

# Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

**"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES  
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"**

[breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html](http://breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html)

**Thousands more free lessons  
from Sean's other websites**

[www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean\\_banville\\_lessons.html](http://www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html)

## Level 2

### Man aims to swim across the Pacific Ocean

7th June, 2018

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1608/180607-pacific-ocean-2.html>

### Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

Twitter



[twitter.com/SeanBanville](https://twitter.com/SeanBanville)

Facebook



[www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176](https://www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176)

Google +



<https://plus.google.com/+SeanBanville>

# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1608/180607-pacific-ocean-2.html>

A French man will try to swim across the Pacific Ocean. Ben Lecomte, 51, set off from Japan on Tuesday. It will take him more than six months to finish the 9,000-km swim. He will swim for eight hours a day to get to the west coast of the USA. He will also face many dangers. There will be sharks, jellyfish, storms, rough seas, and very cold water. He will also have to fight exhaustion and any injuries he gets along the way. However, Mr Lecomte said: "The mental part is much more important than the physical. You have to make sure you always think about something positive."

Lecomte trained for six years for this challenge. He has practised every day by swimming in the sea to make sure he is in top physical condition. He also trained his mind. He will be very lonely and he needs to be mentally strong. He is doing the swim to raise awareness of climate change, the effects of plastic rubbish in the ocean, and the effects of the Fukushima nuclear disaster. Scientists will check his body to see how so much exercise affects the heart. In 1998, Lecomte made the first solo trans-Atlantic swim. When he reached dry land, his first words were, "never again".

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-44358680>  
<https://edition.cnn.com/2018/06/05/asia/cross-pacific-swim-intl/index.html>  
<https://sports.yahoo.com/swimmer-faces-sharks-massive-garbage-patch-record-pacific-033021157--spt.html>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1608/180607-pacific-ocean-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                               |                    |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. A French man will try      | a. than six months |
| 2. set                        | b. exhaustion      |
| 3. It will take him more      | c. coast           |
| 4. He will swim for eight     | d. many dangers    |
| 5. get to the west            | e. to swim         |
| 6. He will also face          | f. hours a day     |
| 7. He will also have to fight | g. positive        |
| 8. think about something      | h. off from Japan  |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                    |                       |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Lecomte trained for six years   | a. the heart          |
| 2. He has practised every          | b. condition          |
| 3. make sure he is in top physical | c. strong             |
| 4. He will be very                 | d. land               |
| 5. he needs to be mentally         | e. for this challenge |
| 6. He is doing the swim to raise   | f. lonely             |
| 7. exercise affects                | g. awareness          |
| 8. he reached dry                  | h. day                |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1608/180607-pacific-ocean-2.html>

A French man (1) \_\_\_\_\_ swim across the Pacific Ocean. Ben Lecomte, 51, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Japan on Tuesday. It will take him more than six months to finish the 9,000-km swim. He will swim for eight hours (3) \_\_\_\_\_ get to the west coast of the USA. He will also face many dangers. There (4) \_\_\_\_\_, jellyfish, storms, rough seas, and very cold water. He will also have to fight exhaustion and any injuries he gets (5) \_\_\_\_\_. However, Mr Lecomte said: "The mental part is much more important than the physical. You have to (6) \_\_\_\_\_ always think about something positive."

Lecomte trained for six (7) \_\_\_\_\_ challenge. He has practised every day by swimming in the sea (8) \_\_\_\_\_ he is in top physical condition. He also trained his mind. He (9) \_\_\_\_\_ lonely and he needs to be mentally strong. He is doing the swim to raise awareness of climate change, (10) \_\_\_\_\_ plastic rubbish in the ocean, and the effects of the Fukushima nuclear disaster. Scientists will check his body (11) \_\_\_\_\_ so much exercise affects the heart. In 1998, Lecomte made the first solo trans-Atlantic swim. When he reached dry land, (12) \_\_\_\_\_ were, "never again".

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1608/180607-pacific-ocean-2.html>

A Frenchman will try to swim across the Pacific Ocean. Ben Lecomte, 51, sets off from Japan on Tuesday. It will take him more than six months to finish the 9,000-km swim. He will swim for eight hours a day to get to the west coast of the USA. He will also face many dangers. There will be sharks, jellyfish, storms, rough seas, and very cold water. He will also have to fight exhaustion and any injuries he gets along the way. However, Mr Lecomte said: "The mental part is much more important than the physical. You have to make sure you always think about something positive." Lecomte trained for six years for this challenge. He has practised every day by swimming in the sea to make sure he is in top physical condition. He also trained his mind. He will be very lonely and he needs to be mentally strong. He is doing this swim to raise awareness of climate change, the effects of plastic rubbish in the ocean, and the effects of the Fukushima nuclear disaster. Scientists will check his body to see how much exercise affects the heart. In 1998, Lecomte made the first solo trans-Atlantic swim. When he reached dry land, his first words were, "never again".

# SWIMMING SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1608/180607-pacific-ocean-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Swimming 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*Man aims to swim across the Pacific Ocean – 7th June, 2018*  
More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

---

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

