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Level 4 – 29th May 2023

New York City sinking four millimetres a year

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2305/230529-new-york-is-sinking-4.html>

Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

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

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2305/230529-new-york-is-sinking-4.html>

New York City is sinking by up to four millimetres a year because of its skyscrapers. Its 1,080,000 buildings weigh around 764 billion kilograms. There is additional weight from furniture, transport infrastructure, and the city's 8.5 million people. Dr Tom Parsons said the slow sinking plus rising sea levels could mean New York has more natural disasters. New buildings could increase flooding especially along coasts.

Researchers compared New York to Venice and Jakarta. Venice is flooding more despite a new \$5.3 billion system of sea walls. Indonesia is building a new capital because Jakarta is sinking. The UN forecast that 70 per cent of the world will live in cities by 2050. Dr Parsons said when a city gets full of people, "you end up with subsidence." He said New York was typical of a place where many people move to.

Sources: <https://www.nytimes.com/2023/05/23/nyregion/nyc-sinking.html>
<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20230523-new-yorks-skyscrapers-are-causing-it-to-sink-what-can-be-done-about-it>
<https://edition.cnn.com/2023/05/23/world/nyc-sinking-sea-level-climate-scn/index.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2305/230529-new-york-is-sinking-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. New York City is sinking by | a. infrastructure |
| 2. Its 1,080,000 buildings weigh | b. levels |
| 3. additional weight | c. flooding |
| 4. transport | d. million people |
| 5. the city's 8.5 | e. around 764 billion kgs |
| 6. rising sea | f. up to four millimetres |
| 7. New York has more natural | g. from furniture |
| 8. New buildings could increase | h. disasters |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Researchers compared | a. move to |
| 2. Venice is | b. of sea walls |
| 3. a new \$5.3 billion system | c. is sinking |
| 4. Indonesia is building | d. with subsidence |
| 5. Jakarta | e. New York to Venice |
| 6. you end up | f. typical |
| 7. He said New York was | g. flooding |
| 8. a place where many people | h. a new capital |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2305/230529-new-york-is-sinking-4.html>

New York City (1) _____ up to four millimetres a year because (2) _____. Its 1,080,000 buildings weigh around 764 billion kilograms. There (3) _____ from furniture, transport infrastructure, and the city's 8.5 million people. Dr Tom Parsons said the slow (4) _____ sea levels could mean New York has (5) _____. New buildings could increase flooding (6) _____.

Researchers compared New York to Venice and Jakarta. Venice is (7) _____ a new \$5.3 billion (8) _____ walls. Indonesia is building (9) _____ because Jakarta is sinking. The UN forecast that 70 per cent of the world will live in cities by 2050. Dr Parsons said when a city gets (10) _____, "you end up with subsidence." He said New York (11) _____ a place where many (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2305/230529-new-york-is-sinking-4.html>

NewYorkCityissinkingbyuptofourmillimetresayearbecauseofitsskyscrapers.Its1,080,000buildingsweigharound764billionkilograms.Thereisadditionalweightfromfurniture,transportinfrastructure,andthecity's8.5millionpeople.DrTomParsonssaidtheslowsinkingplusrisingsealevelscouldmeanNewYorkhasmorenaturaldisasters.Newbuildingscouldincreasefloodingespeciallyalongcoasts.ResearcherscomparedNewYorktoVeniceandJakarta.Veniceisfloodingmoredespiteanew\$5.3billionssystemofseawalls.IndonesiaisbuildinganewcapitalbecauseJakartaissinking.TheUNforecastthat70percentoftheworldwillliveincitiesby2050.DrParsonssaidwhenacitygetsfullofpeople,"youendupwithsubsidence."HesaidNewYorkwastypicalofaplacewherepeoplemoveto.

NEW YORK CITY SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2305/230529-new-york-is-sinking-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about New York City 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) _____

