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**Level 6 – 28th October 2024**

## Atlantic Ocean circulatory current could collapse

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241028-amoc-ocean-current.html>

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**Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241028-amoc-ocean-current.html>

The system of ocean currents that is responsible for maintaining temperate weather in Europe is in danger of collapsing. Experts say the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC) could collapse within the next 50 years. AMOC brings heat from Caribbean waters to the northern Atlantic Ocean between Greenland and Britain. Oceanographers say AMOC has been slowing down for the past few decades because of global warming. The northern Atlantic is the only region in the world that has cooled in the past 20 years. Experts once believed there was a 10 per cent chance of AMOC crossing the tipping point this century. However, 44 experts publicly stated that is now a 50/50 possibility.

Meteorologists believe AMOC could fail in the next few decades. They said this would lead to "devastating and irreversible impacts which will affect the entire world for centuries to come". It would disrupt global weather patterns and adversely affect the lives of hundreds of millions of people. The scientists predict that winter temperatures in the U.K. could become 15°C lower. Colder weather could "potentially threaten the viability of agriculture in northwestern Europe". The collapse of AMOC could shift tropical monsoons southwards, causing widespread drought and famine. This will create huge increases in the numbers of climate refugees and escalate geopolitical tensions.

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2024/oct/23/we-dont-know-where-the-tipping-point-is-climate-expert-on-potential-collapse-of-atlantic-circulation>  
<https://www.livescience.com/planet-earth/rivers-oceans/we-dont-really-consider-it-low-probability-anymore-collapse-of-key-atlantic-current-could-have-catastrophic-impacts-says-oceanographer-stefan-rahmstorf>  
<https://www.msn.com/en-ph/news/other/the-gulf-stream-is-on-the-verge-of-collapsing-climate-scientists-warn/ar-AA1sLW3Z>

# WARM-UPS

**1. WEATHER PATTERNS:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about weather patterns. 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?

system / ocean / weather / danger / Atlantic Ocean / global warming / tipping point / meteorologists / impacts / centuries / scientists / agriculture / monsoons / refugees

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

**3. TENSIONS:** Students A **strongly** believe climate change will create huge geopolitical tensions; Students B **strongly** believe otherwise. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. BODIES OF WATER:** What do you know about these bodies of water? What do you want to know? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What I Know	What I Want to Know
Atlantic Ocean		
Pacific Ocean		
Indian Ocean		
Arctic Ocean		
Southern Ocean		
Mediterranean Sea		

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

**6. WEATHER:** Rank these with your partner. Put the worst at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Torrential rain
- Damaging winds
- Heavy snow
- Thick fog
- Hail
- Tornados
- Thunderstorms
- Heatwaves

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| 1. current        | a. Not too hot and not too cold.  |
| 2. maintaining    | b. A time when a small change causes a big effect (and it's too late to go back). |
| 3. temperate      | c. The movement or flow of water in the ocean.                                    |
| 4. collapse       | d. Keeping something the same or in good condition.                               |
| 5. oceanographers | e. To fall down, break, or stop working.  |
| 6. tipping point  | f. Scientists who study the ocean.  |
| 7. expert         | g. Someone who knows a lot about a subject.                                       |

## Paragraph 2

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 8. meteorologist | h. The ability to keep going or survive.                           |
| 9. devastating   | i. A scientist who studies weather.                                |
| 10. disrupt      | j. In a way that causes harm or is bad.                            |
| 11. adversely    | k. Very heavy rains and strong winds in South and South-East Asia. |
| 12. viability    | l. Causing a lot of damage or harm.                                |
| 13. monsoon      | m. A long period with little or no rain.                           |
| 14. drought      | n. To stop something from working or happening normally.           |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241028-amoc-ocean-current.html>

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

1. A system of ocean currents has already collapsed. **T / F**
2. The AMOC system originates in the Caribbean. **T / F**
3. The southern Atlantic is the only region in the world that has cooled. **T / F**
4. Fifty experts say there is a 44/44 chance of reaching a tipping point. **T / F**
5. Meteorologists believe AMOC could fail this year. **T / F**
6. Meteorologists say the collapse of AMOC could affect the whole world. **T / F**
7. The U.K. could be 15°C cooler if the AMOC collapses. **T / F**
8. The collapse of the AMOC could lead to more famines and droughts. **T / F**

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

- |                       |                 |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 1. <b>system</b>      | a. previously   |
| 2. <b>temperate</b>   | b. likelihood   |
| 3. <b>collapse</b>    | c. heighten     |
| 4. <b>once</b>        | d. catastrophic |
| 5. <b>possibility</b> | e. pleasant     |
| 6. <b>devastating</b> | f. negatively   |
| 7. <b>entire</b>      | g. structure    |
| 8. <b>adversely</b>   | h. feasibility  |
| 9. <b>viability</b>   | i. whole        |
| 10. <b>escalate</b>   | j. cave in      |

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

- |  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. responsible for maintaining temperate | a. the past few decades |
| 2. AMOC has been slowing down for        | b. possibility          |
| 3. the only region in the world          | c. monsoons             |
| 4. a 10 per cent chance of AMOC crossing | d. irreversible impacts |
| 5. that is now a 50/50                   | e. the tipping point    |
| 6. this would lead to devastating and    | f. of agriculture       |
| 7. affect the entire world for centuries | g. weather worldwide    |
| 8. potentially threaten the viability    | h. tensions             |
| 9. tropical                              | i. to come              |
| 10. escalate geopolitical                | j. that has cooled      |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241028-amoc-ocean-current.html>

The system of ocean currents that is responsible for maintaining (1) \_\_\_\_\_ weather in Europe is in danger of collapsing. Experts say the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC) could collapse (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the next 50 years. AMOC brings heat from Caribbean (3) \_\_\_\_\_ to the northern Atlantic Ocean between Greenland and Britain. Oceanographers say AMOC has been slowing down for the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ few decades because of global warming. The northern Atlantic is the only (5) \_\_\_\_\_ in the world that has (6) \_\_\_\_\_ in the past 20 years. Experts once believed there was a 10 per cent chance of AMOC crossing the (7) \_\_\_\_\_ point this century. However, 44 (8) \_\_\_\_\_ publicly stated that is now a 50/50 possibility.

*waters*  
*cooled*  
*temperate*  
*experts*  
*within*  
*region*  
*past*  
*tipping*

Meteorologists believe AMOC could fail in the next few decades. They said this would lead to "(9) \_\_\_\_\_ and irreversible impacts which will affect the (10) \_\_\_\_\_ world for centuries to come". It would disrupt global weather patterns and (11) \_\_\_\_\_ affect the lives of hundreds of millions of people. The scientists (12) \_\_\_\_\_ that winter temperatures in the U.K. could become 15°C lower. Colder weather could "potentially threaten the (13) \_\_\_\_\_ of agriculture in northwestern Europe". The collapse of AMOC could shift tropical (14) \_\_\_\_\_ southwards, causing widespread (15) \_\_\_\_\_ and famine. This will create huge increases in the numbers of climate refugees and (16) \_\_\_\_\_ geopolitical tensions.

*adversely*  
*viability*  
*devastating*  
*escalate*  
*predict*  
*drought*  
*entire*  
*monsoons*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241028-amoc-ocean-current.html>

- 1) The system of ocean currents that is responsible for \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. maintaining temperature weather
  - b. maintaining temper rate weather
  - c. maintaining temporal weather
  - d. maintaining temperate weather
- 2) Oceanographers say AMOC has been slowing down for the \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. past few decades
  - b. pest few decades
  - c. paste few decades
  - d. post few decades
- 3) The northern Atlantic is the only region in the world \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. that has cold
  - b. that has cooed
  - c. that has cooled
  - d. that has scold
- 4) Experts once believed there was a 10 per cent chance of AMOC crossing \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the tipping pint
  - b. the tipping pant
  - c. the tipping paint
  - d. the tipping point
- 5) However, 44 experts publicly stated that is now \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. a 50/40 possibility
  - b. a 40/50 possibility
  - c. a 50/50 possibility
  - d. a 40/40 possibility
- 6) this would lead to devastating and irreversible impacts which will affect \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the entirety world
  - b. the entire world
  - c. the entirety world
  - d. the entry world
- 7) It would disrupt global weather patterns and adversely \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. effect the lives
  - b. affect their lives
  - c. affect the lives
  - d. afflict the lives
- 8) Colder weather could "potentially threaten the \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. visibility of agriculture
  - b. fallibility of agriculture
  - c. availability of agriculture
  - d. viability of agriculture
- 9) AMOC could shift tropical monsoons southwards, causing widespread \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. draught and famine
  - b. drought and famine
  - c. doubt and famine
  - d. draft and famine
- 10) huge increases in the numbers of climate refugees and \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. escalator geopolitical tensions
  - b. escalate neo-political tensions
  - c. escalate geopolitical tensions
  - d. escalates deo-political tensions

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241028-amoc-ocean-current.html>

The (1) \_\_\_\_\_ currents that is responsible for maintaining temperate weather in Europe is in (2) \_\_\_\_\_. Experts say the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC) (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the next 50 years. AMOC brings heat from Caribbean waters to the northern Atlantic Ocean between Greenland and Britain. Oceanographers say AMOC has been slowing down for the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ because of global warming. The northern Atlantic is the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the world that has cooled in the past 20 years. Experts once believed there was a 10 per cent chance of AMOC crossing the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ century. However, 44 experts publicly stated that is now a 50/50 possibility. Meteorologists believe AMOC could fail in the next few decades. They said this would lead to "(7) \_\_\_\_\_ impacts which will affect the entire world for centuries to come". It would disrupt global weather patterns (8) \_\_\_\_\_ the lives of hundreds of millions of people. The scientists (9) \_\_\_\_\_ temperatures in the U.K. could become 15°C lower. Colder weather could "potentially threaten the (10) \_\_\_\_\_ in northwestern Europe". The collapse of AMOC could shift tropical monsoons southwards, causing widespread (11) \_\_\_\_\_. This will create huge increases in the numbers of climate refugees and (12) \_\_\_\_\_.



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241028-amoc-ocean-current.html>

1. What does the AMOC maintain?
2. Where is the source of the heat from the AMOC?
3. Where is the only region in the world to have cooled recently?
4. What do experts say we are close to crossing?
5. How many experts said there is a 50/50 possibility of AMOC collapse?
6. For how long would Earth be affected by an AMOC collapse?
7. How many people would be affected by the AMOC collapsing?
8. How much colder might the UK become if the AMOC collapses?
9. What would shift southwards if the AMOC collapses?
10. What could escalate if the AMOC collapses?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241028-amoc-ocean-current.html>

- 1) What does the AMOC maintain?
  - a) rainfall
  - b) temperate weather in Europe
  - c) the tropics
  - d) ocean salinity
- 2) Where is the source of the heat from the AMOC?
  - a) the Sun
  - b) the Gulf
  - c) the Equator
  - d) the Caribbean
- 3) Where is the only region in the world to have cooled recently?
  - a) Antarctica
  - b) Mexico
  - c) the northern Atlantic
  - d) Siberia
- 4) What do experts say we are close to crossing?
  - a) a tipping point
  - b) time zones
  - c) the point of no return
  - d) our fingers
- 5) How many experts said there is a 50/50 possibility of AMOC collapse?
  - a) 43
  - b) 44
  - c) 45
  - d) 46
- 6) For how long would Earth be affected by an AMOC collapse?
  - a) hundreds of years
  - b) a millennia
  - c) millions of years
  - d) forever
- 7) How many people would be affected by the AMOC collapsing?
  - a) millions
  - b) billions
  - c) hundreds of millions
  - d) dozens
- 8) How much colder might the UK become if the AMOC collapses?
  - a) 15C°
  - b) 16C°
  - c) 18C°
  - d) 19C°
- 9) What would shift southwards if the AMOC collapses?
  - a) the Indian Ocean
  - b) India
  - c) the Maldives
  - d) tropical monsoons
- 10) What could escalate if the AMOC collapses?
  - a) water wars
  - b) the end of civilization
  - c) geopolitical tensions
  - d) global warming

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241028-amoc-ocean-current.html>

## **Role A – Thick Fog**

You think thick fog is the worst weather. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their weather isn't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): heatwaves, heavy snow or torrential rain.

## **Role B – Heatwaves**

You think heatwaves are the worst weather. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their weather isn't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): thick fog, heavy snow or torrential rain.

## **Role C – Heavy Snow**

You think heavy snow is the worst weather. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their weather isn't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): heatwaves, thick fog or torrential rain.

## **Role D – Torrential Rain**

You think torrential rain is the worst weather. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their weather isn't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): heatwaves, heavy snow or thick fog.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241028-amoc-ocean-current.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look online / in your dictionary to find collocates, information on, synonyms for... the words 'ocean' and 'temperature'.

<b>ocean</b>	<b>temperature</b>
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- 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"><li>• system</li><li>• within</li><li>• between</li><li>• because</li><li>• 20</li><li>• 44</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• lead</li><li>• entire</li><li>• global</li><li>• winter</li><li>• viability</li><li>• huge</li></ul>
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# WEATHER PATTERNS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241028-amoc-ocean-current.html>

Write five GOOD questions about weather patterns 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.

# WEATHER PATTERNS 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 'ocean'?
3. How worried are you about changing weather patterns?
4. How has the weather changed in your country?
5. What do you know about ocean currents?
6. Do you prefer cooler or warmer weather?
7. What do you think of global warming?
8. What do you think an oceanographer does every day?
9. What might happen if AMOC collapses?
10. What will the weather be like in 100 years from now?

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# WEATHER PATTERNS 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 'weather'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. How do oceans affect the weather?
15. What 'devastating and irreversible impacts' might climate change bring?
16. How would your life change if weather was 15°C cooler?
17. How would you deal with drought and famine?
18. Where will climate refugees go?
19. What geopolitical tensions might climate change bring?
20. What questions would you like to ask oceanographers?

# 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/2410/241028-amoc-ocean-current.html>

The (1) \_\_\_\_\_ of ocean currents that is responsible for maintaining temperate weather in Europe is (2) \_\_\_\_\_ danger of collapsing. Experts say the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC) could collapse (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the next 50 years. AMOC brings heat from Caribbean waters to the northern Atlantic Ocean between Greenland and Britain. Oceanographers say AMOC has been (4) \_\_\_\_\_ down for the past few decades because of global warming. The northern Atlantic is the only region in the world that has cooled in the past 20 years. Experts once believed there was a 10 per cent chance of AMOC crossing the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ point this century. However, 44 experts publicly (6) \_\_\_\_\_ that is now a 50/50 possibility.

Meteorologists believe AMOC could fail in the next few decades. They said this would lead to "devastating and (7) \_\_\_\_\_ impacts which will affect the entire world for centuries to (8) \_\_\_\_\_". It would disrupt global weather patterns and adversely affect the lives of hundreds of millions of people. The scientists predict that winter temperatures in the U.K. could become 15°C lower. Colder weather could "potentially threaten the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of agriculture in northwestern Europe". The collapse of AMOC could shift (10) \_\_\_\_\_ monsoons southwards, causing widespread (11) \_\_\_\_\_ and famine. This will create huge increases in the numbers of climate refugees and (12) \_\_\_\_\_ geopolitical tensions.

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

- |     |                  |                |                 |                |
|-----|------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1.  | (a) cistern      | (b) system     | (c) systemic    | (d) sustain    |
| 2.  | (a) on           | (b) in         | (c) an          | (d) of         |
| 3.  | (a) withstand    | (b) without    | (c) wither      | (d) within     |
| 4.  | (a) thrown       | (b) slowing    | (c) slewing     | (d) slaying    |
| 5.  | (a) tapping      | (b) topping    | (c) taping      | (d) tipping    |
| 6.  | (a) slated       | (b) sated      | (c) stated      | (d) skated     |
| 7.  | (a) irreversible | (b) irascible  | (c) irritable   | (d) unsociable |
| 8.  | (a) go           | (b) enter      | (c) come        | (d) arrive     |
| 9.  | (a) vial         | (b) visibility | (c) fallibility | (d) viability  |
| 10. | (a) tropical     | (b) topical    | (c) trope       | (d) tropics    |
| 11. | (a) draught      | (b) drought    | (c) draft       | (d) doubt      |
| 12. | (a) escalate     | (b) infiltrate | (c) inculcate   | (d) eradicate  |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241028-amoc-ocean-current.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. meperttae weather
2. in danger of lplaosicng
3. briCbeaan waters
4. anrcoeapgehors say AMOC has been slowing down
5. ertspxe once believed there was
6. crossing the tipping point this rcuneyt

## Paragraph 2

7. ertieoossoglmt believe AMOC could fail
8. tdvtsiegnaa and irreversible impacts
9. affect the etrnei world for centuries
10. ydravlese affect the lives
11. threaten the biyaiiltv of agriculture
12. causing widespread utdgohr and famine

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241028-amoc-ocean-current.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) region in the world that has cooled in the past 20 years. Experts once believed there was a 10 per cent
- ( ) danger of collapsing. Experts say the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC) could collapse
- ( ) predict that winter temperatures in the U.K. could become 15°C lower. Colder weather could "potentially
- ( **1** ) The system of ocean currents that is responsible for maintaining temperate weather in Europe is in
- ( ) chance of AMOC crossing the tipping point this century. However, 44 experts publicly stated that is now a 50/50 possibility.
- ( ) down for the past few decades because of global warming. The northern Atlantic is the only
- ( ) threaten the viability of agriculture in northwestern Europe". The collapse of AMOC could shift
- ( ) tropical monsoons southwards, causing widespread drought and famine. This will create huge
- ( ) and irreversible impacts which will affect the entire world for centuries to come". It would disrupt
- ( ) Meteorologists believe AMOC could fail in the next few decades. They said this would lead to "devastating
- ( ) increases in the numbers of climate refugees and escalate geopolitical tensions.
- ( ) Atlantic Ocean between Greenland and Britain. Oceanographers say AMOC has been slowing
- ( ) global weather patterns and adversely affect the lives of hundreds of millions of people. The scientists
- ( ) within the next 50 years. AMOC brings heat from Caribbean waters to the northern

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241028-amoc-ocean-current.html>

1. system of currents that is ocean responsible . The
2. slowing Oceanographers been down . AMOC say has
3. the region that cooled . world only The in
4. AMOC the crossing chance of tipping A point .
5. stated that Experts now 50/50 possibility . is a
6. could fail in next the decades . AMOC few
7. world . Irreversible entire impacts which the affect will
8. of lives affect millions . hundreds Adversely the of
9. northwestern of the Threaten Europe . in viability agriculture
10. numbers the climate in increases refugees . Huge of

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241028-amoc-ocean-current.html>

The system of ocean *currants / currents* that is responsible for maintaining temperate weather in Europe is *in / on* danger of collapsing. Experts say the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC) could collapse *wither / within* the next 50 years. AMOC brings heat from Caribbean waters to the northern Atlantic Ocean *between / among* Greenland and Britain. Oceanographers say AMOC has been slowing down for *a / the* past few decades *because / caused* of global warming. The northern Atlantic is the *only / once* region in the world that has cooled in the *passed / past* 20 years. Experts once believed there was a 10 per cent chance *of / at* AMOC crossing the tipping point this century. However, 44 experts *publicity / publicly* stated that is now a 50/50 possibility.

Meteorologists *beliefs / believe* AMOC could fail in the next few decades. They said this would *lead / steel* to "devastating and irreversible impacts which will *affect / effect* the entire world for centuries to *come / go*". It would disrupt global weather patterns and *adverse / adversely* affect the lives of hundreds of millions of people. The scientists predict that winter temperatures in the U.K. could become 15°C *lowly / lower*. Colder weather could "potentially threaten the viability *of / at* agriculture in northwestern Europe". The collapse of AMOC could *shift / shaft* tropical monsoons southwards, causing widespread *draught / drought* and famine. This will create huge increases in the numbers of climate refugees and *step / escalate* geopolitical tensions.

**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/2410/241028-amoc-ocean-current.html>

Th\_ syst\_m \_f \_c\_\_n c\_rr\_nts th\_t \_s r\_sp\_ns\_bl\_ f\_r  
m\_\_nt\_\_n\_\_ng t\_\_mp\_r\_t\_ w\_\_th\_r w\_rldw\_d\_ \_s \_n  
d\_\_ng\_r \_f c\_ll\_ps\_\_ng. \_xp\_rts s\_y th\_ \_tl\_\_nt\_c  
M\_r\_d\_\_n\_l \_v\_\_rt\_rn\_\_ng C\_rc\_l\_t\_\_n (\_M\_C) c\_\_ld  
c\_ll\_ps\_ w\_th\_n th\_ n\_xt 50 y\_\_rs. \_M\_C br\_ngs h\_\_t  
fr\_m C\_r\_bb\_\_n w\_t\_rs t\_ th\_ n\_rth\_rn \_tl\_\_nt\_c \_c\_\_n  
b\_\_tw\_\_n Gr\_\_nl\_nd \_nd Br\_t\_\_n. \_c\_\_n\_gr\_ph\_rs s\_y  
\_M\_C h\_s b\_\_n sl\_w\_\_ng d\_wn f\_r th\_ p\_st f\_w d\_c\_d\_s  
b\_c\_\_s\_ \_f gl\_b\_l w\_rm\_\_ng. Th\_ n\_rth\_rn \_tl\_\_nt\_c \_s  
th\_ \_nly r\_g\_\_n \_n th\_ w\_rld th\_t h\_s c\_\_ld \_n th\_  
p\_st 20 y\_\_rs. \_xp\_rts \_nc\_ b\_l\_\_v\_d th\_r\_ w\_s \_ 10  
p\_r c\_\_nt ch\_nc\_ \_f \_M\_C cr\_ss\_\_ng th\_ t\_pp\_\_ng p\_\_nt  
th\_s c\_\_nt\_ry. H\_w\_v\_r, 44 \_xp\_rts p\_b\_l\_cly st\_t\_d th\_t  
\_s n\_w \_ 50/50 p\_ss\_b\_l\_ty.

M\_t\_\_r\_l\_g\_sts b\_l\_\_v\_ \_M\_C c\_\_ld f\_\_l \_n th\_ n\_xt  
f\_w d\_c\_d\_s. Th\_y s\_\_d th\_s w\_\_ld l\_\_d t\_  
"d\_v\_\_st\_t\_\_ng \_nd \_rr\_v\_rs\_\_bl\_ \_mp\_cts wh\_ch w\_ll  
\_ff\_ct th\_ \_nt\_r\_ w\_rld f\_r c\_\_nt\_r\_\_s t\_ c\_\_m\_\_". \_t  
w\_\_ld d\_sr\_\_pt gl\_b\_l w\_\_th\_r p\_\_tt\_rns \_nd \_dv\_rs\_ly  
\_ff\_ct th\_ l\_v\_s \_f h\_\_ndr\_ds \_f m\_ll\_\_ns \_f p\_\_pl\_.  
Th\_ sc\_\_nt\_sts pr\_d\_\_ct th\_t w\_\_nt\_r t\_\_mp\_r\_t\_r\_s \_n  
th\_ \_K. c\_\_ld b\_c\_\_m\_ 15°C l\_w\_r. C\_l\_d\_r w\_\_th\_r  
c\_\_ld "p\_\_t\_\_nt\_\_lly thr\_\_t\_\_n th\_ v\_\_b\_l\_ty \_f \_gr\_c\_l\_t\_r\_  
\_n n\_rthw\_\_st\_rn \_\_r\_p\_\_". Th\_ c\_ll\_ps\_ \_f \_M\_C c\_\_ld  
sh\_\_ft t\_r\_p\_c\_l m\_\_ns\_\_ns s\_\_thw\_rds, c\_\_s\_\_ng  
w\_d\_spr\_\_d dr\_\_ght \_nd f\_m\_\_n\_\_. Th\_s w\_ll cr\_\_t\_ h\_g\_  
\_ncr\_\_s\_s \_n th\_ n\_\_mb\_rs \_f cl\_\_m\_t\_ r\_f\_g\_\_s \_nd  
\_sc\_l\_t\_ g\_\_p\_l\_t\_c\_l t\_\_ns\_\_ns.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241028-amoc-ocean-current.html>

the system of ocean currents that is responsible for maintaining temperate weather in europe is in danger of collapsing experts say the atlantic meridional overturning circulation amoc could collapse within the next 50 years amoc brings heat from caribbean waters to the northern atlantic ocean between greenland and britain oceanographers say amoc has been slowing down for the past few decades because of global warming the northern atlantic is the only region in the world that has cooled in the past 20 years experts once believed there was a 10 per cent chance of amoc crossing the tipping point this century however 44 experts publicly stated that is now a 5050 possibility

meteorologists believe amoc could fail in the next few decades they said this would lead to devastating and irreversible impacts which will affect the entire world for centuries to come it would disrupt global weather patterns and adversely affect the lives of hundreds of millions of people the scientists predict that winter temperatures in the uk could become 15c lower colder weather could potentially threaten the viability of agriculture in northwestern europe the collapse of amoc could shift tropical monsoons southwards causing widespread drought and famine this will create huge increases in the numbers of climate refugees and escalate geopolitical tensions

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241028-amoc-ocean-current.html>

The system of ocean currents that is responsible for maintaining temperate weather worldwide is in danger of collapsing. Experts say the Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC) could collapse within the next 50 years. AMOC brings heat from Caribbean waters to the northern Atlantic Ocean between Greenland and Britain. Oceanographers say AMOC has been slowing down for the past few decades because of global warming. The northern Atlantic is the only region in the world that has cooled in the past 20 years. Experts once believed there was a 10 percent chance of AMOC crossing the tipping point this century. However, 44 experts publicly stated that is now a 50/50 possibility. Meteorologists believe AMOC could fail in the next few decades. They said this would lead to "devastating and irreversible impacts which will affect the entire world for centuries to come". It would disrupt global weather patterns and adversely affect the lives of hundreds of millions of people. The scientists predict that winter temperatures in the U.K. could become 15°C lower. Colder weather could "potentially threaten the viability of agriculture in northwestern Europe". The collapse of AMOC could shift tropical monsoons southwards, causing widespread drought and famine. This will create huge increases in the numbers of climate refugees and escalate geopolitical tensions.

# FREE WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241028-amoc-ocean-current.html>

Write about **weather patterns** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

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# ACADEMIC WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2410/241028-amoc-ocean-current.html>

We should start preparing for massive changes in weather patterns. Discuss.

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# 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. WEATHER PATTERNS:** Make a poster about weather patterns. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. PREPARATION:** Write a magazine article about preparing for changing weather patterns immediately. 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 weather patterns. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how they might affect you. 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. d    3. a    4. e    5. f    6. b    7. g  
8. i    9. l    10. n    11. j    12. h    13. k    14. m

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Temperate weather worldwide
2. The Caribbean
3. The northern Atlantic
4. A tipping point
5. 44
6. Hundreds of years
7. Hundreds of millions
8. 15°C
9. Tropical monsoons
10. Geopolitical tensions

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. The system of ocean currents that is responsible.
2. Oceanographers say AMOC has been slowing down.
3. The only region in the world that cooled.
4. A chance of AMOC crossing the tipping point.
5. Experts stated that is now a 50/50 possibility.
6. AMOC could fail in the next few decades.
7. Irreversible impacts which will affect the entire world.
8. Adversely affect the lives of hundreds of millions.
9. Threaten the viability of agriculture in northwestern Europe.
10. Huge increases in the numbers of climate refugees.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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