

Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

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

breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html

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

www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html

Level 3 – 21st July, 2022

Australia's "shocking" decline in environment

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2207/220721-biodiversity-loss.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

Facebook



www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176

THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2207/220721-biodiversity-loss.html>

Australia is home to some of the most amazing creatures and plant life in the world. It is famous for its diversity of species. However, scientists have just reported a "shocking" loss of biodiversity. The government has released its State of the Environment Report. It is a depressing reading. The report reveals a serious decline in biodiversity, an increase in habitat loss, and increasing levels of pollution. It concludes that the condition of Australia's environment is "poor and deteriorating". Australia has been hit by drought, fires and floods in the past five years. These have killed many animals and caused the loss of natural habitat. Climate change is also harming Australia's ecosystems.

Australia publishes its State of the Environment Report every five years. Each report has painted a sadder picture. The Australian Conservation Foundation said Australia's natural environment is suffering because the government is not taking action. It said: "There's nothing in this report we don't know. This is the fourth...report and every time it has told us that the environment is getting worse and worse and worse because we're not taking the type of action we need." Australia has lost more mammal species than any other continent. More than 100 Australian species are now extinct. An environmentalist said the report was, "a wake-up call to the damage humans are doing to the world around us".

Sources: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/7/19/australia-reveals-shocking-decline-in-its-unique-environment>
<https://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/australian-environmental-report-tallies-lost-land-species-87049325>
<https://www.smh.com.au/environment/conservation/australia-more-willing-to-catalogue-destruction-of-natural-heritage-than-to-preserve-it-20220718-p5b2id.html>

WARM-UPS

1. BIODIVERSITY LOSS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about biodiversity loss. 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?

Australia / creatures / plant life / diversity / depressing / habitat / drought / animals / picture / environment / action / report / worse and worse / mammal / extinct / world

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

3. DNA: Students A **strongly** believe we should use DNA to bring extinct animals back to life; Students B **strongly** believe this is crazy. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. AUSTRALIAN ANIMALS: What do you know about these Australian animals? What do you think of them? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What I Know	What I Think
Koala		
Kangaroos		
Emus		
Dingos		
Redback spiders		
Taipan		

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

6. BIODIVERSITY LOSS: Rank these with your partner. Put the things most responsible for biodiversity loss at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Habitat loss
- Pollution
- Invasive species
- Logging
- Population growth
- War
- Illegal wildlife trade
- Climate change

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1. creature | a. Getting worse and worse. |
| 2. plant | b. A living (green) thing, like trees, herbs, grass, flowers, etc. |
| 3. diversity | c. A group of living things that belong to the same group in nature and can have babies together. |
| 4. species | d. An animal, but not a human. |
| 5. depressing | e. The natural home or environment of an animal, fish or plant. |
| 6. deteriorating | f. There being a lot of differences between things. |
| 7. habitat | g. Very, very sad. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 8. publish | h. A group / kind of people or things that are the same in many ways. |
| 9. suffering | i. Of poorer quality than before. |
| 10. worse | j. Any of the world's main areas of land (Europe, Asia, Africa, North and South America, Australia, Antarctica). |
| 11. type | k. Print something in a book or journal or put it on the Internet. |
| 12. mammal | l. Having pain or bad things in your life. |
| 13. continent | m. Of a group of animals that are no longer living on Earth. |
| 14. extinct | n. An animal with warm blood, a backbone, and hair or fur. It gives birth to live babies. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2207/220721-biodiversity-loss.html>

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

1. All of the world's most amazing creatures live in Australia. **T / F**
2. Scientists are shocked by the loss of biodiversity in Australia. **T / F**
3. Scientists say there is an increase in pollution in Australia. **T / F**
4. Australia's ecosystems are damaging climate change. **T / F**
5. Australia's environment report comes out every ten years. **T / F**
6. A conservation group said the government isn't doing enough. **T / F**
7. Australia is the continent with the most extinct mammal species. **T / F**
8. An environmentalist said climate change is waking up animals. **T / F**

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

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| 1. amazing | a. died out |
| 2. loss | b. described |
| 3. depressing | c. disappearance |
| 4. deteriorating | d. people |
| 5. harming | e. worsening |
| 6. painted | f. nature-lover |
| 7. conservation | g. extraordinary |
| 8. extinct | h. protection |
| 9. environmentalist | i. damaging |
| 10. humans | j. upsetting |

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

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1. Australia is home to some of the most | a. up call |
| 2. a "shocking" loss | b. loss |
| 3. It is depressing | c. species |
| 4. an increase in habitat | d. of biodiversity |
| 5. Australia has been hit by | e. doing to the world |
| 6. the environment is getting | f. drought |
| 7. mammal | g. amazing creatures |
| 8. 100 Australian species are | h. worse and worse and worse |
| 9. a wake- | i. now extinct |
| 10. the damage humans are | j. reading |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2207/220721-biodiversity-loss.html>

Australia is home to some of the most amazing (1) _____ and plant life in the world. It is famous for its diversity of species. However, scientists have just reported a (2) _____ "loss of biodiversity. The government has released its State of the Environment Report. It is (3) _____ reading. The report reveals a serious decline in biodiversity, an increase in habitat (4) _____, and increasing levels of pollution. It concludes that the (5) _____ of Australia's environment is "poor and deteriorating". Australia has been hit by (6) _____, fires and floods in the past five years. These have killed many animals and caused the loss of (7) _____ habitat. Climate change is also (8) _____ Australia's ecosystems.

shocking
drought
loss
harming
creatures
natural
depressing
condition

Australia (9) _____ its State of the Environment Report every five years. Each report has (10) _____ a sadder picture. The Australian Conservation Foundation said Australia's natural environment is (11) _____ because the government is not taking action. It said: "There's (12) _____ in this report we don't know. This is the fourth...report and every (13) _____ it has told us that the environment is getting worse and worse and worse because we're not taking the (14) _____ of action we need." Australia has lost more mammal species than any other (15) _____. More than 100 Australian species are now extinct. An environmentalist said the report was, "a wake-up call to the damage (16) _____ are doing to the world around us".

time
continent
painted
humans
publishes
nothing
type
suffering

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2207/220721-biodiversity-loss.html>

- 1) Australia is home to some of the most amazing creatures _____
 - a. end plant live
 - b. and planned life
 - c. end planet life
 - d. and plant life
- 2) It is famous for its _____
 - a. diversity of specials
 - b. diversity oft spaces
 - c. diversity off species
 - d. diversity of species
- 3) an increase in habitat loss, and increasing _____
 - a. levels of pollution
 - b. levels of polluted
 - c. levels of polluting
 - d. levels of poll you shun
- 4) These have killed many animals and caused the loss _____
 - a. off natural habit at
 - b. of natural habitat
 - c. of naturally habitat
 - d. of natural habit at
- 5) Climate change is also _____
 - a. harming Australia's echo systems
 - b. harming Australia's eek oh systems
 - c. harming Australia's ecosystems
 - d. harming Australia's eco-cisterns
- 6) every five years. Each report has painted _____
 - a. a sadden picture
 - b. a sadder picture
 - c. a sudden picture
 - d. a sodden picture
- 7) the environment is getting worse and _____
 - a. worst and worse
 - b. worse and worst
 - c. worse and worse
 - d. worst and worst
- 8) Australia has lost more mammal species than _____
 - a. any other incontinent
 - b. any other continent
 - c. any other continental
 - d. any other continent
- 9) More than 100 Australian species _____
 - a. are now exact
 - b. are now exiting
 - c. are now extinct
 - d. are now eggs stink
- 10) a wake-up call to the damage humans are doing to the _____
 - a. world around us
 - b. world abound us
 - c. world are round us
 - d. world aloud us

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2207/220721-biodiversity-loss.html>

Australia is home to some of (1) _____ creatures and plant life in the world. It is famous for its diversity of species. However, scientists have (2) _____ "shocking" loss of biodiversity. The government has released its State of the Environment Report. It is depressing reading. The report (3) _____ decline in biodiversity, an increase in habitat loss, and increasing levels of pollution. It (4) _____ condition of Australia's environment is "poor and deteriorating". Australia has (5) _____ drought, fires and floods in the past five years. These have killed many animals and caused the loss of natural habitat. Climate change (6) _____ Australia's ecosystems.

Australia publishes its State of the Environment Report (7) _____. Each report has painted (8) _____. The Australian Conservation Foundation said Australia's natural environment is suffering because the government is (9) _____. It said: "There's nothing in this report we don't know. This is the fourth...report and every time it has told us that the environment is getting worse and (10) _____ because we're not taking the type of action we need." Australia has lost more mammal species than (11) _____. More than 100 Australian species are now extinct. An environmentalist said the report was, "a wake-up call to the damage humans are doing to the (12) _____".

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2207/220721-biodiversity-loss.html>

1. Where does the article say is home to amazing plant life?
2. What does the report say there are increasing levels of?
3. What do scientists say Australia's environment is, besides deteriorating?
4. When was Australia hit by droughts and floods?
5. What does the article say is harming Australia's ecosystems?
6. How often does Australia publish its environment report?
7. How many environment reports have there been?
8. What does a conservation group say the government is not doing?
9. How many species of Australian mammals are now extinct?
10. Who did an environmentalist say is damaging the world around us?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2207/220721-biodiversity-loss.html>

- 1) Where does the article say is home to amazing plant life?
 - a) the Outback
 - b) the Great Barrier Leaf
 - c) the Blue Mountains
 - d) Australia
- 2) What does the report say there are increasing levels of?
 - a) biodiversity
 - b) pollution
 - c) shocks
 - d) deterioration
- 3) What do scientists say Australia's environment is, besides deteriorating?
 - a) lovely
 - b) hot
 - c) cool
 - d) poor
- 4) When was Australia hit by droughts and floods?
 - a) in the 1900s
 - b) last week
 - c) in the past five years
 - d) on Tuesday afternoons
- 5) What does the article say is harming Australia's ecosystems?
 - a) mining
 - b) invasive species
 - c) the Internet
 - d) climate change
- 6) How often does Australia publish its environment report?
 - a) yearly
 - b) once every two years
 - c) every five years
 - d) every decade
- 7) How many environment reports have there been?
 - a) four
 - b) five
 - c) three
 - d) six
- 8) What does a conservation group say the government is not doing?
 - a) working
 - b) creating zoos
 - c) taking action
 - d) talking
- 9) How many species of Australian mammals are now extinct?
 - a) 1,208
 - b) more than 100
 - c) thousands
 - d) dozens
- 10) Who did an environmentalist say is damaging the world around us?
 - a) humans
 - b) politicians
 - c) the government
 - d) loggers

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2207/220721-biodiversity-loss.html>

Role A – Pollution

You think pollution is the biggest cause of biodiversity loss. 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): logging, war or illegal wildlife change.

Role B – Logging

You think logging is the biggest cause of biodiversity loss. 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): pollution, war or illegal wildlife change.

Role C – War

You think war is the biggest cause of biodiversity loss. 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): logging, pollution or illegal wildlife change.

Role D – Illegal Wildlife Trade

You think the illegal wildlife change is the biggest cause of biodiversity loss. 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): logging, war or pollution.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2207/220721-biodiversity-loss.html>

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

environment	biodiversity

- 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">• home• shocking• serious• levels• fires• harming	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• five• sadder• action• worse• 100• humans
--	---

BIODIVERSITY LOSS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2207/220721-biodiversity-loss.html>

Write five GOOD questions about biodiversity loss 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.

BIODIVERSITY LOSS 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 'biodiversity'?
3. What do you know about Australia?
4. How is your country doing with biodiversity?
5. How would you feel if koalas became extinct?
6. How depressing is the state of the environment?
7. What's pollution like in your country?
8. What do you think of habitat loss?
9. Is your country experiencing more natural disasters?
10. What do you think of climate change?

Australia's "shocking" decline in environment – 21st July, 2022
Thousands more free lessons at breakingnewsenglish.com

BIODIVERSITY LOSS 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 'environment'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you know about Australia's animals, marine life and plants?
15. What animals have become extinct in your country?
16. What makes you sad about the environment?
17. What action should the government take?
18. Why do governments do so little to stop species extinction?
19. Why are so many people not listening to the 'wake-up call'?
20. What questions would you like to ask the environmentalists?

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 2021

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/2207/220721-biodiversity-loss.html>

Australia is (1) _____ to some of the most amazing creatures and plant life in the world. It is famous for its diversity (2) _____ species. However, scientists have just reported a "shocking" loss of biodiversity. The government has (3) _____ its State of the Environment Report. It is depressing reading. The report reveals a serious decline in biodiversity, an increase in (4) _____ loss, and increasing levels of pollution. It concludes that the condition of Australia's environment is "(5) _____ and deteriorating". Australia has been hit by drought, fires and floods in the past five years. These have killed many animals and caused the loss of natural habitat. Climate change is also (6) _____ Australia's ecosystems.

Australia publishes its State of the Environment Report every five years. Each report has painted a (7) _____ picture. The Australian Conservation Foundation said Australia's natural environment is suffering (8) _____ the government is not taking action. It said: "There's nothing in this report we don't know. This is the fourth...report and every time it has told (9) _____ that the environment is getting worse and worse and worse because we're not taking the (10) _____ of action we need." Australia has lost more mammal species than (11) _____ other continent. More than 100 Australian species are now extinct. An environmentalist said the report was, "a wake-up (12) _____ to the damage humans are doing to the world around us".

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. | (a) house | (b) home | (c) homely | (d) housed |
| 2. | (a) at | (b) of | (c) on | (d) by |
| 3. | (a) relics | (b) rallied | (c) realised | (d) released |
| 4. | (a) habitual | (b) habitat | (c) habit | (d) habits |
| 5. | (a) penniless | (b) poor | (c) poverty | (d) stingy |
| 6. | (a) harmful | (b) harmed | (c) harming | (d) harm |
| 7. | (a) sadden | (b) suddenly | (c) sadder | (d) sadly |
| 8. | (a) although | (b) however | (c) because | (d) moreover |
| 9. | (a) they | (b) we | (c) them | (d) us |
| 10. | (a) type | (b) tap | (c) key | (d) write |
| 11. | (a) any | (b) many | (c) some | (d) most |
| 12. | (a) coffee | (b) cake | (c) call | (d) crash |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2207/220721-biodiversity-loss.html>

Paragraph 1

1. some of the most amazing seturrace
2. famous for its idtyisrev
3. It is dpieesgnsr reading
4. Australia has been hit by rghodtu
5. the loss of natural aibatht
6. harming Australia's ecemysssto

Paragraph 2

7. Australia's natural environment is ngfuriesf
8. the tovengmern is not taking action
9. Australia has lost more mlamam species
10. than any other ottncenin
11. 100 Australian species are now icetnxt
12. the damage sunham are doing

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2207/220721-biodiversity-loss.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () of species. However, scientists have just reported a "shocking" loss of biodiversity. The government has
- () Australia publishes its State of the Environment Report every five years. Each report has painted a sadder
- () know. This is the fourth...report and every time it has told us that the environment is getting worse and worse
- () species than any other continent. More than 100 Australian species are now extinct. An environmentalist
- () decline in biodiversity, an increase in habitat loss, and increasing levels of pollution. It concludes
- () because the government is not taking action. It said: "There's nothing in this report we don't
- () and worse because we're not taking the type of action we need." Australia has lost more mammal
- () by drought, fires and floods in the past five years. These have killed many animals and
- () released its State of the Environment Report. It is depressing reading. The report reveals a serious
- () that the condition of Australia's environment is "poor and deteriorating". Australia has been hit
- () picture. The Australian Conservation Foundation said Australia's natural environment is suffering
- () said the report was, "a wake-up call to the damage humans are doing to the world around us".
- (**1**) Australia is home to some of the most amazing creatures and plant life in the world. It is famous for its diversity
- () caused the loss of natural habitat. Climate change is also harming Australia's ecosystems.

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2207/220721-biodiversity-loss.html>

1. amazing some of most the creatures . Home to
2. its species . is famous of It for diversity
3. reveals The decline serious report biodiversity . in a
4. caused loss natural These of have habitat . the
5. change harming also is ecosystems . Climate Australia's
6. has Each a picture . painted sadder report
7. report this in we don't There's know . nothing
8. getting and The worse environment's worse worse . and
9. are Australian than species now extinct . 100 More
10. damage to doing humans the are world . The

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2207/220721-biodiversity-loss.html>

Australia is *home / house* to some of the most amazing creatures and plant life in the world. It is *famous / famously* for its diversity of species. However, scientists have just *reporting / reported* a "shocking" loss of biodiversity. The government has *released / relished* its State of the Environment Report. It is *depressed / depressing* reading. The report reveals a serious decline *on / in* biodiversity, an increase in habitat loss, and increasing levels of *polluted / pollution*. It concludes that the condition of Australia's environment is "poor and deteriorating". Australia has been hit by *draught / drought*, fires and floods in the past five years. These have *killing / killed* many animals and caused the loss of *natural / naturally* habitat. Climate change is also harming Australia's ecosystems.

Australia publishes its State of the Environment Report *all / every* five years. Each report has painted a *sadder / sadden* picture. The Australian Conservation Foundation said Australia's natural environment is *suffer / suffering* because the government is not taking action. It said: "There's nothing *in / at* this report we don't know. This is the fourth...report and every time it has told *them / us* that the environment is getting worse and worse *end / and* worse because we're not taking the type *of / on* action we need." Australia has lost more mammal species than *any / some* other continent. More than 100 Australian species are now *exact / extinct*. An environmentalist said the report was, "a wake-up call to the damage humans are doing *at / to* the world around us".

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/2207/220721-biodiversity-loss.html>

__str_l__ _s h_m_ t_ s_m_ _f th_ m_st _m_z_ng
cr__t_r_s _nd pl_nt l_f_ _n th_ w_rld. _t _s f_m__s
f_r _ts d_v_rs_ty _f sp_c__s. H_w_v_r, sc__nt_sts h_v_
j_st r_p_rt_d _ "sh_ck_ng" l_ss _f b__d_v_rs_ty. Th_
g_v_rnm_nt h_s r_l__s_d _ts St_t_ _f th_ _nv_r_nm_nt
R_p_rt. _t _s d_pr_ss_ng r__d_ng. Th_ r_p_rt r_v__ls
_ s_r__s d_cl_n_ _n b__d_v_rs_ty, _n _ncr__s_ _n
h_b_t_t l_ss, _nd _ncr__s_ng l_v_ls _f p_ll_t__n. _t
c_ncl_d_s th_t th_ c_nd_t__n _f __str_l__'s
_nv_r_nm_nt _s "p__r _nd d_t_r_r_t_ng". __str_l__ h_s
b__n h_t by dr__ght, f_r_s _nd fl__ds _n th_ p_st
f_v_ y__rs. Th_s_ h_v_ k_ll_d m_ny _n_m_ls _nd
c__s_d th_ l_ss _f n_t_r_l h_b_t_t. Cl_m_t_ ch_ng_ _s
ls h_rm_ng __str_l__'s _c_syst_ms.

__str_l__ p_bl_sh_s _ts St_t_ _f th_ _nv_r_nm_nt
R_p_rt _v_ry f_v_ y__rs. __ch_r_p_rt h_s p__nt_d _
s_dd_r p_ct_r_. Th_ __str_l__n C_nsrv_t__n F__nd_t__n
s__d __str_l__'s n_t_r_l _nv_r_nm_nt _s s_ff_r_ng
b_c__s_ th_ g_v_rnm_nt _s n_t t_k_ng _ct__n. _t
s__d: "Th_r_'s n_th_ng _n th_s r_p_rt w_ d_n't kn_w.
Th_s _s th_ f__rth...r_p_rt _nd _v_ry t_m_ _t h_s t_ld
_s th_t th_ _nv_r_nm_nt _s g_tt_ng w_rs_ _nd w_rs_
_nd w_rs_ b_c__s_ w'r_ n_t t_k_ng th_ typ_ _f
_ct__n w_ n__d." __str_l__ h_s l_st m_r_ m_mm_l
sp_c__s th_n _ny _th_r c_nt_n_nt. M_r_ th_n 100
__str_l__n sp_c__s _r_ n_w _xt_nct. _n
_nv_r_nm_nt_l_st s__d th_ r_p_rt w_s, "_ w_k_-p c_ll
t_ th_ d_m_g_ h_m_ns _r_ d__ng t_ th_ w_rld _r__nd
_s".

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2207/220721-biodiversity-loss.html>

australia is home to some of the most amazing creatures and plant life in the world it is famous for its diversity of species however scientists have just reported a shocking loss of biodiversity the government has released its state of the environment report it is depressing reading the report reveals a serious decline in biodiversity an increase in habitat loss and increasing levels of pollution it concludes that the condition of australias environment is poor and deteriorating australia has been hit by drought fires and floods in the past five years these have killed many animals and caused the loss of natural habitat climate change is also harming australias ecosystems

australia publishes its state of the environment report every five years each report has painted a sadder picture the australian conservation foundation said australias natural environment is suffering because the government is not taking action it said theres nothing in this report we dont know this is the fourthreport and every time it has told us that the environment is getting worse and worse and worse because were not taking the type of action we need australia has lost more mammal species than any other continent more than 100 australian species are now extinct an environmentalist said the report was a wakeup call to the damage humans are doing to the world around us

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2207/220721-biodiversity-loss.html>

Australia is home to some of the most amazing creatures and plant life in the world. It is famous for its diversity of species. However, scientists have just reported a "shocking" loss of biodiversity. The government has released its State of the Environment Report. It is depressing reading. The report reveals a serious decline in biodiversity, an increase in habitat loss, and an increasing level of pollution. It concludes that the condition of Australia's environment is "poor and deteriorating". Australia has been hit by drought, fires and floods in the past five years. These have killed many animals and caused the loss of natural habitat. Climate change is also harming Australia's ecosystems. Australia publishes its State of the Environment Report every five years. Each report has painted a sadder picture. The Australian Conservation Foundation said Australia's natural environment is suffering because the government is not taking action. It said: "There's nothing in this report we don't know. This is the fourth... report and every time it has told us that the environment is getting worse and worse and worse because we're not taking the type of action we need." Australia has lost more mammal species than any other continent. More than 100 Australian species are now extinct. An environmentalist said the report was, "a wake-up call to the damage humans are doing to the world around us".

ACADEMIC WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2207/220721-biodiversity-loss.html>

We need to change everything about where we live to help the earth. Discuss.

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

4. BIODIVERSITY LOSS: Write a magazine article about giving countries huge fines if they experience biodiversity loss. 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 biodiversity loss. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to reduce the loss. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F 2 T 3 T 4 F 5 F 6 T 7 T 8 F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Australia
2. Pollution
3. Poor
4. In the past five years
5. Climate change
6. Every five years
7. Four
8. Taking action
9. More than 100
10. Humans

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. Home to some of the most amazing creatures.
2. It is famous for its diversity of species.
3. The report reveals a serious decline in biodiversity.
4. These have caused the loss of natural habitat.
5. Climate change is also harming Australia's ecosystems.
6. Each report has painted a sadder picture.
7. There's nothing in this report we don't know.
8. The environment's getting worse and worse and worse.
9. More than 100 Australian species are now extinct.
10. The damage humans are doing to the world.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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