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Level 1 – 10th August 2023

Raw sewage keeps swimmers away from UK beaches

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis-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/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis-1.html>

The UK is experiencing a sewage crisis. Water companies poured toilet waste into rivers and seas for more than 300,000 hours in 2022. Swimmers got sick in the sea. People complained about the terrible smell on beaches and the brown sea water. A poll about people's opinions on water quality found a quarter of swimmers might not swim in the sea because of health risks. Last week, 57 people got diarrhoea after swimming in the sea at a triathlon.

England and Wales are the only countries with privatized water services. They sold their water to private companies in 1987. These companies promised to make services better. However, things are much worse. The companies did not spend enough money. They did not stop leaks or modernize systems. A campaigner said the water companies have failed to create a quality system. He blamed the UK government for not acting.

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/jul/31/swimmers-avoiding-the-water-over-fears-of-raw-sewage-on-uk-beaches>
<https://unearthed.greenpeace.org/2023/07/31/sewage-uk-water-pollution/>
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/sewage-alerts-mapped-swimming-storm-b2388447.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. The UK is experiencing | a. sea water |
| 2. companies poured toilet | b. at a triathlon |
| 3. Swimmers got sick in | c. of swimmers |
| 4. People complained about the | d. waste into rivers |
| 5. brown | e. diarrhoea |
| 6. a quarter | f. terrible smell |
| 7. 57 people got | g. a sewage crisis |
| 8. swimming in the sea | h. the sea |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. England and Wales are | a. private companies |
| 2. privatized water | b. for not acting |
| 3. They sold their water to | c. make services better |
| 4. These companies promised to | d. enough money |
| 5. things are much | e. the only countries |
| 6. The companies did not spend | f. leaks |
| 7. They did not stop | g. services |
| 8. He blamed the UK government | h. worse |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis-1.html>

The UK is experiencing (1) _____. Water companies poured toilet waste into rivers and seas for more than 300,000 hours in 2022. Swimmers (2) _____ the sea. People complained about the (3) _____ beaches and the brown sea water. A poll about people's opinions on water quality found (4) _____ swimmers might not swim in the sea because (5) _____. Last week, 57 people got diarrhoea after swimming in (6) _____ a triathlon.

England and Wales (7) _____ countries with privatized water services. They (8) _____ to private companies in 1987. These companies promised to make services better. However, things (9) _____. The companies did not (10) _____. They did not stop leaks or modernize systems. A campaigner said the water companies have (11) _____ a quality system. He blamed the UK government (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis-1.html>

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SEWAGE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2308/230810-uk-raw-sewage-crisis-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about sewage 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) _____

