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Level 1 – 22nd January 2026

Millions of French fries wash up on UK beach

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260122-bags-of-chips-1.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260122-bags-of-chips-1.html>

Beach-goers saw a strange sight this week. A beach was covered in French fries. Thousands of bags of fries fell off of ships. Bad weather caused three containers from a ship to fall into the sea. One of the containers got to the beach. A local man found the fries. He said: "From a distance, it looked like the golden sand of a Caribbean beach." He said the chips and chip bags were 75 cm deep in some places.

Many volunteers are now cleaning the beach. The local man said the chips were a danger to the environment. He is worried about seals that live near the beach. He said: "If the seals see the bags, they will...try to eat them." A local official warned people to be careful. She said: "Food washing onto the beach may be harmful." She asked people to report any new food. Last month, thousands of bananas washed ashore near the same beach.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c0lxkl3gd6jo>
<https://www.msn.com/en-gb/travel/news/nothing-compares-to-this-locals-left-stunned-after-thousands-of-chips-wash-up-on-sussex-beach/ar-AA1UtVyx>
<https://www.theargus.co.uk/news/25775185.thousands-bags-chips-wash-beachy-head/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260122-bags-of-chips-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Beach-goers saw | a. in French fries |
| 2. A beach was covered | b. distance |
| 3. Thousands of bags of fries | c. man |
| 4. bad | d. fell off of ships |
| 5. One of the containers | e. deep in some places |
| 6. a local | f. a strange sight |
| 7. from a | g. got to the beach |
| 8. chip bags were 75 cm | h. weather |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Many volunteers are now | a. near the beach |
| 2. a danger to | b. cleaning the beach |
| 3. seals that live | c. report any new food |
| 4. If the seals see | d. people |
| 5. a local official warned | e. the environment |
| 6. Food washing | f. of bananas |
| 7. She asked people to | g. onto the beach |
| 8. thousands | h. the bags |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260122-bags-of-chips-1.html>

Beach-goers (1) _____ sight this week. A beach (2) _____ French fries. Thousands of bags of (3) _____ of ships. Bad weather caused three containers from a ship to fall into the sea. One of the containers got to the beach. (4) _____ found the fries. He said: "(5) _____, it looked like the golden sand of a Caribbean beach." He said the chips and chip bags were 75 cm (6) _____ places.

Many volunteers (7) _____ the beach. The local man said the chips (8) _____ to the environment. He is worried about seals that (9) _____ beach. He said: "If the seals see the bags, they will...try to eat them." (10) _____ warned people to be careful. She said: "Food washing onto the beach (11) _____." She asked people to report any new food. Last month, (12) _____ washed ashore near the same beach.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2026/1/260122-bags-of-chips-1.html>

Beach-goers saw a strange sight this week. A beach was covered in French fries. Thousands of bags of fries fell off of ships. Bad weather caused three containers from a ship to fall into the sea. One of the containers got to the beach. A local man found the fries. He said: "From a distance, it looked like the golden sand of a Caribbean beach." He said the chips and chip bags were 75cm deep in some places. Many volunteers are now cleaning the beach. The local man said the chips were a danger to the environment. He is worried about seals that live near the beach. He said: "If these seals see the bags, they will... try to eat them." A local official warned people to be careful. She said: "Food washing onto the beach may be harmful." She asked people to report any new food. Last month, thousands of bananas washed ashore near the same beach.

CHIPS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2601/260122-bags-of-chips-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about chips in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.
When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2020/1/260122-bags-of-chips-1.html>

Write about **chips** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.

[illegible]