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**Level 6 – 6th October, 2020**

## **Dry weather affecting autumn leaves colours**

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201006-autumn-leaves.html>

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**Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201006-autumn-leaves.html>

The changing of the colour of the autumn leaves is a spectacular, photogenic, natural event in many forests around the world. The myriad of golds, reds, yellows, greens and browns provides a colourful canvas that ushers in the end of summer. This year in the USA, the autumn foliage has been adversely affected by drought conditions. The vibrant colours of the leaves have been dulled by unusually dry weather. Over 80 per cent of America's northwest is undergoing extreme conditions that are not conducive to perfect foliage. The traditional autumnal beauty spots of Massachusetts, Maine, Rhode Island and New Hampshire are experiencing severe drought, and lacklustre colours.

Dr. William Keeton, a forest ecology and forestry professor at the University of Vermont, explained why the adverse conditions were prevalent this year. He said: "It is due to a combination of factors, including good tree growth last year, mild drought and both warm days and cool nights over the last month." He added: "The colours this year are coming about two weeks earlier than normal and will probably go by fast and furiously. Largely, this is because the drought creates physiological stress for the trees." He warned: "The stress is not a good thing and may be a harbinger of things to come with climate change. In terms of fall foliage, drought can cause the leaves to die and fall off earlier."

NOTE: The word "autumn" is UK English; in USA English it is "fall".

Sources: <https://edition.cnn.com/2020/10/03/weather/drought-hindering-fall-foliage-saturday/index.html>  
<https://www.slashgear.com/the-severe-drought-gripping-much-the-nation-is-impacting-fall-foliage-03640942/>  
<https://boston.cbslocal.com/2020/10/02/new-england-fall-foliage-peak-weekend-drives-wb-forecast/>

# WARM-UPS

**1. AUTUMN LEAVES:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about autumn leaves. 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?

colour / autumn / photogenic / golds / foliage / drought / extreme / beauty spots / prevalent / growth / normal / warm days / cool nights / trees / climate change / die

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

**3. AUTUMN:** Students A **strongly** believe autumn is the best season; Students B **strongly** believe it isn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. NATURAL EVENTS:** What do you know about these natural events? Why are they so beautiful? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What You Know	Why So Beautiful
Autumn colours		
Aurora Borealis		
Cherry blossoms		
Solar eclipse		
Rainbow		
Pods of dolphins		

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

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

- July
- August
- September
- October
- November
- December
- January
- February

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 1. spectacular | a. Beautiful in a dramatic and eye-catching way.             |
| 2. photogenic  | b. Making a certain situation or outcome likely or possible. |
| 3. myriad      | c. Looking attractive in photographs or on film.             |
| 4. canvas      | d. Of color - bright and striking.                           |
| 5. vibrant     | e. A countless or extremely great number.                    |
| 6. conducive   | f. An oil painting.  |
| 7. foliage     | g. Plant leaves collectively.                                |

## Paragraph 2

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| 8. adverse        | h. Relating to the branch of biology that deals with the normal functions of living organisms and their parts. |
| 9. prevalent      | i. A prolonged period of abnormally low rainfall, leading to a shortage of water.                              |
| 10. combination   | j. Preventing success or development; harmful; unfavorable.  |
| 11. drought       | k. A person or thing that announces or signals the approach of another thing.                                  |
| 12. physiological | l. Widespread in a particular area or at a particular time.  |
| 13. harbinger     | m. With regard to the particular aspect or subject specified.  |
| 14. in terms of   | n. A joining or merging of different parts of something.   |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201006-autumn-leaves.html>

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

- a. The article said there was a photo competition about autumn colours. **T / F**
- b. An artist said she created a canvas to paint the autumn colours. **T / F**
- c. The vibrancy of the colours has been dulled by draughts. **T / F**
- d. Leaves in traditional autumnal beauty spots have lacked their lustre. **T / F**
- e. A professor in autumn and fall described the adverse conditions. **T / F**
- f. Good tree growth last year contributed to the duller colours this year. **T / F**
- g. The colours will arrive two weeks later than usual this year. **T / F**
- h. A professor said the autumn colours could be a sign of climate change. **T / F**

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH:

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

- |                       |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| 1. <b>autumn</b>      | a. pressure   |
| 2. <b>myriad</b>      | b. locations  |
| 3. <b>ushers</b>      | c. colourless |
| 4. <b>spots</b>       | d. mixture    |
| 5. <b>lacklustre</b>  | e. sees       |
| 6. <b>prevalent</b>   | f. usual      |
| 7. <b>combination</b> | g. multitude  |
| 8. <b>normal</b>      | h. leaves     |
| 9. <b>stress</b>      | i. widespread |
| 10. <b>foliage</b>    | j. fall       |

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

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. a spectacular, photogenic,               | a. foliage               |
| 2. The myriad                               | b. spots                 |
| 3. a colourful canvas that ushers           | c. forestry professor    |
| 4. The vibrant                              | d. of golds              |
| 5. The traditional autumnal beauty          | e. drought               |
| 6. a forest ecology and                     | f. in the end of summer  |
| 7. the adverse conditions were              | g. for the trees         |
| 8. mild                                     | h. natural event         |
| 9. the drought creates physiological stress | i. prevalent this year   |
| 10. In terms of fall                        | j. colours of the leaves |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201006-autumn-leaves.html>

The changing of the colour of the autumn leaves is a (1) \_\_\_\_\_, photogenic, natural event in many forests around the world. The (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of golds, reds, yellows, greens and browns provides a colourful canvas that (3) \_\_\_\_\_ in the end of summer. This year in the USA, the autumn foliage has been (4) \_\_\_\_\_ affected by drought conditions. The vibrant colours of the leaves have been dulled by (5) \_\_\_\_\_ dry weather. Over 80 per cent of America's northwest is undergoing extreme (6) \_\_\_\_\_ that are not conducive to perfect foliage. The traditional autumnal beauty (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of Massachusetts, Maine, Rhode Island and New Hampshire are experiencing (8) \_\_\_\_\_ drought, and lacklustre colours.

*adversely*  
*spectacular*  
*conditions*  
*ushers*  
*severe*  
*myriad*  
*spots*  
*unusually*

Dr. William Keeton, a forest ecology and forestry professor at the University of Vermont, explained why the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ conditions were prevalent this year. He said: "It is (10) \_\_\_\_\_ to a combination of factors, including good tree (11) \_\_\_\_\_ last year, mild drought and both warm days and (12) \_\_\_\_\_ nights over the last month." He added: "The colours this year are coming about two weeks earlier than normal and will (13) \_\_\_\_\_ go by fast and furiously. Largely, this is because the drought creates (14) \_\_\_\_\_ stress for the trees." He warned: "The stress is not a good thing and may be a (15) \_\_\_\_\_ of things to come with climate change. In (16) \_\_\_\_\_ of fall foliage, drought can cause the leaves to die and fall off earlier."

*due*  
*physiological*  
*growth*  
*terms*  
*probably*  
*adverse*  
*harbinger*  
*cool*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201006-autumn-leaves.html>

- 1) The changing of the colour of the autumn leaves is a spectacular, photogenic, \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. naturally event
  - b. natural events
  - c. natural event
  - d. nature all event
- 2) The myriad of golds, reds, yellows, greens and browns provides \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. a colourful can vase
  - b. a colourful can vast
  - c. a colour full-can bass
  - d. a colourful canvas
- 3) in the USA, the autumn foliage has been adversely \_\_\_\_\_ conditions
  - a. affected by draught
  - b. affected by drought
  - c. affected by doubt
  - d. affected by debt
- 4) America's northwest is undergoing extreme conditions that \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. are not conclusive
  - b. are not conducting
  - c. are not conductive
  - d. are not conducive
- 5) ... and New Hampshire are experiencing severe drought, and \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. lacks lots of colours
  - b. lack lots tree colours
  - c. lacklustre colours
  - d. lack lesser colours
- 6) explained why the adverse conditions \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. were prevalence
  - b. were prevalently
  - c. were prevailed
  - d. were prevalent
- 7) coming about two weeks earlier than normal and will probably go by \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. fast and furious
  - b. fast and fury as
  - c. fast and furiously
  - d. fast and fury
- 8) Largely, this is because the drought creates physiological \_\_\_\_\_ trees
  - a. stressful the
  - b. stress for the
  - c. stress four the
  - d. stress of the
- 9) The stress is not a good thing and may be a \_\_\_\_\_ to come
  - a. harbinger off things
  - b. harbinger of thing
  - c. harbinger of things
  - d. herb bringer of things
- 10) In terms of fall foliage, drought can cause the leaves to die and \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. fall off earlier
  - b. fell off earlier
  - c. fail off earlier
  - d. feel off earlier

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201006-autumn-leaves.html>

The changing of the colour of the (1) \_\_\_\_\_ a spectacular, photogenic, natural event in many forests around the world. The (2) \_\_\_\_\_, reds, yellows, greens and browns provides a colourful canvas that ushers in the end of summer. This year in the USA, the autumn foliage has been (3) \_\_\_\_\_ drought conditions. The vibrant colours of the leaves have been dulled by unusually dry weather. Over 80 per cent of America's northwest (4) \_\_\_\_\_ conditions that are not (5) \_\_\_\_\_ foliage conditions. The traditional autumnal beauty spots of Massachusetts, Maine, Rhode Island and New Hampshire are experiencing (6) \_\_\_\_\_ lacklustre colours.

Dr. William Keeton, a forest ecology and forestry professor at the University of Vermont, explained why (7) \_\_\_\_\_ were prevalent this year. He said: "It is due to (8) \_\_\_\_\_ factors, including good tree growth last year, (9) \_\_\_\_\_ both warm days and cool nights over the last month." He added: "The colours this year are coming about two weeks earlier than normal and will probably go by fast and furiously. Largely, this is because (10) \_\_\_\_\_ physiological stress for the trees." He warned: "The stress is not a good thing and may (11) \_\_\_\_\_ of things to come with climate change. In terms of fall foliage, drought can cause the (12) \_\_\_\_\_ and fall off earlier."



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201006-autumn-leaves.html>

1. What did the article say was a photogenic event?
2. How many colours did the writer say there was a myriad of?
3. How much of northwest America is being affected by extreme conditions?
4. What did the article say extreme conditions were not conducive to?
5. How were the colours described as being in New Hampshire?
6. At what university does Professor William Keeton work?
7. What happened to the trees last year that added to the lack of colour?
8. How much earlier are the leaves changing this year?
9. What kind of stress is happening to the trees?
10. What did the professor say the leaves were a harbinger of?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201006-autumn-leaves.html>

- 1) What did the article say was a photogenic event?
  - a) autumn
  - b) green, blue and purple leaves
  - c) Massachusetts
  - d) the changing of the autumn leaves
- 2) How many colours did the writer say there was a myriad of?
  - a) four
  - b) five
  - c) seven
  - d) three
- 3) How much of northwest America is being affected by extreme conditions?
  - a) just under 80%
  - b) exactly 80%
  - c) over 80%
  - d) 88%
- 4) What did the article say extreme conditions were not conducive to?
  - a) perfect foliage
  - b) tree growth
  - c) taking photos
  - d) autumn
- 5) How were the colours described as being in New Hampshire?
  - a) wonderful
  - b) colourful
  - c) lacklustre
  - d) furiously
- 6) At what university does Professor William Keeton work?
  - a) New Hampshire
  - b) Vermont
  - c) Maine
  - d) Rhode Island
- 7) What happened to the trees last year that added to the lack of colour?
  - a) they became diseased
  - b) they died
  - c) they shrank
  - d) they grew
- 8) How much earlier are the leaves changing this year?
  - a) two weeks
  - b) three weeks
  - c) 10 days
  - d) about a month
- 9) What kind of stress is happening to the trees?
  - a) psychological stress
  - b) philosophical stress
  - c) physiological stress
  - d) philological stress
- 10) What did the professor say the leaves were a harbinger of?
  - a) things to go
  - b) things to come
  - c) things to grow
  - d) things to fall

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201006-autumn-leaves.html>

## **Role A – August**

You think August is the best month. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their months. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): September, October or November.

## **Role B – September**

You think September is the best month. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their months. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): August, October or November.

## **Role C – October**

You think October is the best month. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their months. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): September, August or November.

## **Role D – November**

You think November is the best month. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their months. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): September, October or August.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201006-autumn-leaves.html>

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

<b>autumn</b>	<b>leaves</b>
---------------	---------------

- 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"><li>• spectacular</li><li>• golds</li><li>• adversely</li><li>• unusually</li><li>• beauty</li><li>• severe</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• prevalent</li><li>• due</li><li>• mild</li><li>• fast</li><li>• stress</li><li>• die</li></ul>
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# AUTUMN LEAVES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201006-autumn-leaves.html>

Write five GOOD questions about autumn leaves 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.

# AUTUMN LEAVES 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 'autumn'?
3. What do you think of autumn?
4. What is your favourite season?
5. What do you think of the autumn foliage?
6. Has your area been affected by any adverse weather?
7. How important are forests?
8. Do you have a favourite forest?
9. What is your favourite tree?
10. What is your favourite beauty spot?

*Dry weather affecting autumn leaves colours – 6th October, 2020*  
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# AUTUMN LEAVES 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 'leaves'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you think of the foliage in your country's forests?
15. What do you know about forestry?
16. What would it be like to work in forestry?
17. How do the autumn leaves make you feel?
18. What stresses do trees feel?
19. What do you think of climate change?
20. What questions would you like to ask the professor?

# 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/2010/201006-autumn-leaves.html>

The changing of the colour of the autumn leaves is a spectacular, (1) \_\_\_\_\_, natural event in many forests around the world. The (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of golds, reds, yellows, greens and browns provides a colourful canvas that ushers (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the end of summer. This year in the USA, the autumn foliage has been adversely affected by drought conditions. The (4) \_\_\_\_\_ colours of the leaves have been dulled by unusually dry weather. Over 80 per cent of America's northwest is (5) \_\_\_\_\_ extreme conditions that are not conducive to perfect foliage. The traditional autumnal beauty spots of Massachusetts, Maine, Rhode Island and New Hampshire are experiencing severe drought, and (6) \_\_\_\_\_ colours.

Dr. William Keeton, a forest ecology and forestry professor at the University of Vermont, explained why the adverse conditions were (7) \_\_\_\_\_ this year. He said: "It is due to a combination (8) \_\_\_\_\_ factors, including good tree growth last year, mild drought and both warm days and cool nights over the last month." He added: "The colours this year are coming about two weeks earlier than normal and will probably go (9) \_\_\_\_\_ fast and furiously. Largely, this is because the drought creates physiological (10) \_\_\_\_\_ for the trees." He warned: "The stress is not a good thing and may be a (11) \_\_\_\_\_ of things to come with climate change. In (12) \_\_\_\_\_ of fall foliage, drought can cause the leaves to die and fall off earlier."

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

- |     |                |                    |                |                |
|-----|----------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1.  | (a) photoshoot | (b) photosynthesis | (c) photograph | (d) photogenic |
| 2.  | (a) myrrh      | (b) myself         | (c) myopic     | (d) myriad     |
| 3.  | (a) down       | (b) in             | (c) up         | (d) out        |
| 4.  | (a) vibration  | (b) vibrancy       | (c) vibrant    | (d) vibrato    |
| 5.  | (a) overcoming | (b) incoming       | (c) undergoing | (d) outgoing   |
| 6.  | (a) lacklustre | (b) fast-track     | (c) shockproof | (d) rainsoaked |
| 7.  | (a) sentiment  | (b) prevalent      | (c) infused    | (d) planted    |
| 8.  | (a) of         | (b) to             | (c) at         | (d) as         |
| 9.  | (a) up         | (b) by             | (c) off        | (d) on         |
| 10. | (a) anxiety    | (b) worry          | (c) stress     | (d) concern    |
| 11. | (a) harbour    | (b) barber         | (c) harbinger  | (d) barbaric   |
| 12. | (a) tomes      | (b) teams          | (c) tames      | (d) terms      |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201006-autumn-leaves.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. ntcehgioop, natural event
2. The ydrami of golds
3. The rantbvi colours
4. conditions that are not oidcucevn
5. experiencing severe hdustrgo
6. lecrakslut colours

## Paragraph 2

7. the aerevsd conditions
8. enlvtprae this year
9. a combination of arsctfo
10. ilsilaocyhpgo stress for the trees
11. a gihabrren of things to come
12. In terms of fall fialoeg

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201006-autumn-leaves.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) forests around the world. The myriad of golds, reds, yellows, greens and browns provides a colourful
- ( ) why the adverse conditions were prevalent this year. He said: "It is due to a combination of factors, including good tree
- ( ) coming about two weeks earlier than normal and will probably go by fast and furiously. Largely, this is
- ( ) a good thing and may be a harbinger of things to come with climate change. In terms
- ( ) canvas that ushers in the end of summer. This year in the USA, the autumn foliage has been adversely
- ( ) spots of Massachusetts, Maine, Rhode Island and New Hampshire are experiencing severe drought, and lacklustre colours.
- ( **1** ) The changing of the colour of the autumn leaves is a spectacular, photogenic, natural event in many
- ( ) growth last year, mild drought and both warm days and cool nights over the last month." He added: "The colours this year are
- ( ) Dr. William Keeton, a forest ecology and forestry professor at the University of Vermont, explained
- ( ) dry weather. Over 80 per cent of America's northwest is undergoing extreme
- ( ) because the drought creates physiological stress for the trees." He warned: "The stress is not
- ( ) conditions that are not conducive to perfect foliage. The traditional autumnal beauty
- ( ) of fall foliage, drought can cause the leaves to die and fall off earlier."
- ( ) affected by drought conditions. The vibrant colours of the leaves have been dulled by unusually

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201006-autumn-leaves.html>

1. the colour autumn leaves . The of changing of
2. in colourful that canvas A the end . ushers
3. has adversely conditions . Foliage been affected by drought
4. that Conditions to not perfect conducive are foliage
5. autumnal traditional Massachusetts . beauty spots of The
6. adverse prevalent year . this conditions the Why were
7. is of to due combination It a factors .
8. creates physiological trees . Drought the stress for
9. of to things be May come . harbinger a
10. to Drought can the cause die . leaves

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201006-autumn-leaves.html>

The changing of the colour *of / off* the autumn leaves is a spectacular, photogenic, natural event in many forests around the world. The *myriad / myrtle* of golds, reds, yellows, greens and browns provides a colourful canvas that *ushers / etches* in the end of summer. This year in the USA, the autumn *foliage / foil* has been adversely affected by *draught / drought* conditions. The vibrant colours of the leaves have been *dulled / doled* by unusually dry weather. Over 80 per cent of America's northwest is *underwent / undergoing* extreme conditions that are not *conduction / conducive* to perfect foliage. The traditional autumnal *beautify / beauty* spots of Massachusetts, Maine, Rhode Island and New Hampshire are experiencing *severe / several* drought, and lacklustre colours.

Dr. William Keeton, a forest ecology and forestry professor at the University of Vermont, explained why the *converse / adverse* conditions were *prevalence / prevalent* this year. He said: "It is *dew / due* to a combination of factors, including good tree *growth / grown* last year, mild drought and both warm days and cool nights over the last month." He added: "The colours this year are *going / coming* about two weeks earlier than normal and will probably go by fast and *furious / furiously*. Largely, this is because the drought creates *physiological / psychology* stress for the trees." He warned: "The stress is not a good thing and may be a *bargain / harbinger* of things to come with climate change. In *terms / teams* of fall foliage, drought can cause the leaves to die and *fall / fail* off earlier."

**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/2010/201006-autumn-leaves.html>

Th\_ c\_h\_n\_g\_n\_g \_f\_ th\_ c\_l\_\_r \_f\_ th\_ \_\_t\_m\_n l\_\_  
v\_s \_s\_ \_s\_p\_c\_t\_c\_l\_r, p\_h\_t\_g\_n\_c, n\_t\_r\_l \_v\_n\_t  
\_n\_ m\_n\_y f\_r\_s\_t\_s \_r\_\_n\_d th\_ w\_r\_l\_d. Th\_ m\_y  
r\_\_d \_f\_ g\_l\_d\_s, r\_d\_s, y\_l\_l\_w\_s, g\_r\_\_n\_s \_n\_d  
b\_r\_w\_n\_s p\_r\_v\_d\_\_ c\_l\_\_r\_f\_l c\_n\_v\_s th\_t \_s\_h\_r\_s  
\_n\_ th\_ \_n\_d \_f\_ s\_m\_m\_r. Th\_s y\_\_r \_n\_ th\_ U\_S  
A, th\_ \_\_t\_m\_n f\_l\_\_g\_ h\_s b\_\_n \_d\_v\_r\_s\_l\_y \_f\_  
f\_c\_t\_d b\_y d\_r\_\_g\_h\_t c\_n\_d\_t\_\_n\_s. Th\_ v\_b\_r\_n\_t  
c\_l\_\_r\_s \_f\_ th\_ l\_\_v\_s h\_v\_ b\_\_n d\_l\_l\_d b\_y  
\_n\_s\_\_l\_l\_y d\_r\_y w\_\_th\_r. O\_v\_r 80 p\_r\_c\_n\_t  
\_f\_ A\_m\_r\_c\_'s n\_r\_t\_h\_w\_s\_t \_s\_ \_n\_d\_r\_g\_\_n\_g \_x\_t  
r\_m\_ c\_n\_d\_t\_\_n\_s th\_t \_r\_n\_t c\_n\_d\_c\_v\_ t\_ p\_r  
f\_c\_t f\_l\_\_g\_. Th\_ t\_r\_d\_t\_\_n\_l \_\_t\_m\_n\_l b\_\_t\_y  
s\_p\_t\_s \_f\_ M\_s\_s\_c\_h\_s\_t\_t\_s, M\_\_n\_, R\_h\_d\_ I\_s\_l\_n\_d  
\_n\_d N\_w H\_m\_p\_s\_h\_r\_ \_r\_ \_x\_p\_r\_\_n\_c\_n\_g s\_v\_r\_ d  
r\_\_g\_h\_t, \_n\_d l\_c\_k\_l\_s\_t\_r\_ c\_l\_\_r\_s.

D\_r. W\_l\_l\_\_m K\_\_t\_n, \_ F\_r\_s\_t E\_c\_l\_g\_y \_n\_d  
F\_r\_s\_t\_r\_y P\_r\_f\_s\_s\_r \_t\_ th\_ U\_n\_v\_r\_s\_t\_y \_f\_ V\_r  
m\_n\_t, \_x\_p\_l\_\_n\_d w\_h\_y th\_ \_d\_v\_r\_s\_ c\_n\_d\_t\_\_n\_s  
w\_r\_ p\_r\_v\_l\_n\_t th\_s y\_\_r. H\_ s\_\_d: "It \_s  
d\_\_ t\_\_ c\_m\_b\_n\_t\_\_n \_f\_ f\_c\_t\_r\_s, \_n\_c\_l\_d\_n\_g  
g\_\_d t\_r\_\_g\_r\_w\_t\_h l\_s\_t y\_\_r, m\_l\_d d\_r\_\_g\_h\_t  
\_n\_d b\_t\_h w\_r\_m d\_y\_s \_n\_d c\_\_l\_n\_g\_h\_t\_s \_v\_r t  
h\_ l\_s\_t m\_n\_t\_h." H\_ \_d\_d\_d: "Th\_ c\_l\_\_r\_s th\_s  
y\_\_r \_r\_ c\_m\_n\_g \_b\_\_t t\_w\_ w\_\_k\_s \_\_r\_l\_\_r t  
h\_n n\_r\_m\_l \_n\_d w\_l\_l p\_r\_b\_b\_l\_y g\_ b\_y f\_s\_t \_n\_d  
f\_r\_\_s\_l\_y. L\_r\_g\_l\_y, th\_s \_s\_ b\_c\_\_s\_ th\_ d\_r\_\_  
g\_h\_t c\_r\_\_t\_s p\_h\_y\_s\_\_l\_g\_c\_l s\_t\_r\_s\_s \_f\_r th\_ t  
r\_\_s." H\_ w\_r\_n\_d: "Th\_ s\_t\_r\_s\_s \_s\_ n\_t \_g\_\_d  
t\_h\_n\_g \_n\_d m\_y b\_\_h\_r\_b\_n\_g\_r \_f\_ t\_h\_n\_g\_s t\_  
c\_m\_ w\_t\_h c\_l\_m\_t\_ c\_h\_n\_g\_. I\_n t\_r\_m\_s \_f\_ f\_l\_l  
f\_l\_\_g\_, d\_r\_\_g\_h\_t c\_n c\_\_s\_ th\_ l\_\_v\_s t\_ d\_\_  
\_n\_d f\_l\_l \_f\_f \_\_r\_l\_\_r."

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201006-autumn-leaves.html>

the changing of the colour of the autumn leaves is a spectacular photogenic natural event in many forests around the world the myriad of golds reds yellows greens and browns provides a colourful canvas that ushers in the end of summer this year in the usa the autumn foliage has been adversely affected by drought conditions the vibrant colours of the leaves have been dulled by unusually dry weather over 80 per cent of americas northwest is undergoing extreme conditions that are not conducive to perfect foliage the traditional autumnal beauty spots of massachusetts maine rhode island and new hampshire are experiencing severe drought and lacklustre colours

dr william keeton a forest ecology and forestry professor at the university of vermont explained why the adverse conditions were prevalent this year he said it is due to a combination of factors including good tree growth last year mild drought and both warm days and cool nights over the last month he added the colours this year are coming about two weeks earlier than normal and will probably go by fast and furiously largely this is because the drought creates physiological stress for the trees he warned the stress is not a good thing and may be a harbinger of things to come with climate change in terms of fall foliage drought can cause the leaves to die and fall off earlier

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201006-autumn-leaves.html>

The changing of the colour of the autumn leaves is a spectacular, photographic, natural event in many forests around the world. The myriad of golds, reds, yellows, greens and browns provide a colourful canvas that ushers in the end of summer. This year in the USA, the autumn foliage has been adversely affected by drought conditions. The vibrant colours of the leaves have been dulled by unusually dry weather. Over 80 percent of America's north west is undergoing extreme conditions that are not conducive to perfect foliage. The traditional autumnal beauty spots of Massachusetts, Maine, Rhode Island and New Hampshire are experiencing severe drought, and lack lustre colours. Dr. William Keeton, a Forest Ecology and Forestry Professor at the University of Vermont, explained why the adverse conditions were prevalent this year. He said: "It is due to a combination of factors, including good tree growth last year, mild drought and both warm days and cool nights over the last month." He added: "The colours this year are coming about two weeks earlier than normal and will probably go by fast and furiously. Largely, this is because the drought creates physiological stress for the trees." He warned: "The stress is not a good thing and may be a harbinger of things to come with climate change. In terms of fall foliage, drought can cause the leaves to die and fall off earlier."







# HOMework

**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. AUTUMN LEAVES:** Make a poster about autumn leaves. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. CLIMATE CHANGE:** Write a magazine article about spending more money to protect trees from climate change. 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 autumn leaves. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how we can enjoy them. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. a    2. c    3. e    4. f    5. d    6. b    7. g  
8. j    9. l    10. n    11. i    12. h    13. k    14. m

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. j	2. g	3. e	4. b	5. c
6. i	7. d	8. f	9. a	10. h

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. The changing of the autumn leaves
2. Five
3. Over 80%
4. Perfect foliage
5. Lacklustre
6. Vermont
7. They grew
8. Two weeks
9. Physiological stress
10. Things to come

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. The changing of the colour of autumn leaves.
2. A colourful canvas that ushers in the end.
3. Foliage has been adversely affected by drought conditions.
4. Conditions that are not conducive to perfect foliage
5. The traditional autumnal beauty spots of Massachusetts.
6. Why the adverse conditions were prevalent this year.
7. It is due to a combination of factors.
8. Drought creates physiological stress for the trees.
9. May be a harbinger of things to come.
10. Drought can cause the leaves to die.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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