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Level 0 – 19th March 2026

Anger in UK over wildlife pictures on banknotes

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2306/260319-british-banknotes-0.html>

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Please try Levels 1, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2306/260319-british-banknotes-0.html>

People in the UK are angry about their banknotes. The Bank of England will replace famous historical figures with wildlife. More than 26,000 people voted. Nature was the most popular theme. An expert on sustainability said: "This is a powerful reminder of how deeply people feel connected to...British wildlife."

Pictures of wildlife are more secure and make banknotes more difficult to fake. However, politicians are unhappy about the change. One politician called it "silly". She said removing historical figures was "erasing our history". Another leader said: "I can't think of a worse time to do this with a war...in Europe."

Sources: <https://www.euronews.com/2026/03/11/putting-biodiversity-in-our-hands-british-wildlife-will-soon-be-celebrated-on-banknotes>
<https://uk.finance.yahoo.com/news/trump-official-warns-labour-over-183244760.html>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cy03zy1r8go>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2306/260319-british-banknotes-0.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. People in the UK are angry | a. popular theme |
| 2. The Bank of | b. figures |
| 3. replace famous historical | c. to British wildlife |
| 4. More than 26,000 people | d. about their banknotes |
| 5. Nature was the most | e. powerful reminder |
| 6. an expert | f. voted |
| 7. this is a | g. on sustainability |
| 8. feel connected | h. England |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Pictures of wildlife | a. historical figures |
| 2. make banknotes more | b. it "silly" |
| 3. politicians are unhappy | c. time to do this |
| 4. One politician called | d. difficult to fake |
| 5. removing | e. in Europe |
| 6. erasing our | f. about the change |
| 7. I can't think of a worse | g. history |
| 8. a war | h. are more secure |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2306/260319-british-banknotes-0.html>

People in the UK (1) _____ their banknotes.

The Bank of England (2) _____ historical

(3) _____. More than 26,000 people voted.

Nature was the (4) _____. An expert on

sustainability said: "This is a powerful

(5) _____ deeply people

(6) _____...British wildlife."

Pictures of wildlife (7) _____ and make

banknotes more (8) _____. However,

politicians are unhappy (9) _____. One

politician (10) _____. She said removing

historical figures was "(11) _____". Another

leader said: "I can't think of a (12) _____ do

this with a war...in Europe."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2306/260319-british-banknotes-0.html>

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voted. Nature was the most popular theme. An expert on sustainability
said: "This is a powerful reminder of how deeply people feel connected to...
British wildlife." Pictures of wildlife are more secure and make banknotes
more difficult to fake. However, politicians are unhappy about the change.
One politician called it "silly". She said removing historical figures was
"erasing our history". Another leader said: "I can't think of a worse time to do
this with a war... in Europe."

BANKNOTES

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2306/260319-british-banknotes-0.html>

Write five GOOD questions about banknotes 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) _____

