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Level 3 – 28th November 2024

Hopes for global treaty to end plastic pollution

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241128-plastic-pollution.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/2411/241128-plastic-pollution.html>

Countries worldwide could soon sign a treaty to limit how much plastic pollution we create. Representatives from 175 nations have been meeting in South Korea to talk about the problem of plastic waste. The United Nations Environment Program said the treaty is necessary to help protect the future of the planet. U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres spoke about how serious the problem is. He said: "Our world is drowning in plastic pollution. Every year, we produce 460 million tons of plastic, much of which is quickly thrown away." The U.N. said a treaty is, "an insurance policy for this generation and future ones, so they may live with plastic and not be doomed by it".

Antonio Guterres gave a warning of what might happen in the future if we do not act now. He said: "By 2050, there could be more plastic than fish in the ocean. Microplastics in our bloodstreams are creating health problems that we're only just beginning to understand." The president of South Korea echoed Mr Guterres' comments. He asked governments to agree on a path to zero plastic pollution. He said we have relied too much on plastic because it is so convenient. He added: "The waste accumulated in our oceans and rivers now jeopardizes the lives of future generations." He asked governments, "to open a new historic chapter by finalizing a treaty on plastic pollution".

Sources: <https://www.dw.com/en/environmental-plastic-waste-pollution-oil-fossil-fuel-production-climate-change/a-70835827>
<https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/11/1157426>
<https://thehill.com/opinion/energy-environment/5002803-plastic-waste-oil-industry-crisis/>

WARM-UPS

1. PLASTIC: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about plastic. 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?

countries / treaty / plastic / pollution / the future / the planet / insurance / doomed / warning / fish / ocean / bloodstream / president / convenient / rivers / historic

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

3. ZERO PLASTIC: Students A **strongly** believe we need to end plastic use by 2030; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. POLLUTION: What do you think of these types of pollution? How can we reduce them? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What I Think	Reducing It
Plastic		
River		
Noise		
Light		
Ocean		
Air		

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

6. PLASTIC THINGS: Rank these with your partner. Put the most useful at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Bottles
- Shopping bags
- Toothbrushes
- Cups
- Forks
- Food cartons
- Buckets
- Toys

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 1. treaty | a. People chosen to speak or act for others. |
| 2. limit | b. A plan that gives money or help if something bad happens. |
| 3. representatives | c. A formal agreement between two or more countries. |
| 4. waste (noun) | d. To stop something from being too much. |
| 5. drowning | e. Things we throw away because we don't need them anymore. |
| 6. insurance | f. Not being able to work or manage because there is too much of something. |
| 7. doomed | g. Sure or certain to have something bad happen, like failure or trouble. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 8. warning | h. To depend on something or someone. |
| 9. act | i. Something that tells you to be careful about danger. |
| 10. bloodstream | j. To repeat or say something again; to repeat and agree with the words of another person. |
| 11. echoed | k. To put something in danger. |
| 12. relied | l. To do something. |
| 13. jeopardize | m. A group of people born around the same time. |
| 14. generation | n. The blood that flows inside your body. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241128-plastic-pollution.html>

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

1. Many countries have signed a treaty to reduce plastic. **T / F**
2. The UN said the treaty is important to save the future of the U.N. **T / F**
3. We throw away 460 million tons of plastic every year. **T / F**
4. The UN likened the treaty to an insurance policy for our future. **T / F**
5. The UN said there could be more fish than plastic in the oceans by 2050. **T / F**
6. Microplastics are causing health problems we never knew about before. **T / F**
7. The article says we depend on plastic too much because it is convenient. **T / F**
8. The UN asked governments to write a chapter in a book on pollution. **T / F**

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

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| 1. worldwide | a. caution |
| 2. waste | b. trashed |
| 3. necessary | c. road |
| 4. serious | d. garbage |
| 5. thrown away | e. useful |
| 6. warning | f. globally |
| 7. problems | g. risks |
| 8. path | h. essential |
| 9. convenient | i. important |
| 10. jeopardizes | j. issues |

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

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. Countries worldwide could soon sign | a. of plastic waste |
| 2. talk about the problem | b. too much on plastic |
| 3. Our world is drowning | c. policy |
| 4. an insurance | d. happen in the future |
| 5. they may live with plastic and not be | e. generations |
| 6. a warning of what might | f. a treaty |
| 7. there could be more plastic than fish | g. in plastic pollution |
| 8. we have relied | h. chapter |
| 9. the lives of future | i. doomed by it |
| 10. open a new historic | j. in the ocean |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241128-plastic-pollution.html>

Countries worldwide could soon (1) _____ a treaty to limit how much plastic pollution we create. Representatives from 175 nations have been (2) _____ in South Korea to talk about the problem of plastic waste. The United Nations Environment Program said the treaty is (3) _____ to help protect the future of the planet. U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres spoke about how (4) _____ the problem is. He said: "Our world is (5) _____ in plastic pollution. Every year, we produce 460 million (6) _____ of plastic, much of which is quickly thrown away." The U.N. said a treaty is, "an insurance (7) _____ for this generation and future ones, so they may live with plastic and not be (8) _____ by it".

necessary
sign
serious
policy
drowning
doomed
meeting
tons

Antonio Guterres gave a (9) _____ of what might happen in the future if we do not act now. He said: "By 2050, there could be more plastic than fish in the (10) _____. Microplastics in our bloodstreams are creating health problems that we're only (11) _____ beginning to understand." The president of South Korea echoed Mr Guterres' (12) _____. He asked governments to agree on a (13) _____ to zero plastic pollution. He said we have relied too much on plastic because it is so (14) _____. He added: "The waste accumulated in our oceans and rivers now jeopardizes the (15) _____ of future generations." He asked governments, "to open a new historic (16) _____ by finalizing a treaty on plastic pollution".

path
ocean
comments
chapter
convenient
warning
just
lives

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241128-plastic-pollution.html>

- 1) Representatives from 175 nations _____
 - a. have been meet in
 - b. have been meet tin
 - c. have been meeting
 - d. have been meetings
- 2) South Korea to talk about the problem _____
 - a. of plastics waste
 - b. of plasticity waste
 - c. off plastic waste
 - d. of plastic waste
- 3) we produce 460 million tons of plastic, much of which is _____
 - a. quickly thrown up
 - b. quickly thrown away
 - c. quickly thrown in
 - d. quickly thrown on
- 4) The U.N. said a treaty is _____
 - a. an insurance policy
 - b. an insurance policies
 - c. the insurance policy
 - d. an insure ants policy
- 5) this generation and future ones, so they may live with plastic and not be _____
 - a. boomed by it
 - b. doomed by it
 - c. doomed buy it
 - d. domed buy it
- 6) a warning of what might happen in the future if we do _____
 - a. not tact now
 - b. not tacked now
 - c. not act now
 - d. knot act now
- 7) By 2050, there could be more plastic than fish _____
 - a. in an ocean
 - b. in the ocean
 - c. in our ocean
 - d. inner ocean
- 8) He asked governments to agree on a path to _____
 - a. zero plastic pollutant
 - b. zero plastic pollutants
 - c. zero plastic polluting
 - d. zero plastic pollution
- 9) accumulated in our oceans and rivers now jeopardizes the lives _____
 - a. of future generation
 - b. of future generations
 - c. of future generational
 - d. of future generates
- 10) He asked governments to open a new historic chapter by _____
 - a. finalizing a treat
 - b. finalizing a treaty
 - c. finalize inner treaty
 - d. finalize in a treaty

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241128-plastic-pollution.html>

Countries worldwide could soon (1) _____ to limit how much plastic pollution we create. Representatives from 175 nations (2) _____ in South Korea to talk about the problem of plastic waste. The United Nations Environment Program said the treaty is necessary to help (3) _____ of the planet. U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres spoke about how serious the problem is. He said: "Our world (4) _____ plastic pollution. Every year, we produce 460 million tons of plastic, much of which is (5) _____." The U.N. said a treaty is, "an insurance policy for this generation and future ones, so they may live with plastic and not (6) _____ it".

Antonio Guterres gave a warning of (7) _____ in the future if we do not act now. He said: "By 2050, there could be more plastic than fish (8) _____. Microplastics in our bloodstreams are creating health problems that we're only just beginning to understand." The president of South Korea echoed Mr Guterres' comments. He asked governments to agree on (9) _____ zero plastic pollution. He said we have relied too much on plastic because it (10) _____. He added: "The waste accumulated in our oceans and rivers now jeopardizes the lives (11) _____. He asked governments, "to open a (12) _____ by finalizing a treaty on plastic pollution".

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241128-plastic-pollution.html>

1. How many countries attended a pollution meeting in South Korea?
2. What did the United Nations Environment Program say we must protect?
3. What is the job of Antonio Guterres?
4. How much plastic do we produce every year?
5. What did Antonio Guterres say was an insurance policy?
6. When might there be more plastic than fish in the oceans?
7. What is creating health problems?
8. Who asked governments to follow a path to zero plastic pollution?
9. What does the waste in our oceans and rivers jeopardize?
10. What did South Korea's president ask governments to open?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241128-plastic-pollution.html>

- 1) How many countries attended a pollution meeting in South Korea?
 - a) 172
 - b) 173
 - c) 174
 - d) 175
- 2) What did the United Nations Environment Program say we must protect?
 - a) rainforests
 - b) the future of the planet
 - c) fossil fuels
 - d) people
- 3) What is the job of Antonio Guterres?
 - a) an oil company boss
 - b) the head of the WHO
 - c) the U.N. Secretary-General
 - d) a plastic bottle company CEO
- 4) How much plastic do we produce every year?
 - a) 460 million tons
 - b) 440 million tons
 - c) 640 million tons
 - d) 560 million tons
- 5) What did Antonio Guterres say was an insurance policy?
 - a) plastic
 - b) car accident cover
 - c) a treaty
 - d) a document
- 6) When might there be more plastic than fish in the oceans?
 - a) in 2050
 - b) before 2050
 - c) around 2050
 - d) after 2050
- 7) What is creating health problems?
 - a) fossil fuels
 - b) polluted water
 - c) plastic forks
 - d) microplastics
- 8) Who asked governments to follow a path to zero plastic pollution?
 - a) the president of South Korea
 - b) a plastic bottle company CEO
 - c) the head of the WHO
 - d) the U.N. Secretary-General
- 9) What does the waste in our oceans and rivers jeopardize?
 - a) plastic production
 - b) fossil fuels
 - c) the lives of future generations
 - d) the job of the U.N. Secretary-General
- 10) What did South Korea's president ask governments to open?
 - a) a zero-emissions factory
 - b) a new historic chapter
 - c) their minds
 - d) their doors

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241128-plastic-pollution.html>

Role A – Food Cartons

You think food cartons are the best things made from plastic. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): shopping bags, bottles or cups.

Role B – Shopping Bags

You think shopping bags are the best things made from plastic. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): food cartons, bottles or cups.

Role C – Bottles

You think bottles are the best things made from plastic. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): shopping bags, food cartons or cups.

Role D – Cups

You think cups are the best things made from plastic. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): shopping bags, bottles or food cartons.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241128-plastic-pollution.html>

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

plastic	pollution

- 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">• sign• 175• necessary• serious• 460• live	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• warning• health• echoed• zero• waste• chapter
---	--

PLASTIC SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241128-plastic-pollution.html>

Write five GOOD questions about plastic 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.

PLASTIC 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 'plastic'?
3. How worried are you about plastic pollution?
4. What problems does plastic pollution cause?
5. How will the treaty change the plastic pollution problem?
6. What other kinds of pollution do you worry about?
7. How much plastic do you throw away?
8. What can we use instead of plastic?
9. Why does the world produce so much plastic?
10. Should we live with plastic?

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PLASTIC 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 'pollution'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What happens if there is more plastic in the ocean than fish?
15. What do you know about microplastics?
16. How would you feel about a zero-plastic world?
17. How convenient is plastic?
18. Why might plastic risk the lives of future generations?
19. What things do we really need plastic for?
20. What questions would you like to ask the UN?

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/2411/241128-plastic-pollution.html>

Countries worldwide could soon (1) _____ a treaty to limit how much plastic pollution we create. Representatives from 175 nations have been (2) _____ in South Korea to talk about the problem of plastic waste. The United Nations Environment Program said the treaty is necessary (3) _____ help protect the future of the planet. U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres spoke about (4) _____ serious the problem is. He said: "Our world is drowning in plastic pollution. Every year, we produce 460 million tons of plastic, much of (5) _____ is quickly thrown away." The U.N. said a treaty is, "an insurance policy for this generation and future ones, so they may live with plastic and not be (6) _____ by it".

Antonio Guterres gave a warning of what might happen in the future if we do not (7) _____ now. He said: "By 2050, there could be more plastic than fish in the ocean. Microplastics in our bloodstreams are (8) _____ health problems that we're only just beginning to understand." The president of South Korea echoed Mr Guterres' comments. He asked governments to agree (9) _____ a path to zero plastic pollution. He said we have relied too (10) _____ on plastic because it is so convenient. He added: "The waste accumulated in our oceans and rivers now jeopardizes the lives of future (11) _____." He asked governments, "to open a new historic (12) _____ by finalizing a treaty on plastic pollution".

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | (a) sign | (b) singe | (c) sing | (d) sine |
| 2. | (a) met | (b) meets | (c) meeting | (d) meetings |
| 3. | (a) for | (b) at | (c) to | (d) of |
| 4. | (a) what | (b) that | (c) which | (d) how |
| 5. | (a) what | (b) many | (c) which | (d) most |
| 6. | (a) boomed | (b) doomed | (c) groomed | (d) roomed |
| 7. | (a) perform | (b) act | (c) play | (d) do |
| 8. | (a) create | (b) creating | (c) creates | (d) creation |
| 9. | (a) by | (b) in | (c) on | (d) under |
| 10. | (a) time | (b) many | (c) some | (d) much |
| 11. | (a) generate | (b) generation | (c) generational | (d) generations |
| 12. | (a) verse | (b) paragraph | (c) sentence | (d) chapter |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241128-plastic-pollution.html>

Paragraph 1

1. rravsepetnetsi from 175 nations
2. necessary to help ctpoter the future
3. Our world is gnnirwdo in plastic
4. a treaty is an rnuacsnie policy
5. for this nngareteoi
6. not be medodo by it

Paragraph 2

7. sctlrpsmaioic in our bloodstreams
8. ecehdo Mr Guterres' comments
9. we have dreile too much on plastic
10. because it is so neincetvno
11. in our enocas and rivers
12. open a new iocthris chapter

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241128-plastic-pollution.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- (**1**) Countries worldwide could soon sign a treaty to limit how much plastic pollution we
- () and rivers now jeopardizes the lives of future generations." He asked
- () away." The U.N. said a treaty is, "an insurance policy for this generation and future
- () waste. The United Nations Environment Program said the treaty is necessary to help protect the future
- () Antonio Guterres gave a warning of what might happen in the future if we do not act
- () now. He said: "By 2050, there could be more plastic than fish in the ocean. Microplastics in our bloodstreams are creating health
- () much on plastic because it is so convenient. He added: "The waste accumulated in our oceans
- () Mr Guterres' comments. He asked governments to agree on a path to zero plastic pollution. He said we have relied too
- () problems that we're only just beginning to understand." The president of South Korea echoed
- () create. Representatives from 175 nations have been meeting in South Korea to talk about the problem of plastic
- () of the planet. U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres spoke about how serious the problem is. He said: "Our world is
- () ones, so they may live with plastic and not be doomed by it".
- () drowning in plastic pollution. Every year, we produce 460 million tons of plastic, much of which is quickly thrown
- () governments, "to open a new historic chapter by finalizing a treaty on plastic pollution".

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241128-plastic-pollution.html>

1. soon Countries could sign worldwide a treaty .
2. to necessary future . protect treaty The is the
3. drowning plastic Our in is world pollution .
4. this treaty is A for generation . insurance
5. plastic, Live doomed not by be it . with
6. what might warning a gave He of happen .
7. could than be fish . more plastic There
8. creating Microplastics health our problems . are bloodstreams in
9. a to on zero pollution . Agree plastic path
10. chapter a finalizing historic by a Open treaty .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241128-plastic-pollution.html>

Countries worldwide could soon *singe / sign* a treaty to limit how much plastic pollution we create. Representatives from 175 nations have been *meeting / met* in South Korea to talk about the problem *off / of* plastic waste. The United Nations Environment Program said the treaty is necessary to *help / helping* protect the future of the planet. U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres spoke about how *seriously / serious* the problem is. He said: "Our world is *drown / drowning* in plastic pollution. Every year, we produce 460 million tons of plastic, *much / many* of which is quickly thrown away." The U.N. said a treaty is, "an *insure / insurance* policy for this generation and future *one / ones*, so they may live with plastic and not be *doomed / boomed* by it".

Antonio Guterres gave a *warn / warning* of what might happen in the future if we do not *act / action* now. He said: "By 2050, there could be more plastic than *fishy / fish* in the ocean. Microplastics in our *bloody / bloodstreams* are creating health problems that we're only *just / right* beginning to understand." The president of South Korea *whispered / echoed* Mr Guterres' comments. He asked governments to agree on a *walkway / path* to zero plastic pollution. He said we have relied too much on plastic because it is so *convenience / convenient*. He added: "The waste accumulated in our oceans and rivers now jeopardizes the lives of future *generation / generations*." He asked governments, "to open a new historic *chapter / verse* by finalizing a treaty on plastic pollution".

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/2411/241128-plastic-pollution.html>

C__ntr__s w_rldw_d_ c__ld s__n s_gn _ tr__ty t_
l_m_t h_w m_ch pl_st_c p_ll_t__n w_ cr__t_.
R_pr_s_nt_t_v_s fr_m 175 n_t__ns h_v_ b__n m__tng
_n S__th K_r__ t_ t_lk _b__t th_ pr_bl_m _f pl_st_c
w_st_. Th_ _n_t_d N_t__ns _nv_r_nm_nt Pr_gr_m s__d
th_ tr__ty _s n_c_ss_ry t_ h_lp pr_t_ct th_ f_t_r_ _f
th_ pl_n_t. _N. S_cr_t_ry-G_n_r_l _nt_n__ G_t_rr_s
sp_k_ _b__t h_w s_r__s th_ pr_bl_m _s. H_ s__d:
"__r w_rld _s dr_wnng _n pl_st_c p_ll_t__n. _v_ry
y__r, w_ pr_d_c_ 460 m_ll__n t_ns _f pl_st_c, m_ch
_f wh_ch _s q__ckly thr_wn _w_y." Th_ _N. s__d _
tr__ty _s, "_n _ns_r_nc_ p_l_cy f_r th_s g_n_r_t__n
_nd f_t_r_ _n_s, s_ th_y m_y l_v_ w_th pl_st_c _nd
n_t b_ d__m_d by _t".

_nt_n__ G_t_rr_s g_v_ _ w_rnng _f wh_t m_ght
h_pp_n _n th_ f_t_r_ _f w_ d_ n_t _ct n_w. H_ s__d:
"By 2050, th_r_ c__ld b_ m_r_ pl_st_c th_n f_sh _n
th_ _c__n. M_cr_pl_st_cs _n __r bl__dstr__ms _r_
cr__tng h__lth pr_bl_ms th_t w_'r_ _nly j_st
b_g_nnng t_ _nd_rst_nd." Th_ pr_s_d_nt _f S__th
K_r__ _ch__d Mr G_t_rr_s' c_mm_nts. H_ _sk_d
g_v_rnm_nts t_ _gr__ _n _ p_th t_ z_r_ pl_st_c
p_ll_t__n. H_ s__d w_ h_v_ r_l__d t__ m_ch _n
pl_st_c b_c__s_ _t _s s_ c_nv_n__nt. H_ _dd_d: "Th_
w_st_ _cc_m_l_t_d _n __r _c__ns _nd r_v_rs n_w
j__p_rdz_s th_ l_v_s _f f_t_r_ g_n_r_t__ns." H_ _sk_d
g_v_rnm_nts, "t_ _p_n _ n_w h_st_r_c ch_pt_r by
f_n_l_zng _ tr__ty _n pl_st_c p_ll_t__n".

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241128-plastic-pollution.html>

countries worldwide could soon sign a treaty to limit how much plastic pollution we create representatives from 175 nations have been meeting in south korea to talk about the problem of plastic waste the united nations environment program said the treaty is necessary to help protect the future of the planet un secretarygeneral antonio guterres spoke about how serious the problem is he said our world is drowning in plastic pollution every year we produce 460 million tons of plastic much of which is quickly thrown away the un said a treaty is an insurance policy for this generation and future ones so they may live with plastic and not be doomed by it

antonio guterres gave a warning of what might happen in the future if we do not act now he said by 2050 there could be more plastic than fish in the ocean microplastics in our bloodstreams are creating health problems that were only just beginning to understand the president of south korea echoed mr guterres comments he asked governments to agree on a path to zero plastic pollution he said we have relied too much on plastic because it is so convenient he added the waste accumulated in our oceans and rivers now jeopardizes the lives of future generations he asked governments to open a new historic chapter by finalizing a treaty on plastic pollution

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241128-plastic-pollution.html>

Countries worldwide could soon sign a treaty to limit how much plastic pollution we create. Representatives from 175 nations have been meeting in South Korea to talk about the problem of plastic waste. The United Nations Environment Programme said the treaty is necessary to help protect the future of the planet. U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres spoke about how serious the problem is. He said: "Our world is drowning in plastic pollution. Every year, we produce 460 million tons of plastic, much of which is quickly thrown away." The U.N. said a treaty is "an insurance policy for this generation and future ones, so they may live with plastic and not be doomed by it". Antonio Guterres gave a warning of what might happen in the future if we do not act now. He said: "By 2050, there could be more plastic than fish in the ocean. Microplastics in our bloodstreams are creating health problems that we're only just beginning to understand." The president of South Korea echoed Mr Guterres' comments. He asked governments to agree on a path to zero plastic pollution. He said we have relied too much on plastic because it is so convenient. He added: "The waste accumulated in our oceans and rivers now jeopardizes the lives of future generations." He asked governments, "to open a new historic chapter by finalizing a treaty on plastic pollution".

FREE WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241128-plastic-pollution.html>

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

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

4. ZERO PLASTIC: Write a magazine article about ending the use of plastic within this decade. 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 plastic. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to end our use of plastics. 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 F 3 F 4 T 5 F 6 T 7 T 8 F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- 175
- The future of the planet
- U.N. Secretary-General
- 460 million tons
- A treaty
- By 2050
- Microplastics
- The president of South Korea
- The lives of future generations
- A new historic chapter

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- Countries worldwide could soon sign a treaty.
- The treaty is necessary to protect the future.
- Our world is drowning in plastic pollution.
- A treaty is insurance for this generation.
- Live with plastic, not be doomed by it.
- He gave a warning of what might happen.
- There could be more plastic than fish.
- Microplastics in our bloodstreams are creating health problems.
- Agree on a path to zero plastic pollution.
- Open a historic chapter by finalizing a treaty.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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