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Level 5 – 20th June, 2022

Italy's largest river experiencing drought

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220620-italy-drought-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220620-italy-drought-5.html>

Europe is experiencing water shortages. One region in northern Italy has its worst drought for 70 years. It has seen little rainfall in the past four months. This year's snowfall was 70 per cent lower. The water level of Italy's largest river, the Po, is three metres lower than average. A lot of the riverbed has dried up and people can walk across the mud. This has fully exposed a World War II shipwreck. Authorities are worried that if it doesn't rain soon, there'll be a serious water shortage. This will mean rationing, and farmers will have problems finding water to irrigate crops.

Authorities said the water shortages are unprecedented. The River Po gets much of its water from a lake in the Italian Alps. The lake has had its lowest water levels since 1946. Higher-than-average temperatures and a mini heat wave are making things worse. A farmer from a rural town near Milan said she is expecting a "disastrous year". She said high temperatures and no rain will be "catastrophic." She added: "We believe that there will be a drop in wheat productivity by at least 20 per cent." The Po Valley will see a 30 to 40% reduction in fruit and vegetable production.

Sources: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/po-river-italy-dries-up-exposes-1943-shipwreck-zibello/>
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/jun/15/italy-drought-po-valley-ration-water>
<https://www.euronews.com/2022/06/17/crops-and-drinking-water-threatened-in-italys-po-valley-amid-worst-drought-in-70-years>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220620-italy-drought-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. water | a. has dried up |
| 2. It has seen little | b. rationing |
| 3. The water level of | c. rainfall |
| 4. A lot of the riverbed | d. irrigate crops |
| 5. fully exposed a World War II | e. Italy's largest river |
| 6. there'll be a serious | f. shortages |
| 7. This will mean | g. water shortage |
| 8. finding water to | h. shipwreck |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. water shortages | a. disastrous year |
| 2. making things | b. catastrophic |
| 3. she is expecting a | c. production |
| 4. high | d. reduction |
| 5. no rain will be | e. worse |
| 6. a drop | f. are unprecedented |
| 7. a 30 to 40% | g. temperatures |
| 8. fruit and vegetable | h. in wheat productivity |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220620-italy-drought-5.html>

Europe (1) _____ shortages. One region in northern Italy has (2) _____ for 70 years. It has seen little rainfall in the past four months. This year's snowfall was 70 per cent lower. The water level of Italy's largest river, the Po, is three metres lower than average. A lot of the (3) _____ up and people can walk across the mud. This (4) _____ a World War II shipwreck. Authorities are worried that if it doesn't rain soon, there'll be a serious water shortage. (5) _____, and farmers will have problems finding water (6) _____.

Authorities said the water (7) _____. The River Po gets much of its water from a lake in the Italian Alps. The lake has had its (8) _____ since 1946. Higher-than-average temperatures and a mini heat wave are (9) _____. A farmer from a (10) _____ Milan said she is expecting a "disastrous year". She said high temperatures and no rain will be "catastrophic." She added: "We believe that there will be a drop (11) _____ by at least 20 per cent." The Po Valley will see a 30 to 40% (12) _____ and vegetable production.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220620-italy-drought-5.html>

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DROUGHTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220620-italy-drought-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about droughts 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) _____

