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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.com2601/260122-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/2012/01/26/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.com2601/260122-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/2012/01/260122-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 gold 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 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.com2601/260122-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/2601/260122-bags-of-chips-1.html>

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