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Level 5 – 21st July, 2021

Germany's Merkel warns floods highlight climate dangers

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210721-europe-floods-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/2107/210721-europe-floods-5.html>

Germany's leader Angela Merkel expressed fears about climate change after the devastation from the severe flooding in Europe. Ms Merkel said she was horrified by the destruction across swathes of Europe. She visited the hardest-hit areas in Germany and listened to accounts of the disaster from local residents. She said: "It's shocking. I can pretty much say that the German language does not have words to describe the destruction." Ms Merkel said the world had to escalate efforts to tackle the climate crisis. She said: "We have to be faster in the fight against climate change."

Torrential rains caused many rivers to swell and overflow last week. Many burst their banks and caused flash floods in adjacent areas. Floodwaters washed away houses, roads and bridges across Germany, Belgium and other countries. The death toll is now 190, with many people missing. Towns are covered in debris and some areas are beyond recognition. Ms Merkel described this as being "surreal". The premier of one flood-stricken state said the clean-up operation would take "years". He questioned Germany's preparedness for floods and the effectiveness of flood defences.

Sources: <https://news.yahoo.com/merkel-visit-flood-zone-western-051016535.html>
<https://www.politico.eu/article/merkel-pledges-stronger-post-flood-focus-on-climate-protection/>
<https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/reuters/-it-s-terrifying---merkel-shaken-as-flood-deaths-rise-to-188-in-europe/46796240>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210721-europe-floods-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Merkel expressed fears | a. of Europe |
| 2. devastation from the severe | b. the climate crisis |
| 3. she was horrified by | c. much say that |
| 4. across swathes | d. against climate change |
| 5. She visited the hardest- | e. flooding |
| 6. I can pretty | f. hit areas |
| 7. escalate efforts to tackle | g. about climate change |
| 8. the fight | h. the destruction |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| 1. Torrential rains caused many rivers | a. banks |
| 2. Many burst their | b. defences |
| 3. death | c. recognition |
| 4. some areas are beyond | d. for floods |
| 5. The premier of one flood- | e. to swell |
| 6. the clean-up | f. toll |
| 7. Germany's preparedness | g. operation |
| 8. the effectiveness of flood | h. stricken state |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210721-europe-floods-5.html>

Germany's leader Angela Merkel (1) _____ climate change after the devastation from (2) _____ in Europe. Ms Merkel said she (3) _____ the destruction across swathes of Europe. She visited the hardest-hit areas in Germany and listened to accounts of the (4) _____ residents. She said: "It's shocking. I can (5) _____ that the German language does not have words to describe the destruction." Ms Merkel said the world had to escalate (6) _____ the climate crisis. She said: "We have to be faster in the fight against climate change."

Torrential rains caused many rivers to (7) _____ last week. Many (8) _____ and caused flash floods in adjacent areas. Floodwaters washed away houses, roads and bridges across Germany, Belgium and other countries. The (9) _____ now 190, with many people missing. Towns are covered (10) _____ some areas are beyond recognition. Ms Merkel described this (11) _____. The premier of one flood-stricken state said the clean-up operation would take "years". He questioned Germany's (12) _____ and the effectiveness of flood defences.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210721-europe-floods-5.html>

Germany's leader Angela Merkel expressed fears about climate change after the devastation from these severe flooding in Europe. Ms Merkel said she was horrified by the destruction across swathes of Europe. She visited the hardest-hit areas in Germany and listened to accounts of the disaster from local residents. She said: "It's shocking. I can pretty much say that the German language does not have a word to describe the destruction." Ms Merkel said the world had to escalate efforts to tackle the climate crisis. She said: "We have to be faster in the fight against climate change." Torrential rains caused many rivers to swell and overflow last week. Many burst their banks and caused flash floods in adjacent areas. Floodwaters washed away houses, roads and bridges across Germany, Belgium and other countries. The death toll is now 190, with many people missing. Towns are covered in debris and some areas are beyond recognition. Ms Merkel described this as being "surreal". The premier of one flood-stricken state said the clean-up operation would take "years". He questioned Germany's preparedness for floods and the effectiveness of flood defences.

FLOODS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210721-europe-floods-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about floods 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) _____

