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**Level 1** – 25th August, 2022

## 'Poo-nami' of raw sewage hits English beaches

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220825-sewage-poonami-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/2208/220825-sewage-poonami-1.html>

Beaches in England closed because water companies pumped raw sewage into the sea. The UK told people to avoid dozens of popular swimming and surfing beaches. People could get diseases if they went into the water. Water companies said people should keep their mouth closed in the sea. A woman said she saw things she didn't want to see floating in the sea. She said: "It's filthy...and it stinks." She called the mess a "poonami".

People are angry with the water companies. England sold its water to private companies. The bosses get million-dollar bonuses while raw sewage is polluting the environment. In 2016, the European Union said England's beaches were among the cleanest in Europe; now they are the dirtiest. A woman said clean water was a human right, and not for companies to make profits from. She said CEOs cared more about their bonuses than the environment.

Sources: <https://news.sky.com/story/huge-increase-in-raw-sewage-released-into-uk-waterways-and-sea-data-reveals-12677730>  
<https://www.lbc.co.uk/news/do-not-swim-at-22-beaches-in-england-after-sewage-discharge-environment-agency/>  
<https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/1658177/MP-Labour-environment-agency-sewage-dumps-sea-GB-News-vn>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220825-sewage-poonami-1.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                              |                      |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Beaches in England        | a. closed in the sea |
| 2. popular swimming and      | b. stinks            |
| 3. if they went              | c. surfing beaches   |
| 4. keep their mouth          | d. "poonami"         |
| 5. she saw things she didn't | e. into the water    |
| 6. floating in the           | f. want to see       |
| 7. It's filthy and it        | g. sea               |
| 8. She called the mess a     | h. closed            |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                      |                   |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. England sold its water to private | a. the cleanest   |
| 2. get million-                      | b. profits        |
| 3. polluting the                     | c. companies      |
| 4. England's beaches were among      | d. their bonuses  |
| 5. now they are the                  | e. right          |
| 6. clean water was a human           | f. dollar bonuses |
| 7. companies to make                 | g. dirtiest       |
| 8. CEOs cared more about             | h. environment    |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220825-sewage-poonami-1.html>

Beaches in England (1) \_\_\_\_\_ companies pumped raw sewage into the sea. The UK told people to (2) \_\_\_\_\_ popular swimming and surfing beaches. People could (3) \_\_\_\_\_ they went into the water. Water companies said people should keep their (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the sea. A woman said she saw things she didn't want (5) \_\_\_\_\_ in the sea. She said: "It's filthy...and it stinks." She (6) \_\_\_\_\_ a "poonami".

People (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the water companies. England sold its water to private companies. The (8) \_\_\_\_\_-dollar bonuses while raw sewage (9) \_\_\_\_\_ environment. In 2016, the European Union said England's beaches were (10) \_\_\_\_\_ in Europe; now they (11) \_\_\_\_\_. A woman said clean water was a human right, and not for companies to make profits from. She said CEOs (12) \_\_\_\_\_ their bonuses than the environment.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220825-sewage-poonami-1.html>

Beaches in England closed because water companies pumped raw sewage into the sea. The UK told people to avoid dozens of popular swimming and surfing beaches. People could get diseases if they went into the water. Water companies said people should keep their mouths closed in the sea. A woman said she saw things she didn't want to see floating in the sea. She said: "It's filthy... and it stinks." She called them "sewage poonami". People are angry with the water companies. England sold its water to private companies. The bosses get million-dollar bonuses while raw sewage is polluting the environment. In 2016, the European Union said England's beaches were among the cleanest in Europe; now they are the dirtiest. A woman said clean water was a human right, and not for companies to make profits from. She said CEOs cared more about their bonuses than the environment.

# SEWAGE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220825-sewage-poonami-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) \_\_\_\_\_

# WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220825-sewage-poonami-1.html>

Write about **sewage** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.

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