland |
| 2. warming twice as fast as anywhere else      | b. loss                     |
| 3. huge blazes covering                        | c. "unprecedented"          |
| 4. melting on the vast                         | d. than the global average  |
| 5. the Arctic fires are                        | e. smoke                    |
| 6. the fires and suffocating                   | f. on the planet            |
| 7. increasing at a much faster rate            | g. filled earth below       |
| 8. encourage fires to grow and persist once    | h. broken out               |
| 9. set fire to methane-                        | i. they have been ignited   |
| 10. The fires have also caused serious habitat | j. Greenland ice sheet      |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires.html>

Hundreds of (1) \_\_\_\_\_ wildfires have broken out all across the Arctic Circle. Areas in the Arctic are warming (2) \_\_\_\_\_ as fast as anywhere else on the planet. There are so many fires and they are (3) \_\_\_\_\_ big that the smoke from them can be seen from space. Meteorologists report that the Arctic is having its hottest June (4) \_\_\_\_\_ and is suffering its worst wildfire season on (5) \_\_\_\_\_. There are huge blazes (6) \_\_\_\_\_ large areas of Greenland, Siberia, Scandinavia and Alaska. In Alaska, there are as many as 400 fires burning out of (7) \_\_\_\_\_. In Greenland, melting on the vast Greenland ice sheet has started a month earlier than (8) \_\_\_\_\_. The World Meteorological Organization has said the Arctic fires are "unprecedented".

*twice*  
*ever*  
*covering*  
*so*  
*usual*  
*huge*  
*control*  
*record*

Scientists say the fires and suffocating smoke could have an (9) \_\_\_\_\_ on global warming. Meteorologist Mark Parrington explained what is (10) \_\_\_\_\_ the wildfires. He said: "Temperatures in the Arctic have been increasing at a much faster (11) \_\_\_\_\_ than the global average, and warmer conditions encourage fires to grow and persist once they have been (12) \_\_\_\_\_." Dry ground, more lightning strikes and strong winds have caused the fires to spread very quickly. A lot of ice has (13) \_\_\_\_\_ and the flames have set fire to methane-filled earth below the ice. This is releasing huge (14) \_\_\_\_\_ of carbon dioxide into the (15) \_\_\_\_\_. The fires have also caused serious habitat (16) \_\_\_\_\_ and have killed uncountable numbers of animals.

*rate*  
*melted*  
*loss*  
*effect*  
*atmosphere*  
*causing*  
*ignited*  
*amounts*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires.html>

- 1) Hundreds of huge wildfires have broken out \_\_\_\_\_ Arctic Circle
  - a. all a cross the
  - b. all a crossed the
  - c. all axis the
  - d. all across the
- 2) the Arctic is having its hottest June ever and is suffering its worst wildfire \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. seasonal on record
  - b. season on record
  - c. seasoned on record
  - d. seasons on record
- 3) In Alaska, there are as many as 400 fires burning \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. out of control
  - b. out off control
  - c. outer control
  - d. out a control
- 4) melting on the vast Greenland ice sheet has started a month \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. earlier that usual
  - b. earlier then usual
  - c. earlier than usual
  - d. earlier that's usual
- 5) he World Meteorological Organization has said the Arctic fires \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. are "un-presented"
  - b. are "a presented"
  - c. are "unprecedented"
  - d. are "up press indented"
- 6) Scientists say the fires and suffocating smoke could \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. have an effect
  - b. have an affect
  - c. have an infect
  - d. have an reflect
- 7) Temperatures in the Arctic have been increasing at a much faster rate than the \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. globe all average
  - b. globally average
  - c. globalise average
  - d. global average
- 8) A lot of ice has melted and the flames have set fire to methane-\_\_\_\_\_
  - a. fill dearth
  - b. filled earth
  - c. file dearth
  - d. filed dearth
- 9) This is releasing huge amounts of carbon dioxide into \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the atmospheres
  - b. the atmospheric
  - c. the atmosphere
  - d. the atmospherically
- 10) The fires have also caused serious habitat loss and have killed uncountable \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. number of animals
  - b. numbers off animals
  - c. numbers of animal
  - d. numbers of animals

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires.html>

Hundreds of huge wildfires have broken (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the Arctic Circle. Areas in the Arctic are warming twice as (2) \_\_\_\_\_ else on the planet. There are so many fires and they are so big that the smoke from them can be (3) \_\_\_\_\_. Meteorologists report that the Arctic is having its hottest June ever and is suffering its worst wildfire season on record. There are (4) \_\_\_\_\_ large areas of Greenland, Siberia, Scandinavia and Alaska. In Alaska, there are as many as 400 fires burning (5) \_\_\_\_\_. In Greenland, melting on the vast Greenland ice sheet has started a month (6) \_\_\_\_\_. The World Meteorological Organization has said the Arctic fires are "unprecedented".

Scientists say the fires and (7) \_\_\_\_\_ have an effect on global warming. Meteorologist Mark Parrington explained what is causing the wildfires. He said: "Temperatures in the Arctic have been increasing at a much (8) \_\_\_\_\_ the global average, and warmer conditions encourage fires to (9) \_\_\_\_\_ once they have been ignited." Dry ground, more lightning strikes and strong winds have caused the fires to spread very quickly. A lot of (10) \_\_\_\_\_ and the flames have set fire to methane-filled earth below the ice. This is releasing (11) \_\_\_\_\_ carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. The fires have also caused serious habitat loss and have killed uncountable (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires.html>

1. How many fires did the article say are burning in the Arctic Circle?
2. What kind of season is the worst ever for the Arctic Circle?
3. How many fires are burning out of control in Alaska?
4. What has started melting a month earlier than usual?
5. What did the World Meteorological Organization call the fires?
6. What did scientists say could have an effect on global warming?
7. What has been increasing at a much faster rate than the global average?
8. What is spreading the fires besides lightning strikes and strong winds?
9. What is burning methane releasing into the atmosphere?
10. How many animals have the fires killed?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires.html>

- 1) How many fires did the article say are burning in the Arctic Circle?
  - a) 182
  - b) thousands
  - c) dozens
  - d) hundreds
- 2) What kind of season is the worst ever for the Arctic Circle?
  - a) rainy season
  - b) its wildfire season
  - c) summer
  - d) autumn
- 3) How many fires are burning out of control in Alaska?
  - a) exactly 400
  - b) well over 400
  - c) as many as 400
  - d) about 400
- 4) What has started melting a month earlier than usual?
  - a) the Greenland ice sheet
  - b) the Siberian tundra
  - c) Norwegian fjords
  - d) ice cream
- 5) What did the World Meteorological Organization call the fires?
  - a) scary
  - b) a huge danger to the world
  - c) unprecedented
  - d) manageable
- 6) What did scientists say could have an effect on global warming?
  - a) traffic
  - b) fires and suffocating smoke
  - c) melting ice
  - d) rising sea levels
- 7) What has been increasing at a much faster rate than the global average?
  - a) global warming
  - b) sea levels
  - c) melting sea ice
  - d) temperatures in the Arctic
- 8) What is spreading the fires besides lightning strikes and strong winds?
  - a) dry ground
  - b) camp fires
  - c) ozone
  - d) arsonists
- 9) What is burning methane releasing into the atmosphere?
  - a) ash
  - b) smoke
  - c) carbon dioxide
  - d) nitrogen
- 10) How many animals have the fires killed?
  - a) millions
  - b) uncountable numbers
  - c) dozens
  - d) hundreds of thousands

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires.html>

## **Role A – Wildfires**

You think wildfires are the biggest causes of global warming. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least damaging of these (and why): cars, deforestation or inability to change.

## **Role B – Cars**

You think cars the biggest causes of global warming. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least damaging of these (and why): wildfires, deforestation or inability to change.

## **Role C – Deforestation**

You think deforestation is biggest cause of global warming. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least damaging of these (and why): cars, wildfires or inability to change.

## **Role D – Inability to Change**

You think our inability to change is biggest cause of global warming. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least damaging of these (and why): cars, deforestation or wildfires.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires.html>

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

<b>wild</b>	<b>fire</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>• broken</li><li>• space</li><li>• ever</li><li>• huge</li><li>• control</li><li>• usual</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• effect</li><li>• rate</li><li>• grow</li><li>• strong</li><li>• methane</li><li>• loss</li></ul>
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

# THE ARCTIC SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires.html>

Write five GOOD questions about the Arctic 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.

# THE ARCTIC DISCUSSION

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

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'wildfire'?
3. What do you know about the Arctic?
4. What do you think of global warming?
5. Why has this news got less attention than the Notre Dame fire?
6. How can we stop the fires in the Arctic?
7. How often are there wildfires in your country?
8. What happens if the Greenland ice shelf melts?
9. Why are there so many fires in the Arctic?
10. How has the weather been recently in your country?

*Arctic wildfires visible from space – 28th July, 2019*  
Thousands more free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

---

# THE ARCTIC DISCUSSION

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

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'Arctic'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you know about global warming?
15. What would you do if you were caught in a wildfire?
16. What do you know about the methane under the tundra in Siberia?
17. What three adjectives best describe this story?
18. What will the world's climate be like in 20, 50 and 100 years from now?
19. How can we help animals in wildfires?
20. What questions would you like to ask the meteorologists?

## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

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

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

Copyright © breakingnewsenglish.com 2019

-----

## **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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires.html>

Hundreds of huge wildfires have broken (1) \_\_\_\_\_ all across the Arctic Circle. Areas in the Arctic are warming (2) \_\_\_\_\_ as fast as anywhere else on the planet. There are so many fires and they are so big that the smoke from them can be (3) \_\_\_\_\_ from space. Meteorologists report that the Arctic is having its hottest June ever and is suffering its worst wildfire season (4) \_\_\_\_\_ record. There are huge blazes covering large areas of Greenland, Siberia, Scandinavia and Alaska. In Alaska, there are as many as 400 fires burning out of (5) \_\_\_\_\_. In Greenland, melting on the vast Greenland ice (6) \_\_\_\_\_ has started a month earlier than usual. The World Meteorological Organization has said the Arctic fires are "unprecedented".

Scientists say the fires and suffocating smoke could have an effect (7) \_\_\_\_\_ global warming. Meteorologist Mark Parrington explained what is causing the wildfires. He said: "Temperatures in the Arctic have been increasing (8) \_\_\_\_\_ a much faster rate than the global average, and warmer conditions encourage fires to grow and persist once they have been ignited." Dry ground, more (9) \_\_\_\_\_ strikes and strong winds have caused the fires to spread very quickly. A lot of ice has (10) \_\_\_\_\_ and the flames have set fire to methane-filled earth below the ice. This is (11) \_\_\_\_\_ huge amounts of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. The fires have also caused serious habitat loss and have killed (12) \_\_\_\_\_ numbers of animals.

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

- |     |                 |              |              |               |
|-----|-----------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1.  | (a) in          | (b) out      | (c) up       | (d) down      |
| 2.  | (a) double      | (b) twice    | (c) duo      | (d) two       |
| 3.  | (a) sees        | (b) seeing   | (c) scene    | (d) seen      |
| 4.  | (a) in          | (b) on       | (c) at       | (d) to        |
| 5.  | (a) points      | (b) penalty  | (c) corner   | (d) control   |
| 6.  | (a) cloth       | (b) blanket  | (c) sheet    | (d) quilt     |
| 7.  | (a) on          | (b) to       | (c) as       | (d) in        |
| 8.  | (a) on          | (b) of       | (c) at       | (d) up        |
| 9.  | (a) lighten     | (b) light    | (c) lighter  | (d) lightning |
| 10. | (a) melted      | (b) molten   | (c) molded   | (d) matted    |
| 11. | (a) releasing   | (b) release  | (c) releases | (d) released  |
| 12. | (a) uncountable | (b) counting | (c) counted  | (d) counts    |

# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. Hundreds of huge wildfires have onrkbe out
2. anywhere else on the etpnla
3. its worst wildfire esoans on record
4. There are huge ebalsz
5. started a month earlier than uslau
6. fires are ncddeepenuert

## Paragraph 2

7. fires and ffiacugotsn smoke
8. have an feeftc on global warming
9. at a much faster rate than the global earagev
10. the femlsa have set fire to methane-filled earth
11. athitba loss
12. tcuunlebnao numbers of animals

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires.html>

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

- ( ) fast as anywhere else on the planet. There are so many fires and they are so big that the smoke from them can
- ( ) be seen from space. Meteorologists report that the Arctic is having its hottest June ever and is
- ( ) suffering its worst wildfire season on record. There are huge blazes covering large areas of Greenland,
- ( ) explained what is causing the wildfires. He said: "Temperatures in the Arctic have been increasing at a much faster
- ( ) the fires to spread very quickly. A lot of ice has melted and the flames have set fire to methane-
- ( **1** ) Hundreds of huge wildfires have broken out all across the Arctic Circle. Areas in the Arctic are warming twice as
- ( ) rate than the global average, and warmer conditions encourage fires to grow and persist
- ( ) atmosphere. The fires have also caused serious habitat loss and have killed uncountable numbers of animals.
- ( ) once they have been ignited." Dry ground, more lightning strikes and strong winds have caused
- ( ) Scientists say the fires and suffocating smoke could have an effect on global warming. Meteorologist Mark Parrington
- ( ) control. In Greenland, melting on the vast Greenland ice sheet has started a month earlier than
- ( ) Siberia, Scandinavia and Alaska. In Alaska, there are as many as 400 fires burning out of
- ( ) usual. The World Meteorological Organization has said the Arctic fires are "unprecedented".
- ( ) filled earth below the ice. This is releasing huge amounts of carbon dioxide into the

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires.html>

1. the Arctic . all out across Wildfires have broken
2. space . can seen from from Smoke them be
3. is June hottest having its The Arctic ever .
4. as many fires burning . as There are 400
5. sheet Greenland on ice started . has Melting the
6. effect warming . on an Smoke have global could
7. caused winds fires the Strong have to spread .
8. below methane-filled to fire the Set ice . earth
9. carbon huge releasing dioxide . is of This amounts
10. habitat The loss . serious have also fires caused

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires.html>

Hundreds of huge wildfires have broken *up / out* all across the Arctic Circle. Areas in the Arctic are warming twice as *fast / faster* as anywhere else on the planet. There are so *many / much* fires and they are so big that the smoke from them can be *seeing / seen* from space. Meteorologists report that the Arctic is having its hottest June ever and is *suffered / suffering* its worst wildfire season on record. There are huge *emblazons / blazes* covering large areas of Greenland, Siberia, Scandinavia and Alaska. In Alaska, there are as many as 400 fires burning out of *control / controlling*. In Greenland, melting on the *vast / waste* Greenland ice sheet has started a month earlier than *usual / that*. The World Meteorological Organization has said the Arctic fires are "*unprecedented*" / "*unprotected*".

Scientists say the fires and *scaffolding / suffocating* smoke could have an effect *on / in* global warming. Meteorologist Mark Parrington explained what is *caused / causing* the wildfires. He said: "Temperatures in the Arctic have been increasing at a much *fast / faster* rate than the global average, and warmer conditions encourage fires to grow and persist *twice / once* they have been ignited." Dry ground, more lightning *strokes / strikes* and strong winds have caused the fires to spread very quickly. A lot of *ice / icy* has melted and the flames have *wet / set* fire to methane-filled earth below the ice. This is releasing huge amounts of carbon dioxide into *the / an* atmosphere. The fires have also caused serious habitat *loses / loss* and have killed uncountable numbers of animals.

**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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires.html>

H\_n d r\_d s \_f h\_g\_ w\_l d f\_r\_s h\_v\_ b r\_k\_n \_\_ t \_l l  
\_c r\_s s th\_ A r c t\_c C\_r c\_l. A r\_\_ s \_n th\_ A r c  
t\_c \_r\_ w\_r m\_n g t w\_c\_ \_s f\_s t \_s \_n y w h\_r\_ \_l s\_  
\_n th\_ p\_l\_n\_t. Th\_r\_ \_r\_ s\_ m\_n y f\_r\_s \_n d t  
h\_y \_r\_ s\_ b\_g th\_t th\_ s m\_k\_ f\_r\_m th\_m c\_n  
b\_ s\_\_ n f\_r\_m s p\_c\_. M\_t\_\_ r\_l\_g\_s t s r\_p\_r t t  
h\_t th\_ A r c t\_c \_s h\_v\_n g \_t s h\_t t\_s t J\_n\_ \_v\_r  
\_n d \_s s\_f f\_r\_n g \_t s w\_r s t w\_l d f\_r\_ s\_\_ s\_n \_n  
r\_c\_r d. Th\_r\_ \_r\_ h\_g\_ b\_l\_z\_s c\_v\_r\_n g l\_r g\_  
\_r\_\_ s \_f G\_r\_\_ n\_l\_n d, S\_b\_r\_\_, S\_c\_n d\_n\_v\_\_ \_n d  
A\_l\_s k\_. I\_n A\_l\_s k\_, th\_r\_ \_r\_ s\_ m\_n y \_s 4 0 0  
f\_r\_s b\_r\_n\_n g \_\_ t \_f c\_n t\_r\_l. I\_n G\_r\_\_ n\_l\_n d,  
m\_l\_t\_n g \_n th\_ v\_s t G\_r\_\_ n\_l\_n d \_c\_ s\_h\_\_ t h\_s  
s\_t\_r\_t\_d \_m\_n th \_\_ r\_l\_\_ r th\_n \_s\_\_ l. Th\_ W\_r  
l\_d M\_t\_\_ r\_l\_g\_c\_l O\_r\_g\_n\_z\_t\_\_ n h\_s s\_\_ d th\_ A  
r c t\_c f\_r\_s \_r\_ " \_n p\_r\_c\_d\_n\_t\_d " .

S\_c\_\_ n\_t\_s\_t s s\_y th\_ f\_r\_s \_n d s\_f f\_c\_t\_n g s  
m\_k\_ c\_\_ l\_d h\_v\_ \_n \_f f\_c\_t \_n g\_l\_b\_l w\_r m\_n g .  
M\_t\_\_ r\_l\_g\_s t M\_r\_k P\_r\_r\_n g\_t\_n \_x\_p\_l\_\_ n\_d w\_h\_t  
\_s c\_\_ s\_n g th\_ w\_l d f\_r\_s . H\_ s\_\_ d : " T\_m  
p\_r\_t\_r\_s \_n th\_ A r c t\_c h\_v\_ b\_\_ n \_n c\_r\_\_ s\_n g  
\_t \_m\_c\_h f\_s t\_r r\_t\_ th\_n th\_ g\_l\_b\_l \_v\_r\_g\_,  
\_n d w\_r m\_r c\_n d\_t\_\_ n s \_n c\_\_ r\_g\_ f\_r\_s t\_g  
r\_w \_n d p\_r\_s\_s t \_n c\_ th\_y h\_v\_ b\_\_ n \_g\_n\_t\_d ."  
D\_r\_y g\_r\_\_ n\_d, m\_r\_ l\_i\_g\_h\_t\_n\_n g s\_t\_r\_k\_s \_n d s\_t  
r\_n g w\_n d s h\_v\_ c\_\_ s\_d th\_ f\_r\_s t\_s p\_r\_\_ d  
v\_r\_y q\_\_ c\_k\_l\_y . A\_l\_t \_f \_c\_ h\_s m\_l\_t\_d \_n d t  
h\_ f\_l\_m\_s h\_v\_ s\_t f\_r\_ t\_ m\_t\_h\_n\_- f\_l\_l\_d \_\_ r\_t\_h  
b\_l\_w th\_ \_c\_. Th\_s \_s r\_l\_\_ s\_n g h\_g\_ \_m\_\_ n\_t\_s  
\_f c\_r\_b\_n d\_\_ x\_d\_ \_n\_t\_ th\_ \_t\_m\_s\_p\_h\_r\_. Th\_  
f\_r\_s h\_v\_ \_l\_s\_ c\_\_ s\_d s\_r\_\_ s h\_b\_t\_t l\_s\_s \_n d  
h\_v\_ k\_l\_l\_d \_n c\_\_ n\_t\_b\_l\_ n\_m\_b\_r\_s \_f \_n\_m\_l\_s .

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires.html>

hundreds of huge wildfires have broken out all across the arctic circle areas in the arctic are warming twice as fast as anywhere else on the planet there are so many fires and they are so big that the smoke from them can be seen from space meteorologists report that the arctic is having its hottest june ever and is suffering its worst wildfire season on record there are huge blazes covering large areas of greenland siberia scandinavia and alaska in alaska there are as many as 400 fires burning out of control in greenland melting on the vast greenland ice sheet has started a month earlier than usual the world meteorological organization has said the arctic fires are unprecedented

scientists say the fires and suffocating smoke could have an effect on global warming meteorologist mark parrington explained what is causing the wildfires he said temperatures in the arctic have been increasing at a much faster rate than the global average and warmer conditions encourage fires to grow and persist once they have been ignited dry ground more lightning strikes and strong winds have caused the fires to spread very quickly a lot of ice has melted and the flames have set fire to methanefilled earth below the ice this is releasing huge amounts of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere the fires have also caused serious habitat loss and have killed uncountable numbers of animals.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires.html>

HundredsofhugewildfireshavebrokenoutallacrosstheArcticCircle.AreasintheArcticarewarmingtwiceasfastasanywhereelseontheplanet. Therearesomanyfiresandtheyaresobigthatthesmokefromthemcanbeseenfromspace. MeteorologistsreportthattheArcticishavingitshottestJuneeverandissufferingitsworstwildfireseasononrecord. Thereare hugeblazescoveringlargeareasofGreenland,Siberia,ScandinaviaandAlaska. InAlaska,thereareasmanyas400firesburningoutofcontrol. InGreenland, meltingonthevastGreenlandicesheethasstartedamonthe arlierthanusual. TheWorldMeteorologicalOrganizationhassaidtheArcticfiresare"unprecedented". Scientistssaythefiresandsuffocatingsmokecouldhaveaneffectonglobalwarming. MeteorologistMarkParringtonexplainedwhatiscausingthewildfires. Hesaid: "TemperaturesintheArctichavebeenincreasingatamuchfasterratethanthe globalaverage, andwarmerconditionsencouragefiretogrowandpersistoncetheyhaverebeenignited." Dryground, morelightningstrikesandstrongwindshaverecausedthefirestospreadveryquickly. A lotoficehasmeltedandtheflameshavesetfiretomethane-filledearthbelowtheice. Thisisreleasing hugeamountsofcarbondioxideintotheatmosphere. Thefireshavealso causedserioushabitatlossandhavekilleduncountablenumbersofanimals.





# 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 this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. THE ARCTIC:** Make a poster about the Arctic. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. WILDFIRES:** Write a magazine article about governments spending more money to fight wildfires. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

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 the Arctic. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on how we can protect it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. c    2. d    3. a    4. e    5. f    6. b    7. g  
8. i    9. l    10. n    11. j    12. h    13. k    14. m

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

- |                  |                        |
|------------------|------------------------|
| 1. broken out    | a. started             |
| 2. suffering     | b. experiencing        |
| 3. covering      | c. blanketing          |
| 4. vast          | d. huge                |
| 5. unprecedented | e. unheard of          |
| 6. suffocating   | f. choking             |
| 7. rate          | g. speed               |
| 8. ignited       | h. set alight          |
| 9. amounts       | i. volume              |
| 10. habitat      | j. natural environment |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Hundreds
2. Its wildfire season
3. As many as 400
4. The Greenland ice sheet
5. Unprecedented
6. Fires and suffocating smoke
7. Temperatures in the Arctic
8. Dry ground
9. Carbon Dioxide
10. Uncountable numbers

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. Wildfires have broken out all across the Arctic.
2. Smoke from them can be seen from space.
3. The Arctic is having its hottest June ever.
4. There are as many as 400 fires burning.
5. Melting on the Greenland ice sheet has started.
6. Smoke could have an effect on global warming.
7. Strong winds have caused the fires to spread.
8. Set fire to methane-filled earth below the ice.
9. This is releasing huge amounts of carbon dioxide.
10. The fires have also caused serious habitat loss.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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