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Level 1 – 19th March 2026

Anger in UK over wildlife pictures on banknotes

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2306/260319-british-banknotes-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/2306/260319-british-banknotes-1.html>

People in the UK are angry that banknote pictures will change. The Bank of England is replacing historical figures like WWII leader Sir Winston Churchill with wildlife. More than 26,000 people took part in a vote. 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....It's a beautiful opportunity to put biodiversity in our hands."

The Bank said images of wildlife were more secure and would make banknotes more difficult to fake. However, politicians are unhappy about removing historical figures. The Conservative Party called it "silly". It said: "Removing Churchill from banknotes is erasing our history." Another leader said: "I can't think of a worse time to do this with a war...in Europe." Churchill's granddaughter had no problem with an animal replacing her grandfather.

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-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. People in the | a. change |
| 2. banknote pictures will | b. UK are angry |
| 3. replacing historical | c. hands |
| 4. WWII leader | d. part in a vote |
| 5. 26,000 people took | e. figures |
| 6. Nature was the most | f. deeply people feel |
| 7. a powerful reminder of how | g. Sir Winston Churchill |
| 8. put biodiversity in our | h. popular theme |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. images of wildlife were more | a. time to do this |
| 2. make banknotes more difficult | b. figures |
| 3. politicians | c. grandfather |
| 4. removing historical | d. to fake |
| 5. banknotes is erasing | e. no problem |
| 6. I can't think of a worse | f. secure |
| 7. Churchill's granddaughter had | g. our history |
| 8. an animal replacing her | h. are unhappy |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2306/260319-british-banknotes-1.html>

People in the UK (1) _____ banknote pictures will change. The Bank of England (2) _____ figures like WWII leader Sir Winston Churchill with wildlife. More than 26,000 people (3) _____ a vote. Nature was the (4) _____. An expert on sustainability said: "This is a powerful reminder of how deeply (5) _____ to...British wildlife....It's a beautiful opportunity to put biodiversity (6) _____."

The Bank said (7) _____ were more secure and would make banknotes (8) _____ fake. However, politicians (9) _____ removing historical figures. The Conservative Party called it "silly". It said: "Removing Churchill from banknotes (10) _____ history." Another leader said: "I can't think of a (11) _____ do this with a war...in Europe." Churchill's granddaughter had no problem (12) _____ replacing her grandfather.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2306/260319-british-banknotes-1.html>

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BANKNOTES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2306/260319-british-banknotes-4.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) _____

