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Level 6 – 14th June, 2020

UK economy shrinks by 25 per cent

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200614-uk-economy.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200614-uk-economy.html>

The UK economy has suffered its worst economic performance since a mini ice age over 300 years ago when the River Thames froze. The UK's Office for National Statistics reported that the economy was around 25 per cent smaller in April than it was in February. The Bank of England governor, Andrew Bailey, acknowledged there was a 20.4 per cent drop in GDP in April alone. He called this "a dramatic and big number". He was positive about the future and said there were "signs of the economy now beginning to come back to life". Much of the UK economy shut down in a bid to curb the spread of the coronavirus. The UK has seen the biggest economic collapse among the world's developed economies.

The United Kingdom's economy has seen nearly 20 years' worth of growth wiped out because of the coronavirus lockdown measures. This week, people are being encouraged to go shopping again as many stores have reopened. Many shoppers remain wary about venturing out to shops or commuting, as the number of daily deaths is still around 200. Talking about the economic collapse, Mr Bailey said: "It's not surprising. The economy clearly closed out substantially at the end of March into April. The big question is what happens next." The UK's 'Guardian' newspaper was pessimistic about a recovery. It wrote: "Britain's economy has fallen off a cliff. It will be a long climb back."

Sources: <https://news.sky.com/story/coronavirus-bank-of-england-ready-to-take-action-after-economy-tanks-20-12005488>
<https://www.aljazeera.com/ajimpact/uk-economy-shrinks-20-percent-april-2002-level-200612091955524.html>
<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2020/jun/12/calamitous-gdp-figures-show-uk-economy-has-fallen-off-a-cliff>

WARM-UPS

1. ECONOMIES: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about economies. 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?

economy / ice age / River Thames / statistics / bank / positive / the future / collapse / growth / lockdown / shopping / wary / commuting / collapse / the big question / climb

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

3. WORLD ECONOMY: Students A **strongly** believe there should be one world economy; Students B **strongly** believe that would never work. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. POLICIES: What policies would you introduce in the areas below? How would they make things better? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Policy	Benefits
Employment		
Tax		
Policing		
Welfare		
Health		
Environment		

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

6. RECOVERY: Rank these with your partner. Put the best things for economies to recover at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Reopened shops
- Lower taxes
- Better Internet access
- Infrastructure projects
- Free trade
- Raise the minimum wage
- Free public transport
- Ease business regulations

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. suffered | a. Restrain or keep in check. |
| 2. statistics | b. Experienced something bad or unpleasant. |
| 3. governor | c. Of an event or circumstance sudden and full of impact. |
| 4. acknowledged | d. The practice or science of collecting and analyzing numerical data. |
| 5. dramatic | e. Accepted as valid or legitimate. |
| 6. bid | f. The head of a public institution. |
| 7. curb | g. An attempt or effort to achieve something. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 8. wiped out | h. Erased or destroyed. |
| 9. measures | i. A steep rock face, especially at the edge of the sea. |
| 10. wary | j. Plans or courses of action taken to achieve a particular purpose. |
| 11. venturing | k. To a great or significant extent. |
| 12. commuting | l. Feeling or showing caution about possible dangers or problems. |
| 13. substantially | m. Daring to do something or go somewhere that may be dangerous or unpleasant. |
| 14. cliff | n. Travelling some distance between one's home and place of work on a regular basis. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200614-uk-economy.html>

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

- a. The UK economy is its worst since a mini ice age 300 years ago. **T / F**
- b. GDP in the UK dropped by 20.4% in April. **T / F**
- c. The Bank of England called the numbers "dramatic". **T / F**
- d. The UK has seen the worst economic collapse among developed nations. **T / F**
- e. Over 50 years of growth has been wiped out in the UK. **T / F**
- f. Shoppers are looking forward to getting back in stores this week. **T / F**
- g. The number of daily deaths in the UK is making shoppers wary. **T / F**
- h. A newspaper said the UK economy has fallen from the sky. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. suffered | a. cautious |
| 2. acknowledged | b. effort |
| 3. positive | c. actions |
| 4. bid | d. cave in |
| 5. collapse | e. considerably |
| 6. wiped out | f. recognized |
| 7. measures | g. endured |
| 8. wary | h. downbeat |
| 9. substantially | i. eradicated |
| 10. pessimistic | j. optimistic |

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

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. The UK economy has suffered its worst | a. measures |
| 2. the River Thames | b. curb the spread |
| 3. signs of the economy now beginning to | c. froze |
| 4. shut down in a bid to | d. cliff |
| 5. the biggest economic | e. come back to life |
| 6. 20 years' worth of growth | f. venturing out |
| 7. coronavirus lockdown | g. economic performance |
| 8. shoppers remain wary about | h. surprising |
| 9. It's not | i. collapse |
| 10. Britain's economy has fallen off a | j. wiped out |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200614-uk-economy.html>

The UK economy has (1) _____ its worst economic performance since a mini ice (2) _____ over 300 years ago when the River Thames (3) _____. The UK's Office for National Statistics reported that the economy was around 25 per cent smaller in April than it was in February. The Bank of England (4) _____, Andrew Bailey, acknowledged there was a 20.4 per cent drop in GDP in April alone. He called this "a (5) _____ and big number". He was positive about the future and said there were "signs of the economy now beginning to come back to (6) _____". Much of the UK economy shut down in a bid to (7) _____ the spread of the coronavirus. The UK has seen the biggest economic (8) _____ among the world's developed economies.

froze
curb
dramatic
suffered
collapse
age
governor
life

The United Kingdom's economy has seen (9) _____ 20 years' worth of growth (10) _____ out because of the coronavirus lockdown (11) _____. This week, people are being encouraged to go shopping again as many stores have reopened. Many shoppers remain (12) _____ about venturing out to shops or commuting, as the number of daily deaths is still around 200. Talking about the economic (13) _____, Mr Bailey said: "It's not surprising. The economy clearly closed out (14) _____ at the end of March into April. The big question is what happens next." The UK's 'Guardian' newspaper was (15) _____ about a recovery. It wrote: "Britain's economy has fallen off a (16) _____. It will be a long climb back."

wary
wiped
cliff
substantially
measures
pessimistic
nearly
collapse

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200614-uk-economy.html>

- 1) The UK economy has suffered its worst economic performance since _____
 - a. a mini iced age
 - b. a mini icy age
 - c. a mini ice age
 - d. a mini eye sage
- 2) over 300 years ago when the River _____
 - a. Thames frozen
 - b. Thames froze
 - c. Thames freeze
 - d. Thames freezer
- 3) acknowledged there was a 20.4 per cent drop in GDP _____
 - a. in April lone
 - b. in April a lone
 - c. in April a loner
 - d. in April alone
- 4) said there were signs of the economy now beginning to come _____
 - a. back to life
 - b. backed to life
 - c. backs to life
 - d. back too life
- 5) Much of the UK economy shut down in a bid to _____
 - a. crib the spread
 - b. crab the spread
 - c. curb the spread
 - d. cub the spread
- 6) The United Kingdom's economy has seen nearly 20 years' worth of _____
 - a. growth wiped out
 - b. growth wipe tout
 - c. growth whipped out
 - d. growth wipeout
- 7) Many shoppers remain wary about _____
 - a. venturing out
 - b. venture in out
 - c. vent turning out
 - d. vent touring out
- 8) the number of daily deaths is still around 200. Talking about _____ ...
 - a. the economic relapse
 - b. the economically lapse
 - c. the economical lapse
 - d. the economic collapse
- 9) The economy clearly closed _____
 - a. out substantial
 - b. out substantial ally
 - c. out substantially
 - d. out sub-standard shall
- 10) pessimistic about a recovery. It wrote: "Britain's economy has fallen _____"
 - a. off a cliff
 - b. off a cleft
 - c. offer cliff
 - d. offer cleft

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200614-uk-economy.html>

The UK economy has (1) _____ economic performance since a (2) _____ over 300 years ago when the River Thames froze. The UK's Office for National Statistics reported that the economy was around 25 per cent smaller in April than it was in February. The Bank of England governor, Andrew Bailey, (3) _____ a 20.4 per cent drop in GDP in April alone. He called this "a (4) _____ number". He was positive about the future and said there were "signs of the economy now beginning to come (5) _____". Much of the UK economy shut down in a (6) _____ the spread of the coronavirus. The UK has seen the biggest economic collapse among the world's developed economies.

The United Kingdom's economy has seen nearly 20 years' (7) _____ wiped out because of the coronavirus lockdown measures. This week, people (8) _____ to go shopping again as many stores have reopened. Many shoppers remain wary about venturing out to (9) _____, as the number of daily deaths is still around 200. Talking about the economic collapse, Mr Bailey said: "It's not surprising. The economy clearly closed (10) _____ the end of March into April. The big question is what happens next." The UK's 'Guardian' newspaper (11) _____ a recovery. It wrote: "Britain's economy has fallen (12) _____. It will be a long climb back."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200614-uk-economy.html>

1. What happened in the UK 300 years ago?
2. What happened to the River Thames 300 years ago?
3. By how much did the UK's GDP fall in April?
4. What did the Bank of England say was coming back to life?
5. Which developed country has seen the biggest economic collapse?
6. How much growth has been wiped out in the UK?
7. What is reopening in the UK this week?
8. How do people feel about shopping and commuting?
9. What did a newspaper say was the big question?
10. What did a newspaper say the UK had fallen off?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200614-uk-economy.html>

- 1) What happened in the UK 300 years ago?
 - a) a serious recession
 - b) a mini ice age
 - c) food riots
 - d) taxes doubled
- 2) What happened to the River Thames 300 years ago?
 - a) it was redirected
 - b) it flowed upstream
 - c) it froze
 - d) it was filled with rotten food
- 3) By how much did the UK's GDP fall in April?
 - a) 20.5%
 - b) 24%
 - c) 25%
 - d) 20.4%
- 4) What did the Bank of England say was coming back to life?
 - a) hospitals
 - b) the economy
 - c) society
 - d) shopping malls
- 5) Which developed country has seen the biggest economic collapse?
 - a) the UK
 - b) France
 - c) Japan
 - d) Canada
- 6) How much growth has been wiped out in the UK?
 - a) twenty years' worth
 - b) thirty years' worth
 - c) forty years' worth
 - d) fifty years' worth
- 7) What is reopening in the UK this week?
 - a) the stock market
 - b) dentists
 - c) cinemas
 - d) stores
- 8) How do people feel about shopping and commuting?
 - a) excited
 - b) scared
 - c) wary
 - d) they think it is normal
- 9) What did a newspaper say was the big question?
 - a) How did it happen?
 - b) How much?
 - c) When will life be normal?
 - d) What happens next?
- 10) What did a newspaper say the UK had fallen off?
 - a) a ladder
 - b) a cliff
 - c) a chair
 - d) a table

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200614-uk-economy.html>

Role A – Reopen Shops

You think reopening shops is the best way to revive an economy. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): lower taxes, better wifi or free public transport.

Role B – Lower Taxes

You think lower taxes is the best way to revive an economy. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): reopening shops, better wifi or free public transport.

Role C – Better Wifi

You think better wifi is the best way to revive an economy. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): lower taxes, reopening shops or free public transport.

Role D – Free Public Transport

You think free public transport is the best way to revive an economy. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): lower taxes, better wifi or reopening shops.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200614-uk-economy.html>

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

economy	shrink
----------------	---------------

- 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">• worst• reported• alone• positive• life• developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• growth• again• shops• clearly• big• climb
--	--

ECONOMIES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200614-uk-economy.html>

Write five GOOD questions about economies 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.

ECONOMIES 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 'economy'?
3. How is your country's economy at the moment?
4. What damage does a huge drop in GDP cause a country?
5. What ups and downs has your country's economy recently had?
6. What can we do to help economies recover?
7. How has the coronavirus affected your finances?
8. What did your country do to protect its economy from coronavirus?
9. How positive are you about the future?
10. Should people change their economic behaviour from now?

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ECONOMIES 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 'ice age'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Who is most affected if GDP falls?
15. Why is the British economy so badly affected?
16. Are you doing anything differently because of coronavirus?
17. Are you wary about doing anything in this pandemic world?
18. What measure would you take to bring economies back to life?
19. What will the world economy be like this time next year?
20. What questions would you like to ask the Bank of England governor?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____
- 6. _____

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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/2006/200614-uk-economy.html>

The UK economy has suffered its worst economic performance since a (1) _____ ice age over 300 years ago when the River Thames (2) _____. The UK's Office for National Statistics reported that the economy was around 25 per cent smaller in April than it was in February. The Bank of England (3) _____, Andrew Bailey, acknowledged there was a 20.4 per cent drop in GDP in April alone. He called this "a (4) _____ and big number". He was positive about the future and said there were "signs of the economy now beginning to come back to life". Much of the UK economy shut down in a (5) _____ to curb the spread of the coronavirus. The UK has seen the biggest economic (6) _____ among the world's developed economies.

The United Kingdom's economy has seen nearly 20 years' (7) _____ of growth wiped out because of the coronavirus lockdown measures. This week, people are being (8) _____ to go shopping again as many stores have reopened. Many shoppers remain (9) _____ about venturing out to shops or commuting, as the number of daily deaths is still around 200. Talking about the economic collapse, Mr Bailey said: "It's not surprising. The economy clearly closed out (10) _____ at the end of March into April. The big question is what happens next." The UK's 'Guardian' newspaper was pessimistic about a recovery. It wrote: "Britain's economy has fallen off a (11) _____. It will be a long (12) _____ back."

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) maxi | (b) minimum | (c) mini | (d) maximum |
| 2. | (a) froze | (b) freeze | (c) frozen | (d) freezes |
| 3. | (a) governor | (b) clerk | (c) cashier | (d) exchange |
| 4. | (a) dramatic | (b) theatrical | (c) thespian | (d) acting |
| 5. | (a) bud | (b) bid | (c) bod | (d) bed |
| 6. | (a) explosion | (b) implosion | (c) smashing | (d) collapse |
| 7. | (a) waste | (b) valuable | (c) worth | (d) costing |
| 8. | (a) intimidated | (b) coerced | (c) purged | (d) encouraged |
| 9. | (a) wary | (b) warring | (c) vary | (d) varying |
| 10. | (a) concavely | (b) substantially | (c) operatively | (d) uniformly |
| 11. | (a) chair | (b) cliff | (c) ladder | (d) roof |
| 12. | (a) scale | (b) escalation | (c) climb | (d) altitude |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200614-uk-economy.html>

Paragraph 1

1. its worst economic faorc mrepen
2. The Bank of England eogorrvn
3. a cmiaardt and big number
4. He was tsoivpie about the future
5. ucbr the spread of the coronavirus
6. the biggest economic psleloac

Paragraph 2

7. the coronavirus lockdown sauermse
8. being goenceadru to go shopping again
9. nnteuirgv out to shops
10. cmnutmgoi, as the number of daily deaths...
11. closed out taiuslbtylnsa
12. spisemiscti about a recovery

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200614-uk-economy.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () there was a 20.4 per cent drop in GDP in April alone. He called this "a dramatic and big
- () number". He was positive about the future and said there were "signs of the economy now beginning
- () to come back to life". Much of the UK economy shut down in a bid to curb the spread
- () collapse, Mr Bailey said: "It's not surprising. The economy clearly closed out substantially at the end of March
- () of the coronavirus. The UK has seen the biggest economic collapse among the world's developed economies.
- () into April. The big question is what happens next." The UK's 'Guardian' newspaper was pessimistic
- () around 25 per cent smaller in April than it was in February. The Bank of England governor, Andrew Bailey, acknowledged
- () out because of the coronavirus lockdown measures. This week, people are being encouraged to go shopping again
- () The United Kingdom's economy has seen nearly 20 years' worth of growth wiped
- () as many stores have reopened. Many shoppers remain wary about venturing out to shops
- () about a recovery. It wrote: "Britain's economy has fallen off a cliff. It will be a long climb back."
- (**1**) The UK economy has suffered its worst economic performance since a mini ice
- () or commuting, as the number of daily deaths is still around 200. Talking about the economic
- () age over 300 years ago when the River Thames froze. The UK's Office for National Statistics reported that the economy was

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200614-uk-economy.html>

1. worst Its mini economic a since ice-age . performance
2. April in in GDP 20.4% drop A alone .
3. beginning The life . to come economy back to
4. in the a to bid curb Shut spread .
5. biggest The the among economies . collapse developed economic
6. worth of wiped years' was out . growth Twenty
7. being are encouraged go shopping People again . to
8. number 200 . daily of deaths is around The
9. big happens what question The is next .
10. a fallen Britain's cliff . economy off has

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200614-uk-economy.html>

The UK economy has *surf*ed / *suffer*ed its worst economic performance since a mini ice *era* / *age* over 300 years ago when the River Thames *froze*n / *froz*e. The UK's Office for National Statistics reported that the economy was around 25 per cent smaller in April than it was in February. The Bank of England governor, Andrew Bailey, *acknowledg*ed / *knowledg*eable there was a 20.4 per cent drop in GDP in April *lonely* / *alone*. He called this "a dramatic and big number". He was *positiv*ely / *posit*ive about the future and said there were "signs of the economy now beginning to come back to *living* / *life*". Much of the UK economy shut down in a *bid* / *bud* to *curb* / *carb* the spread of the coronavirus. The UK has seen the biggest economic *collaps*e / *relaps*e among the world's developed economies.

The United Kingdom's economy has seen nearly 20 years' *worth*y / *worth* of growth wiped out because of the coronavirus lockdown *measur*ement / *measur*es. This week, people are *being* / *been* encouraged to go shopping again as many stores have reopened. Many shoppers remain *wary* / *wary* about venturing out to shops or *comput*ing / *commut*ing, as the number of *day* / *daily* deaths is still around 200. Talking about the economic collapse, Mr Bailey said: "It's not surprising. The economy *clar*ity / *clear*ly closed out substantially at the end of March into April. The big question is what happens next." The UK's 'Guardian' newspaper was *pessim*ism / *pessim*istic about a *recovery* / *recover*. It wrote: "Britain's economy has fallen off a *cliff* / *chair*. It will be a long climb back."

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/2006/200614-uk-economy.html>

The UK economy has suffered its worst economic performance since the month-long 300 years ago when the River Thames froze. The UK's Office for National Statistics reports that the economy was down 25 per cent smaller in April than it was in February. The Bank of England governor, Andrew Bailey, acknowledges that the economy is down 20.4 per cent down on GDP in April alone. He called this "a dramatic and big number". He was positive about the future and said that the word "signs of the economy now beginning to come back to life". Much of the UK economy shut down in the bid to curb the spread of the coronavirus. The UK has seen the biggest economic collapse since the world's developed economies.

The United Kingdom's economy has seen nearly 20 years' worth of growth wiped out because of the coronavirus lockdown measures. This week, people being encouraged to shop online and many stores have reopened. Many shoppers remain wary about venturing out to shops for commuting, so the number of daily deaths is still around 200. Talking about the economic collapse, Mr Bailey said: "It's not surprising. The economy clearly closed out substantially to the end of March in April. The big question is what happens next." The UK's 'Guardian' news paper was pessimistic about recovery. It writes: "Britain's economy has fallen off a cliff. It will be a long climb back."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200614-uk-economy.html>

the uk economy has suffered its worst economic performance since a mini ice age over 300 years ago when the river thames froze the uks office for national statistics reported that the economy was around 25 per cent smaller in april than it was in february the bank of england governor andrew bailey acknowledged there was a 204 per cent drop in gdp in april alone he called this a dramatic and big number he was positive about the future and said there were signs of the economy now beginning to come back to life much of the uk economy shut down in a bid to curb the spread of the coronavirus the uk has seen the biggest economic collapse among the worlds developed economies

the united kingdoms economy has seen nearly 20 years worth of growth wiped out because of the coronavirus lockdown measures this week people are being encouraged to go shopping again as many stores have reopened many shoppers remain wary about venturing out to shops or commuting as the number of daily deaths is still around 200 talking about the economic collapse mr bailey said its not surprising the economy clearly closed out substantially at the end of march into april the big question is what happens next the uks guardian newspaper was pessimistic about a recovery it wrote britains economy has fallen off a cliff it will be a long climb back

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200614-uk-economy.html>

The UK economy has suffered its worst economic performance since a mini ice age over 300 years ago when the River Thames froze. The UK's Office for National Statistics reported that the economy was around 25 per cent smaller in April than it was in February. The Bank of England governor, Andrew Bailey, acknowledged there was a 20.4 per cent drop in GDP in April alone. He called this "a dramatic and big number". He was positive about the future and said there were "signs of the economy now beginning to come back to life". Much of the UK economy shut down in a bid to curb the spread of the coronavirus. The UK has seen the biggest economic collapse among the world's developed economies. The United Kingdom's economy has seen nearly 20 years' worth of growth wiped out because of the coronavirus lockdown measures. This week, people are being encouraged to go shopping again as many stores have reopened. Many shoppers remain wary about venturing out to shops or commuting, as the number of daily deaths is still around 200. Talking about the economic collapse, Mr Bailey said: "It's not surprising. The economy clearly closed out substantially at the end of March into April. The big question is what happens next." The UK's Guardian newspaper was pessimistic about a recovery. It wrote: "Britain's economy has fallen off a cliff. It will be a long climb back."

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. ECONOMIES: Make a poster about economies. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. WORLD ECONOMY: Write a magazine article about the whole world being managed as one economy. 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 economies. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to improve the world economy. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. g	2. f	3. j	4. b	5. d
6. i	7. c	8. a	9. e	10. h

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. A mini ice age
2. It froze
3. 20.4%
4. The economy
5. The UK
6. Twenty years' worth
7. Stores
8. Wary
9. What happens next?
10. A cliff

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. Its worst economic performance since a mini ice-age.
2. A 20.4% drop in GDP in April alone.
3. The economy beginning to come back to life.
4. Shut in a bid to curb the spread.
5. The biggest economic collapse among the developed economies.
6. Twenty years' worth of growth was wiped out.
7. People are being encouraged to go shopping again.
8. The number of daily deaths is around 200.
9. The big question is what happens next.
10. Britain's economy has fallen off a cliff.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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