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Level 3 – 10th August 2023

Raw sewage keeps swimmers away from UK beaches

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis.html>

The UK is experiencing "poonami" - a sewage crisis. The environmental group Greenpeace said water companies poured toilet waste into rivers and seas for more than 300,000 hours in 2022. Many people have complained about becoming sick after swimming in the sea. Others expressed concerns about the terrible smell on beaches, or the horrible brown colour of the water. The research company Savanta conducted a poll about people's opinions on the poor quality of water. Almost a quarter of swimmers said they might not swim in the sea this year because of the risk. Last week, at least 57 people got diarrhoea after competing in sea swimming events at a World Triathlon Championship.

England and Wales are the only countries in the world to have privatized their water and sewage services. The UK government sold its water to private companies in 1987. The companies promised to spend billions of pounds on making services better. However, many Britons have complained that things have become much worse. The privatized companies have not invested enough money in stopping leaks or in modernizing systems. Since 1991, they have paid over £2 billion a year to their shareholders. Water campaigner and ex-rock star Feargal Sharkey is angry with the water companies. He said they have failed to create a quality system. He also blamed the UK government for not acting.

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/jul/31/swimmers-avoiding-the-water-over-fears-of-raw-sewage-on-uk-beaches>
<https://unearthed.greenpeace.org/2023/07/31/sewage-uk-water-pollution/>
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/sewage-alerts-mapped-swimming-storm-b2388447.html>

WARM-UPS

1. SEWAGE: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about sewage. 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?

tsunami / sewage / toilet waste / sick / swimming in the sea / smell / water / risk / privatized / government / billions / invest / leaks / money / shareholders / angry

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

3. GOVERNMENT OWNED: Students A **strongly** believe water services should be government owned; Students B **strongly** believe qqqqqq. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. PUBLIC SERVICES: How good are these public services in your country? How could they be better Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Quality of Public Services	How They Could Be Better
Water		
Electricity		
Internet		
Education		
Health		
Policing		

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

6. WATER USES: Rank these with your partner. Put the worst uses of water at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Hose pipes
- Swimming pools
- Car washes
- Water parks
- Golf courses
- Bottled water
- Water pistols
- Fountains

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 1. crisis | a. Caused a liquid to flow from one place to another. |
| 2. poured | b. Said or communicated what one thinks or means. |
| 3. waste | c. A time of great difficulty or danger. |
| 4. expressed | d. Very unpleasant. |
| 5. concern | e. Anxiety; worry. |
| 6. horrible | f. A stomach problem when poo leaves the body frequently and in a liquid form. |
| 7. diarrhoea | g. The things our body no longer needs that goes down the toilet. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 8. privatized | h. Said someone was responsible for a fault or a bad thing. |
| 9. complained | i. Something accidentally losing water, liquid or gas, through a hole or crack. |
| 10. invested | j. An owner of shares in a company. |
| 11. leak | k. Transferred a business, industry, or service from public to private ownership and control. |
| 12. shareholder | l. Told someone you are unhappy about something. |
| 13. campaigner | m. A person who works in an organized and active way towards a goal or to bring change. |
| 14. blamed | n. Put money into money-making schemes, shares, property, etc. with the hope of making a profit or making something better. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis.html>

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

1. The article says a "poonami" is a sewage crisis. **T / F**
2. Water companies poured waste in the seas for 300,000 hours this year. **T / F**
3. The water in seas around England has turned yellow. **T / F**
4. More than 57 people got diarrhoea swimming in the sea at a triathlon. **T / F**
5. England and Wales are the only countries not to own their water. **T / F**
6. People in the UK say water services are worse now than in 1987. **T / F**
7. Water companies have stopped all the leaks in the UK's water pipes. **T / F**
8. An ex-rock star blames the UK government for poor water services. **T / F**

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

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. crisis | a. pledged |
| 2. complained | b. beliefs |
| 3. sick | c. handed over |
| 4. opinions | d. corporations |
| 5. risk | e. protested |
| 6. companies | f. doing something |
| 7. promised | g. danger |
| 8. invested | h. disaster |
| 9. paid | i. put money into |
| 10. acting | j. ill |

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

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. water companies poured | a. of swimmers |
| 2. the horrible brown colour | b. become much worse |
| 3. conducted a poll | c. billions of pounds |
| 4. Almost a quarter | d. toilet waste into rivers |
| 5. at least 57 people got | e. to their shareholders |
| 6. privatized | f. of the water |
| 7. companies promised to spend | g. diarrhoea |
| 8. complained that things have | h. for not acting |
| 9. they have paid over £2 billion a year | i. about people's opinions |
| 10. He also blamed the UK government | j. their water |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis.html>

The UK is experiencing "poonami" - a sewage crisis. The environmental (1) _____ Greenpeace said water companies (2) _____ toilet waste into rivers and seas for more than 300,000 hours in 2022. Many people have complained about becoming (3) _____ after swimming in the sea. Others expressed (4) _____ about the terrible smell on beaches, or the (5) _____ brown colour of the water. The research company Savanta conducted a poll about people's (6) _____ on the poor quality of water. Almost a quarter of swimmers said they might not swim in the sea this year because of the (7) _____. Last week, at least 57 people got diarrhoea after (8) _____ in sea swimming events at a World Triathlon Championship.

sick
horrible
risk
concerns
competing
poured
group
opinions

England and Wales are the only (9) _____ in the world to have privatized their water and sewage services. The UK government sold its water to (10) _____ companies in 1987. The companies promised to spend (11) _____ of pounds on making services better. However, many Britons have complained that things have become much (12) _____. The privatized companies have not invested enough money in stopping (13) _____ or in modernizing systems. Since 1991, they have paid over £2 billion a year to their (14) _____. Water campaigner and ex-rock star Feargal Sharkey is (15) _____ with the water companies. He said they have failed to create a quality system. He also (16) _____ the UK government for not acting.

worse
angry
countries
billions
blamed
shareholders
private
leaks

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis.html>

- 1) The UK is experiencing "poonami" - _____
 - a. a sewage cries is
 - b. a sewage cry sis
 - c. a sewage crisis
 - d. a sewage crises
- 2) Others expressed concerns about the terrible _____
 - a. smelly on beaches
 - b. smell on beeches
 - c. smelt on beaches
 - d. smell on beaches
- 3) The research company Savanta _____
 - a. conducted a poll
 - b. conducted a doll
 - c. conducted a toll
 - d. conducted a moll
- 4) a quarter of swimmers said they might not swim in the sea this year because _____
 - a. off the risk
 - b. of the risk
 - c. oft the risk
 - d. over the risk
- 5) at least 57 people got diarrhoea after competing in _____
 - a. see swimming events
 - b. sea swimming events
 - c. sea swim in events
 - d. sea swim inner vents
- 6) England and Wales are the only countries in the world to have _____
 - a. privet tides their water
 - b. private tides their water
 - c. privatize their water
 - d. privatized their water
- 7) However, many Britons have complained that things have _____
 - a. become much wars
 - b. become much wurst
 - c. become much worst
 - d. become much worse
- 8) The privatized companies have not invested enough money _____
 - a. in stopping leaks
 - b. in stopping leeks
 - c. in stopping licks
 - d. in stopping likes
- 9) Water campaigner and ex-rock star Feargal _____
 - a. Sharkey is angrily
 - b. Sharkey is hungry
 - c. Sharkey is angry
 - d. Sharkey is hangry
- 10) He also blamed the UK government _____
 - a. for not aching
 - b. for not acting
 - c. for not act in
 - d. for not action

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis.html>

The UK is experiencing "poonami" - (1) _____. The environmental group Greenpeace said water companies (2) _____ into rivers and seas for more than 300,000 hours in 2022. Many people have complained about (3) _____ swimming in the sea. Others expressed concerns about the terrible smell on beaches, or (4) _____ colour of the water. The research company Savanta conducted a poll about people's opinions on the poor quality of water. Almost (5) _____ swimmers said they might not swim in the sea this year because (6) _____. Last week, at least 57 people got diarrhoea after competing in sea swimming events at a World Triathlon Championship.

England and Wales are the only countries in the world (7) _____ their water and sewage services. The UK government sold its water to private companies in 1987. The companies promised (8) _____ of pounds on making services better. However, many Britons have complained that things have become much worse. The privatized companies have (9) _____ money in stopping leaks or in modernizing systems. Since 1991, they have paid over £2 billion a year (10) _____. Water campaigner and ex-rock star Feargal Sharkey is angry with the water companies. He said they have failed to (11) _____ system. He also blamed the UK government (12) _____.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis.html>

1. What does the article call the sewage crisis?
2. For how many hours did companies pour sewage into UK seas in 2022?
3. What colour is the water on some beaches in the UK?
4. How many swimmers might not swim in the sea in the UK this year?
5. What illness did at least 57 people get in the sea at a triathlon event?
6. How many countries around the world have privatized water services?
7. When did the UK government sell its water?
8. How much have water companies paid their shareholders?
9. Who does ex-rock star Feargal Sharkey blame for the poor water?
10. Who does ex-rock star Feargal Sharkey blame for not doing anything?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis.html>

- 1) What does the article call the sewage crisis?
 - a) wee wave
 - b) weenami
 - c) poonami
 - d) poo wave
- 2) For how many hours did companies pour sewage into UK seas in 2022?
 - a) 300,000
 - b) 200,000
 - c) 400,000
 - d) 500,000
- 3) What colour is the water on some beaches in the UK?
 - a) mushroom
 - b) brown
 - c) yellow
 - d) mustard
- 4) How many swimmers might not swim in the sea in the UK this year?
 - a) two-thirds
 - b) a fifth
 - c) a third
 - d) a quarter
- 5) What illness did at least 57 people get in the sea at a triathlon event?
 - a) gallstones
 - b) flatulence
 - c) diarrhoea
 - d) vomiting
- 6) How many countries around the world have privatized water services?
 - a) 1
 - b) 2
 - c) 3
 - d) 4
- 7) When did the UK government sell its water?
 - a) 1989
 - b) 1988
 - c) 1986
 - d) 1987
- 8) How much have water companies paid their shareholders?
 - a) more than £3 billion a year
 - b) more than £2 billion a year
 - c) more than £5 billion a year
 - d) more than £4 billion a year
- 9) Who does ex-rock star Feargal Sharkey blame for the poor water?
 - a) other rock stars
 - b) water companies
 - c) people who live near the sea
 - d) swimmers
- 10) Who does ex-rock star Feargal Sharkey blame for not doing anything?
 - a) the UK government
 - b) swimmers
 - c) the UK people
 - d) people who live near the sea

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis.html>

Role A – Hose Pipes

You think hose pipes are the biggest waste of water. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their uses. Also, tell the others which is the least wasteful of these (and why): swimming pools, golf courses or bottled water.

Role B – Swimming Pools

You think swimming pools are the biggest waste of water. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their uses. Also, tell the others which is the least wasteful of these (and why): hose pipes, golf courses or bottled water.

Role C – Golf Courses

You think golf courses are the biggest waste of water. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their uses. Also, tell the others which is the least wasteful of these (and why): swimming pools, hose pipes or bottled water.

Role D – Bottled Water

You think bottled water is the biggest waste of water. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their uses. Also, tell the others which is the least wasteful of these (and why): swimming pools, golf courses or hose pipes.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis.html>

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

sewage	beach
---------------	--------------

- 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">• crisis• 2022• terrible• horrible• almost• 57	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• only• 1987• worse• enough• 1991• star
---	--

SEWAGE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis.html>

Write five GOOD questions about sewage 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.

SEWAGE 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 'sewage'?
3. What do you know about Greenpeace?
4. What do you think of pouring human sewage into the sea?
5. What's the best way to deal with sewage?
6. Should the UK government give people money who got sick?
7. What would you do if beaches smelled really bad?
8. What do you think of swimming in the sea?
9. What are rivers and beaches like in your country?
10. What do you think of the word 'pooami'?

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SEWAGE 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 'beach'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Should water and sewage be run by private companies?
15. Why did the UK government sell its water?
16. How safe is the water in your country?
17. Why do companies care more about profit than people?
18. Should the UK take back its water and sewage services?
19. Would you go swimming in England?
20. What questions would you like to ask the private water companies?

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/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis.html>

The UK is experiencing "poonami" - a sewage crisis. The environmental (1) _____ Greenpeace said water companies poured toilet (2) _____ into rivers and seas for more than 300,000 hours in 2022. Many people have complained about becoming sick after swimming in the sea. Others (3) _____ concerns about the terrible smell on beaches, or the horrible brown colour of the water. The research company Savanta conducted a (4) _____ about people's opinions on the poor quality of water. Almost a (5) _____ of swimmers said they might not swim in the sea this year because of the risk. Last week, at least 57 people got diarrhoea after competing (6) _____ sea swimming events at a World Triathlon Championship.

England and Wales are the only countries in the world to have (7) _____ their water and sewage services. The UK government sold its water to private companies in 1987. The companies promised to (8) _____ billions of pounds on making services better. However, many Britons have complained that things have become much (9) _____. The privatized companies have not invested enough money in stopping (10) _____ or in modernizing systems. Since 1991, they have paid over £2 billion a year to their (11) _____. Water campaigner and ex-rock star Feargal Sharkey is angry with the water companies. He said they have (12) _____ to create a quality system. He also blamed the UK government for not acting.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. | (a) groupie | (b) group | (c) grouped | (d) groups |
| 2. | (a) taste | (b) waste | (c) baste | (d) paste |
| 3. | (a) impressed | (b) depressed | (c) pressed | (d) expressed |
| 4. | (a) doll | (b) poll | (c) moll | (d) toll |
| 5. | (a) quart | (b) quarter | (c) quartile | (d) quarterly |
| 6. | (a) on | (b) of | (c) in | (d) by |
| 7. | (a) privacy | (b) publicized | (c) privatized | (d) personalized |
| 8. | (a) buy | (b) discount | (c) spend | (d) purchase |
| 9. | (a) verse | (b) wurst | (c) worst | (d) worse |
| 10. | (a) licks | (b) leeks | (c) reeks | (d) leaks |
| 11. | (a) shareholders | (b) placeholders | (c) cup holders | (d) shoulders |
| 12. | (a) failure | (b) fail | (c) failed | (d) failing |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis.html>

Paragraph 1

1. a sewage riciss
2. The tioenvneanlmr group Greenpeace
3. people have mnioadclep about becoming sick
4. Others edrxsseep concerns
5. the lobhierr brown colour of the water
6. Almost a tarqure of swimmers

Paragraph 2

7. companies promised to spend bsiilonl of pounds
8. companies have not eesitvdn enough money
9. stopping keasl
10. Water grepnmaaic and ex-rock
11. failed to create a quality tseyms
12. He also lmaebd the UK government

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () Greenpeace said water companies poured toilet waste into rivers and seas for more than 300,000
- () of the water. The research company Savanta conducted a poll about people's opinions on the poor
- () services. The UK government sold its water to private companies in 1987. The companies promised to spend
- () concerns about the terrible smell on beaches, or the horrible brown colour
- () worse. The privatized companies have not invested enough money in stopping
- () hours in 2022. Many people have complained about becoming sick after swimming in the sea. Others expressed
- () billions of pounds on making services better. However, many Britons have complained that things have become much
- () leaks or in modernizing systems. Since 1991, they have paid over £2 billion a year to their
- () shareholders. Water campaigner and ex-rock star Feargal Sharkey is angry with the water companies. He said they have
- () risk. Last week, at least 57 people got diarrhoea after competing in sea swimming events at a World Triathlon Championship.
- (**1**) The UK is experiencing "poonami" - a sewage crisis. The environmental group
- () failed to create a quality system. He also blamed the UK government for not acting.
- () England and Wales are the only countries in the world to have privatized their water and sewage
- () quality of water. Almost a quarter of swimmers said they might not swim in the sea this year because of the

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis.html>

1. toilet rivers . waste poured Water into companies
2. people Many have becoming complained about sick .
3. the about smell Others complained beaches . on terrible
4. might they of A said swimmers quarter not .
5. people least after At got diarrhoea competing . 57
6. to government private its The water sold companies .
7. of billions making pounds on Spend better . services
8. invested The have money . not privatized enough companies
9. system . have to quality They failed a create
10. for also He not blamed government the acting .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis.html>

The UK is experiencing "poonami" - a sewage *crises* / *crisis*. The environmental group Greenpeace said water companies poured toilet *paste* / *waste* into rivers and seas for more than 300,000 hours in 2022. Many people have complained about becoming *sickness* / *sick* after swimming in the sea. Others expressed *corners* / *concerns* about the terrible smell on beaches, or the horrible brown colour *of* / *as* the water. The research company Savanta conducted a *pill* / *poll* about people's opinions on the poor *qualify* / *quality* of water. Almost a quarter *of* / *to* swimmers said they might not swim in the sea this year because *of* / *on* the risk. Last week, at least 57 people got diarrhoea after competing *in* / *on* sea swimming events at a World Triathlon Championship.

England and Wales are the only countries *on* / *in* the world to have privatized *their* / *them* water and sewage services. The UK government sold its water *on* / *to* private companies in 1987. The companies promised *for* / *to* spend billions of pounds on making services better. However, many Britons have complained *what* / *that* things have become much worse. The privatized companies have not invested enough money *in* / *by* stopping leaks or in modernizing systems. Since 1991, they have *bought* / *paid* over £2 billion a year to their shareholders. Water campaigner and ex-rock star Feargal Sharkey is *angrily* / *angry* with the water companies. He said they have *failure* / *failed* to create a quality system. He also blamed the UK government for not *acting* / *action*.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis.html>

Th_ _K _s _xp_r__nc_ng "p__n_m_" - _ s_w_g_ cr_s_s.
Th_ _nv_r_nm_nt_l gr__p Gr__np__c_ s__d w_t_r
c_m_p_n__s p__r_d t__l_t w_st_ _nt_ r_v_rs _nd s__s
f_r m_r_ th_n 300,000 h__rs _n 2022. M_ny p__pl_
h_v_ c_mpl__n_d _b__t b_c_m_ng s_ck _ft_r sw_mm_ng
n th s__. _th_rs _xpr_ss_d c_nc_rns _b__t th_
t_rr_bl_ sm_ll _n b__ch_s, _r th_ h_rr_bl_ br_wn
c_l__r _f th_ w_t_r. Th_ r_s__rch c_m_p_ny S_v_nt_
c_nd_ct_d _ p_ll _b__t p__pl_'s _p_n__ns _n th_ p__r
q__l_ty _f w_t_r. _lm_st _ q__rt_r _f sw_mm_rs s__d
th_y m_ght n_t sw_m _n th_ s__th_s y__r b_c__s_
f th r_sk. L_st w__k, _t l__st 57 p__pl_ g_t
d__rrh__ _ft_r c_m_p_t_ng _n s__ sw_mm_ng _v_nts _t
_ W_rld Tr__thl_n Ch_mp__nsh_p.

_ngl_nd _nd W_l_s _r_ th_ _nly c__ntr__s _n th_
w_rld t_ h_v_ pr_v_t_z_d th__r w_t_r _nd s_w_g_
s_rv_c_s. Th_ _K g_v_rnm_nt s_ld _ts w_t_r t_ pr_v_t_
c_m_p_n__s _n 1987. Th_ c_m_p_n__s pr_m_s_d t_ sp_nd
b_ll__ns _f p__nds _n m_k_ng s_rv_c_s b_tt_r.
H_w_v_r, m_ny Br_t_ns h_v_ c_mpl__n_d th_t th_ngs
h_v_ b_c_m_ m_ch w_rs_. Th_ pr_v_t_z_d c_m_p_n__s
h_v_ n_t _nv_st_d _n__gh m_n_y _n st_pp_ng l__ks _r
_n m_d_rn_z_ng syst_ms. S_nc_ 1991, th_y h_v_ p__d
_v_r £2 b_ll__n _ y__r t_ th__r sh_r_h_ld_rs. W_t_r
c_m_p__gn_r _nd _x-r_ck st_r F__rg_l Sh_rk_y _s _ngry
w_th th_ w_t_r c_m_p_n__s. H_ s__d th_y h_v_ f__ld
t_ cr__t_ _ q__l_ty syst_m. H_ _ls_ bl_m_d th_ _K
g_v_rnm_nt f_r n_t _ct_ng.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis.html>

the uk is experiencing a sewage crisis the environmental group greenpeace said water companies poured toilet waste into rivers and seas for more than 300000 hours in 2022 many people have complained about becoming sick after swimming in the sea others expressed concerns about the terrible smell on beaches or the horrible brown colour of the water the research company savanta conducted a poll about peoples opinions on the poor quality of water almost a quarter of swimmers said they might not swim in the sea this year because of the risk last week at least 57 people got diarrhoea after competing in sea swimming events at a world triathlon championship event

england and wales are the only countries in the world to have privatized their water and sewage services the uk government sold its water to private companies in 1987 the companies promised to spend billions of pounds on making services better however many britons have complained that things have become much worse the privatized companies have not invested enough money in stopping leaks or in modernizing systems since 1991 they have paid over 2 billion a year to their shareholders water campaigner and exrock star feargal sharkey is angry with the water companies he said they have failed to create a quality system he also blamed the uk government for not acting

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis.html>

The UK is experiencing "poo-nami" sewage crisis. The environmental group Greenpeace said water companies poured toilet waste into rivers and seas for more than 300,000 hours in 2022. Many people have complained about becoming sick after swimming in the sea. Others expressed concerns about the terrible smell on beaches, or the horrible brown colour of the water. The research company Savanta conducted a poll about people's opinions on the poor quality of water. Almost a quarter of swimmers said they might not swim in the sea this year because of the risk. Last week, at least 57 people got diarrhoea after competing in sea swimming events at a World Triathlon Championship. England and Wales are the only countries in the world to have privatized their water and sewage services. The UK government sold its water to private companies in 1987. The companies promised to spend billions of pounds on making services better. However, many Britons have complained that things have become much worse. The privatized companies have not invested enough money in stopping leaks or in modernizing systems. Since 1991, they have paid over £2 billion a year to their shareholders. Water campaigner and ex-rockstar Feargus O'Shaughnessy is angry with the water companies. He said they have failed to create a quality system. He also blamed the UK government for not acting.

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

4. THE SEA: Write a magazine article about the sea. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against making countries pay huge fines for polluting the sea.

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 seas and oceans. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to keep them clean. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Poonami
2. 300,000 hours
3. Brown
4. A quarter
5. Diarrhoea
6. Two
7. 1987
8. Over £2 billion a year
9. Water companies
10. The UK government

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. Water companies poured toilet waste into rivers.
2. Many people have complained about becoming sick.
3. Others complained about the terrible smell on beaches.
4. A quarter of swimmers said they might not.
5. At least 57 people got diarrhoea after competing.
6. The government sold its water to private companies.
7. Spend billions of pounds on making services better.
8. The privatized companies have not invested enough money.
9. They have failed to create a quality system.
10. He also blamed the government for not acting.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. c 2. a 3. b 4. d 5. c 6. b 7. d 8. b 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 ;-)