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Level 3

Potato shortage causes 'chipocalypse'

19th October, 2017

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171019-potato-chips.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/1710/171019-potato-chips.html>

Potato chip lovers in New Zealand could be in for a big shock. New Zealand is facing a possible potato shortage in the next few months. This means there could be a lack of potato chips (crisps in British English) until next year. Newspapers are calling this situation the "chipocalypse". They combined the words "chip" and "apocalypse" to make this new word. A possible chipocalypse is because of a very wet winter in New Zealand. This has hit potato growers. In some areas, a third of the potato crop has been lost. The wet weather has particularly hit the potatoes that are used to make potato chips. This means makers will make fewer potato chips and prices for potato chips will be higher.

A spokesman for New Zealand potato farmers told the Radio Live NZ news station about the problem. Chris Claridge, head of Potatoes New Zealand, said: "It started raining in March, and it just simply hasn't stopped. We've had the entire year's worth of rainfall already, so the rainfall is 25 per cent above average and while that might not sound like a lot what it means is it's continuous, so the soils never get a chance to dry out." He added: "Potatoes are actually alive. They need to breathe, and so effectively they drown, and then they start to rot because they're submerged in water." A major supermarket chain said: "We are working closely with our suppliers to manage supply as much as possible."

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-41633997>
<http://www.radionz.co.nz/news/national/341595/chips-are-down-as-potato-shortage-bites>
http://www.nzherald.co.nz/business/news/article.cfm?c_id=3&objectid=11933616

WARM-UPS

1. POTATO CHIPS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about potato chips. 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?

potato chips / lovers / big shock / shortage / apocalypse / wet winter / weather / news station / raining / average / soil / breathe / drown / supermarket / supplier

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

3. CHIPOCALYPSE: Students A **strongly** believe a potato chip shortage would be a terrible thing; Students B **strongly** believe it wouldn't be. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. US / UK ENGLISH: Which of these American and British English words do you like best? Why? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

US	UK	Which is best?	Why?
potato crisp	chip		
hi	hello		
movie	film		
elevator	lift		
gasoline	petrol		
cotton candy	candy floss		

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

6. SNACKS: Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- potato chips
- popcorn
- peanuts
- samosas
- raisins
- donut / doughnut
- sandwich
- jerky

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171019-potato-chips.html>

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

- a. Potato lovers in New Zealand will be without potato chips for years. **T / F**
- b. The "chipocalypse" is because of a potato-eating insect. **T / F**
- c. More than a third of all of New Zealand's potatoes have been lost. **T / F**
- d. Potato crisps will be more expensive in New Zealand. **T / F**
- e. A potato spokesman said it had been raining non-stop since March. **T / F**
- f. Rainfall in New Zealand is 25% above average. **T / F**
- g. The spokesman said the potatoes have had a chance to dry out. **T / F**
- h. The spokesperson said potatoes are alive and need to breathe. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. shock | a. representative |
| 2. possible | b. joined |
| 3. lack | c. big |
| 4. combined | d. potential |
| 5. particularly | e. normal |
| 6. spokesman | f. especially |
| 7. entire | g. surprise |
| 8. average | h. endless |
| 9. continuous | i. whole |
| 10. major | j. shortage |

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

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. chip lovers in New Zealand could be | a. will be higher |
| 2. New Zealand is facing a possible potato | b. of the potato crop |
| 3. They combined the words | c. average |
| 4. a third | d. shortage |
| 5. prices for potato chips | e. in water |
| 6. We've had the entire year's worth | f. our suppliers |
| 7. above | g. in for a big shock |
| 8. They need | h. of rainfall already |
| 9. they start to rot because they're submerged | i. to breathe |
| 10. We are working closely with | j. "chip" and "apocalypse" |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171019-potato-chips.html>

Potato chip lovers in New Zealand could be in for a big (1) _____. New Zealand is facing a possible potato (2) _____ in the next few months. This means there could be a (3) _____ of potato chips (crisps in British English) until next year. Newspapers are calling this (4) _____ the "chipocalypse". They combined the words "chip" and "apocalypse" to make this new word. A (5) _____ chipocalypse is because of a very wet winter in New Zealand. This has hit potato growers. In some areas, a (6) _____ of the potato crop has been lost. The wet weather has (7) _____ hit the potatoes that are used to make potato chips. This means makers will make (8) _____ potato chips and prices for potato chips will be higher.

A spokesman for New Zealand potato farmers told the Radio Live NZ news station about the (9) _____. Chris Claridge, head of Potatoes New Zealand, said: "It started raining in March, and it just (10) _____ hasn't stopped. We've had the entire year's (11) _____ of rainfall already, so the rainfall is 25 per cent above (12) _____ and while that might not sound like a lot what it means is it's continuous, so the soils never get a (13) _____ to dry out." He added: "Potatoes are actually alive. They need to breathe, and so effectively they (14) _____, and then they start to rot because they're submerged in water." A major supermarket (15) _____ said: "We are working closely with our suppliers to manage supply as much as (16) _____."

possible

lack

particularly

shock

situation

fewer

shortage

third

average

drown

simply

possible

problem

chance

chain

worth

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171019-potato-chips.html>

- 1) Potato chip lovers in New Zealand could be in _____ shock
 - a. four as big
 - b. for the big
 - c. for a big
 - d. for as big
- 2) This means there could be _____ potato chips
 - a. a slack of
 - b. a black of
 - c. a lack of
 - d. a flack of
- 3) They combined the words "chip" and " _____ " to make this new word
 - a. apocalypse
 - b. a pock a lips
 - c. epoch all lips
 - d. apocalyptic
- 4) In some areas, a third of the potato crop _____
 - a. has being lost
 - b. have been loss
 - c. has been lost
 - d. has been loss
- 5) makers will make fewer potato chips and prices for potato chips _____
 - a. will be higher
 - b. will be high a
 - c. will being higher
 - d. will been higher
- 6) It started raining in March, and it just _____ stopped
 - a. simple hasn't
 - b. simply wasn't
 - c. simple wasn't
 - d. sample hasn't
- 7) the entire year's worth of rainfall already, so the rainfall is 25 per cent _____
 - a. above averaging
 - b. above averaged
 - c. above averages
 - d. above average
- 8) Potatoes are actually alive. They need to breathe, and so effectively _____
 - a. they drawn
 - b. they drown
 - c. they brown
 - d. they frown
- 9) then they start to rot because they're _____ water
 - a. submerged on
 - b. submerged in
 - c. submerged inn
 - d. submerged an
- 10) We are working closely with our suppliers to _____
 - a. manages supply
 - b. manage supplies
 - c. manage supply
 - d. managed supplies

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171019-potato-chips.html>

Potato chip lovers in New Zealand could (1) _____ big shock. New Zealand is facing a possible potato shortage in the next few months. This means there could (2) _____ of potato chips (crisps in British English) until next year. Newspapers are calling this situation the "chipocalypse". They (3) _____ "chip" and "apocalypse" to make this new word. A possible chipocalypse is because of a very (4) _____ New Zealand. This has hit potato growers. In some areas, a third of the potato crop has been lost. The wet weather has (5) _____ the potatoes that are used to make potato chips. This means makers will make fewer potato chips and prices for potato chips (6) _____.

A spokesman for New Zealand potato farmers told the Radio Live NZ news station (7) _____. Chris Claridge, head of Potatoes New Zealand, said: "It started raining in March, and (8) _____ hasn't stopped. We've had the entire year's worth of rainfall already, so the rainfall is 25 per cent (9) _____ and while that might not sound like a lot what it means is it's continuous, so the soils never get a (10) _____ out." He added: "Potatoes are actually alive. They need to breathe, and so effectively they drown, and then they (11) _____ because they're submerged in water." A major supermarket chain said: "We are working closely with our suppliers to manage (12) _____ as possible."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171019-potato-chips.html>

1. Who could be in for a big shock in New Zealand?
2. What is British English for "potato chips"?
3. What is the cause of the shortage?
4. How much of the potato crop has been lost in some areas?
5. What will happen to the price of potato chips in New Zealand?
6. When did it start raining in New Zealand?
7. How much above average has the rainfall been?
8. What never gets a chance to dry out?
9. What are the potatoes submerged in?
10. Who is working closely with suppliers?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171019-potato-chips.html>

- 1) Who could be in for a big shock in New Zealand?
 - a) farmers
 - b) potato chip lovers
 - c) supermarkets
 - d) McDonald's
- 2) What is British English for "potato chips"?
 - a) pots
 - b) snacks
 - c) fries
 - d) crisps
- 3) What is the cause of the shortage?
 - a) a very wet winter
 - b) too many children's parties
 - c) an insect
 - d) global warming
- 4) How much of the potato crop has been lost in some areas?
 - a) a quarter
 - b) two-thirds
 - c) a third
 - d) three-quarters
- 5) What will happen to the price of potato chips in New Zealand?
 - a) it will go down
 - b) it will go up
 - c) nothing
 - d) it will double
- 6) When did it start raining in New Zealand?
 - a) February
 - b) April
 - c) March
 - d) May
- 7) How much above average has the rainfall been?
 - a) 30%
 - b) 50%
 - c) 15%
 - d) 25%
- 8) What never gets a chance to dry out?
 - a) the soils
 - b) potatoes
 - c) farmers
 - d) potato chip packets
- 9) What are the potatoes submerged in?
 - a) water
 - b) red tape
 - c) weeds
 - d) cooking oil
- 10) Who is working closely with suppliers?
 - a) farmers
 - b) a major supermarket
 - c) potato chip lovers
 - d) McDonald's

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171019-potato-chips.html>

Role A – Potato Chips

You think potato chips are the best snack. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their snacks. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): samosa, raisins or peanuts.

Role B – Samosas

You think samosas are the best snack. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their snacks. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): potato chips, raisins or peanuts.

Role C – Raisins

You think raisins are the best snack. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their snacks. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): samosa, potato chips or peanuts.

Role D – Peanuts

You think peanuts are the best snack. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their snacks. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): samosa, raisins or potato chips.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171019-potato-chips.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'potato' and 'chip'.

potato	chip
---------------	-------------

- 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">• big• until• make• wet• lost• higher	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• told• simply• average• chance• rot• possible
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

POTATO CHIPS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171019-potato-chips.html>

Write five GOOD questions about potato 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.

POTATO CHIPS 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 'potato'?
3. What do you think of potato chips?
4. How would you feel if there were no potato chips?
5. What do you think of the word 'chipocalypse'?
6. How important are potatoes?
7. What is your favourite snack food?
8. Where and when do you eat potato chips?
9. Would you pay higher prices for potato chips?
10. What do you think a farmer's life is like?

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POTATO CHIPS 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 'chip'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What problems do you think potato farmers have?
15. Would you like to be a farmer?
16. What do you know about potatoes?
17. What's your favourite potato chip flavor?
18. What new potato chip flavors would you like?
19. How can New Zealanders get more potato chips?
20. What questions would you like to ask the potato farmers?

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/1710/171019-potato-chips.html>

Potato chip (1) _____ in New Zealand could be in for a big shock. New Zealand is facing a possible potato shortage in the next few months. This means there could be a (2) _____ of potato chips (crisps in British English) until next year. Newspapers are calling this situation the "chipocalypse". They (3) _____ the words "chip" and "apocalypse" to make this new word. A possible chipocalypse is because of a very wet winter in New Zealand. This has (4) _____ potato growers. In some areas, a (5) _____ of the potato crop has been lost. The wet weather has particularly hit the potatoes that are used to make potato chips. This means makers will make (6) _____ potato chips and prices for potato chips will be higher.

A spokesman for New Zealand potato farmers told the Radio Live NZ news station about the problem. Chris Claridge, (7) _____ of Potatoes New Zealand, said: "It started raining in March, and it just (8) _____ hasn't stopped. We've had the entire year's (9) _____ of rainfall already, so the rainfall is 25 per cent above average and while that might not sound like a lot what it means is it's (10) _____, so the soils never get a chance to dry out." He added: "Potatoes are actually alive. They need to breathe, and (11) _____ effectively they drown, and then they start to rot because they're submerged in water." A major supermarket chain said: "We are working (12) _____ with our suppliers to manage supply as much as possible."

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|------------------|---------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) love-ins | (b) lovelies | (c) lovers | (d) loves |
| 2. | (a) lack | (b) luck | (c) lock | (d) lick |
| 3. | (a) clamped | (b) combined | (c) climbed | (d) combed |
| 4. | (a) punched | (b) slapped | (c) smacked | (d) hit |
| 5. | (a) thirdly | (b) thirds | (c) third | (d) thirdhand |
| 6. | (a) tastier | (b) fewer | (c) under | (d) lesser |
| 7. | (a) head | (b) face | (c) back | (d) front |
| 8. | (a) simple | (b) simpleton | (c) simpler | (d) simply |
| 9. | (a) value | (b) valuable | (c) worth | (d) price |
| 10. | (a) continuously | (b) continues | (c) continue | (d) continuous |
| 11. | (a) that | (b) so | (c) by | (d) as |
| 12. | (a) closely | (b) closed | (c) closeted | (d) closes |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171019-potato-chips.html>

Paragraph 1

1. facing a possible potato hsgetoar
2. calling this ntsatiuo the "chipocalypse"
3. They cbnidmeo the words
4. wet weather has ycruplratal hit the potatoes
5. make efrew potato chips
6. rcspei for potato chips

Paragraph 2

7. the entire year's owhtr of rainfall
8. 25 per cent above veegraa
9. never get a canech to dry out
10. They need to ahetreb
11. A ojram supermarket chain
12. manage pylusp as much as possible

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171019-potato-chips.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () stopped. We've had the entire year's worth of rainfall already, so the rainfall is 25 per cent above
- () growers. In some areas, a third of the potato crop has been lost. The wet weather has particularly
- () problem. Chris Claridge, head of Potatoes New Zealand, said: "It started raining in March, and it just simply hasn't
- () average and while that might not sound like a lot what it means is it's continuous, so the soils never get a
- () few months. This means there could be a lack of potato chips (crisps in British English) until next
- () year. Newspapers are calling this situation the "chipocalypse". They combined the words "chip" and "apocalypse" to
- () fewer potato chips and prices for potato chips will be higher.
- (**1**) Potato chip lovers in New Zealand could be in for a big shock. New Zealand is facing a possible potato shortage in the next
- () make this new word. A possible chipocalypse is because of a very wet winter in New Zealand. This has hit potato
- () breathe, and so effectively they drown, and then they start to rot because they're submerged in water." A major
- () hit the potatoes that are used to make potato chips. This means makers will make
- () A spokesman for New Zealand potato farmers told the Radio Live NZ news station about the
- () supermarket chain said: "We are working closely with our suppliers to manage supply as much as possible."
- () chance to dry out." He added: "Potatoes are actually alive. They need to

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171019-potato-chips.html>

1. big in Zealand lovers shock for could in Potato a be New chip .
2. could lack chips there a potato means be of This .
3. very A is a winter chipocalypse of wet possible because .
4. has weather wet The potatoes the hit particularly .
5. chips potato fewer make will makers means This .
6. it simply hasn't stopped It started raining in March , and .
7. had We've rainfall of worth year's entire the .
8. are need actually to alive breathe . Potatoes They .
9. submerged to in rot water because They they're start .
10. Working supply manage to suppliers our with closely .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171019-potato-chips.html>

Potato chip *lovers / loves* in New Zealand could be in for a big shock. New Zealand is facing a possible potato *shorter / shortage* in the next few months. This means there could be a *luck / lack* of potato chips (crisps in British English) until next year. Newspapers are *calling / called* this situation the "chipocalypse". They *combed / combined* the words "chip" and "apocalypse" to make this new word. A possible chipocalypse is because of a very wet *wintery / winter* in New Zealand. This has hit potato *growers / grows*. In some areas, a third of the potato crop has been *loss / lost*. The wet weather has *particularly / particular* hit the potatoes that are used to make potato chips. This means makers will make fewer potato chips and *price / prices* for potato chips will be higher.

A spokesman for New Zealand potato farmers told the Radio Live NZ news station *about / around* the problem. Chris Claridge, *head / face* of Potatoes New Zealand, said: "It *started / starting* raining in March, and it just *simply / simple* hasn't stopped. We've had the *all / entire* year's worth of rainfall already, so the rainfall is 25 per cent *above / higher* average and while that might not sound like a lot what it means is it's continuous, so the soils never get a chance to *dry / dried* out." He added: "Potatoes are actually alive. They need to *breathe / breath*, and so effectively they drown, and then they start to *rot / lot* because they're submerged in water." A major supermarket chain said: "We are working closely with our suppliers to *manage / manager* supply as much as possible."

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171019-potato-chips.html>

P_t_t_ ch_p l_v_rs _n N_w Z__l_nd c__ld b_ _n f_r _
b_g sh_ck. N_w Z__l_nd _s f_c_ng _ p_ss_bl_ p_t_t_
sh_rt_g_ _n th_ n_xt f_w m_nths. Th_s m__ns th_r_
c__ld b_ _ l_ck _f p_t_t_ ch_ps (cr_sps _n Br_t_sh
_ngl_sh) _nt_l n_xt y__r. N_wsp_p_rs _r_ c_ll_ng th_s
s_t_t__n th_ "ch_p_c_lyps_". Th_y c_mb_n_d th_
w_rds "ch_p" _nd "_p_c_lyps_" t_m_k_ th_s n_w w_rd.
_ p_ss_bl_ ch_p_c_lyps_ _s b_c__s_ _f_ v_ry w_t
w_nt_r _n N_w Z__l_nd. Th_s h_s h_t p_t_t_ gr_w_rs.
_n s_m_ _r__s, _ th_r_d _f th_ p_t_t_ cr_p_h_s b__n
l_st. Th_ w_t w__th_r h_s p_rtc_l_rly h_t th_
p_t_t__s th_t _r__s_d t_m_k_ p_t_t_ ch_ps. Th_s
m__ns m_k_rs w_ll m_k_ f_w_r p_t_t_ ch_ps _nd
pr_c_s f_r p_t_t_ ch_ps w_ll b_ h_gh_r.

_ sp_k_sm_n f_r N_w Z__l_nd p_t_t_ f_rm_rs t_ld th_
R_d__ L_v_ NZ n_ws st_t__n _b__t th_ pr_bl_m. Chr_s
Cl_r_dg_, h__d _f P_t_t__s N_w Z__l_nd, s__d: "t
st_rt_d r__nng _n M_rch, _nd _t j_st s_mply h_sn't
st_pp_d. W_'v_ h_d th_ _nt_r_ y__r's w_rth _f r__nf_ll
_lr__dy, s_ th_ r__nf_ll _s 25 p_r_c_nt _b_v_ _v_r_g_
_nd wh_l_ th_t m_gh_t n_t s__nd l_k_ _l_t wh_t _t
m__ns _s_t's c_nt_n__s, s_ th_ s__ls n_v_r g_t _
ch_nc_ t_dry __t." H__dd_d: "P_t_t__s _r__ct__lly
_l_v_. Th_y n__d t_br__th_, _nd s__ff_ct_v_ly th_y
dr_wn, _nd th_n th_y st_rt t_r_t b_c__s_ th_y'r_
s_bm_rg_d _n w_t_r." _ m_j_r s_p_rm_rk_t ch__n
s__d: "W__r w_rk_ng cl_s_ly w_th __r s_ppl__rs t_
m_n_g_ s_pply _s m_ch _s p_ss_bl_."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171019-potato-chips.html>

potato chip lovers in new zealand could be in for a big shock new zealand is facing a possible potato shortage in the next few months this means there could be a lack of potato chips (crisps in british english) until next year newspapers are calling this situation the "chipocalypse" they combined the words "chip" and "apocalypse" to make this new word a possible chipocalypse is because of a very wet winter in new zealand this has hit potato growers in some areas a third of the potato crop has been lost the wet weather has particularly hit the potatoes that are used to make potato chips this means makers will make fewer potato chips and prices for potato chips will be higher

a spokesman for new zealand potato farmers told the radio live nz news station about the problem chris claridge head of potatoes new zealand said "it started raining in march and it just simply hasn't stopped we've had the entire year's worth of rainfall already so the rainfall is 25 per cent above average and while that might not sound like a lot what it means is it's continuous so the soils never get a chance to dry out" he added "potatoes are actually alive they need to breathe and so effectively they drown and then they start to rot because they're submerged in water" a major supermarket chain said "we are working closely with our suppliers to manage supply as much as possible"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171019-potato-chips.html>

Potato chip lovers in New Zealand could be in for a big shock. New Zealand is facing a possible potato shortage in the next few months. This means there could be a lack of potato chips (crisps in British English) until next year. Newspapers are calling this situation the "chipocalypse". They combine the words "chip" and "apocalypse" to make this new word. A possible chipocalypse is because of a very wet winter in New Zealand. This has hit potato growers. In some areas, a third of the potato crop has been lost. The wet weather has particularly hit the potatoest that are used to make potato chips. This means makers will make fewer potato chips and prices for potato chips will be higher. A spokesman for New Zealand potato farmerstold the Radio Live NZ news station about the problem. Chris Claridge, head of Potatoes New Zealand, said: "It started raining in March, and it just simply hasn't stopped. We've had the entire year's worth of rain fall already, so the rainfall is 25 percent above average and while that might not sound like a lot what it means is it's continuous, so the soils never get a chance to dry out." He added: "Potatoes are actually alive. They need to breathe, and so effectively they drown, and then they start to rot because they're submerged in water." A major supermarket chain said: "We are working closely with our suppliers to manage supply as much as possible."

HOMWORK

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. POTATO CHIPS: Make a poster about potato chips. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. POTATOES: Write a magazine article about potatoes being the most important vegetable in the world. 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 potato chips. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your opinions on them. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F b F c F d T e T f T g F h T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. shock | a. surprise |
| 2. possible | b. potential |
| 3. lack | c. shortage |
| 4. combined | d. joined |
| 5. particularly | e. especially |
| 6. spokesman | f. representative |
| 7. entire | g. whole |
| 8. average | h. normal |
| 9. continuous | i. endless |
| 10. major | j. big |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Potato chip lovers
2. Crisps
3. A very wet winter
4. A third
5. It will be higher
6. In March
7. 25%
8. The soils
9. Water
10. A major supermarket chain

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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