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Level 4 – 5th December, 2020

Ecocide could become an international crime

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide-4.html>

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Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide-4.html>

There could be a new law to make ecocide a crime. Ecocide is the destruction of the world's ecosystems. Lawyers are proposing to make ecocide a crime like those of crimes against humanity, war crimes and genocide. A university professor and a former judge at the International Criminal Court are leading this plan. Several European countries and island nations at risk from rising sea levels support it. A UK politician said ecocide should be a crime.

A professor spoke about the time being right to use the power of international criminal law to protect our environment. He wants to hold governments and multi-national corporations accountable for their environmental damage. An ecocide foundation said: "In most cases ecocide is likely to be a corporate crime." It added that ecocide involved "mass, systematic or widespread destruction.... Amazon deforestation on a huge scale."

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/law/2020/nov/30/international-lawyers-draft-plan-to-criminalise-ecosystem-destruction>
<https://www.commondreams.org/news/2020/11/30/end-impunity-deliberate-destruction-planet-international-lawyers-drafting-plan>
<https://www.republicworld.com/world-news/rest-of-the-world-news/international-lawyers-draft-law-against-environmental-destruction-to-criminalise-ecocide.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. There could be a | a. nations |
| 2. make ecocide | b. ecocide a crime |
| 3. the destruction of the | c. be a crime |
| 4. Lawyers are proposing to make | d. genocide |
| 5. war crimes and | e. rising sea levels |
| 6. island | f. world's ecosystems |
| 7. at risk from | g. new law |
| 8. ecocide should | h. a crime |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| 1. A professor spoke about the time | a. damage |
| 2. international criminal | b. scale |
| 3. multi-national | c. foundation |
| 4. accountable for their environmental | d. being right |
| 5. An ecocide | e. destruction |
| 6. likely to be a corporate | f. corporations |
| 7. systematic or widespread | g. crime |
| 8. Amazon deforestation on a huge | h. law |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide-4.html>

There could be a new (1) _____ ecocide a crime.

Ecocide is the destruction of the world's ecosystems. Lawyers

(2) _____ make ecocide a crime like those of crimes

against humanity, war (3) _____ . A university professor

and a (4) _____ the International Criminal Court are

leading this plan. Several European countries and island

(5) _____ from rising sea levels support it. A UK

politician said ecocide should (6) _____ .

A professor spoke about the (7) _____ to use the power

of international (8) _____ protect our environment. He

wants to hold governments and multi-national corporations

(9) _____ environmental damage. An ecocide

foundation said: "In most cases ecocide is likely to be

(10) _____ ." It added that

(11) _____ , systematic or widespread destruction....

Amazon deforestation on (12) _____ ."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide-4.html>

There could be a new law to make ecocide a crime. Ecocide is the destruction of the world's ecosystems. Lawyers are proposing to make ecocide a crime like those of crimes against humanity, war crimes and genocide. A university professor and a former judge at the International Criminal Court are leading this plan. Several European countries and island nations at risk from rising sea levels support it. A UK politician said ecocide should be a crime. A professor spoke about the time being right to use the power of international criminal law to protect our environment. He wants to hold governments and multi-national corporations accountable for their environmental damage. An ecocide foundation said: "In most cases ecocide is likely to be a corporate crime." It added that ecocide involved "mass, systematic or widespread destruction.... Amazon deforestation on a huge scale."

ECOCIDE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2012/201205-ecocide-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about ecocide 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) _____

