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Level 5

Humans causing big shifts in freshwater locations

20th May, 2018

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1805/180520-freshwater-5.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 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1805/180520-freshwater-5.html>

NASA has said that human activity is causing a huge redistribution of freshwater across Earth. The redistribution is continuing as populations shift and demand for food increases. NASA said equatorial regions are drying, while tropical areas and higher latitudes are getting wetter. If this trend continues, many highly populated areas could struggle to find enough water in the future. NASA spent 14 years studying the shifting availability of freshwater. It was part of a mission called GRACE, which is an acronym for Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment.

Jay Famiglietti, a co-author of the research and NASA's Senior Water Scientist, said: "The study shows that humans have really drastically altered the global water landscape in a very profound way. The human fingerprint is all over changing freshwater availability." He warned that: "We see it as a driver of climate change." Professor Famiglietti said that at least 40 per cent of the 34 hot areas looked at in the research were drier than twenty years ago because of human activity. One big reason was the excessive pumping of groundwater for farming.

Sources: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/energy-environment/wp/2018/05/16/humans-are-causing-massive-changes-in-the-location-of-water-all-over-the-earth-nasa-says/>
<https://weather.com/science/environment/news/2018-05-17-nasa-satellites-human-fingerprint-shifts-global-freshwater>
<https://www.nasa.gov/press-release/nasa-satellites-reveal-major-shifts-in-global-freshwater>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1805/180520-freshwater-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. a huge redistribution | a. higher latitudes |
| 2. The redistribution is | b. food increases |
| 3. as populations | c. called GRACE |
| 4. demand for | d. continuing |
| 5. equatorial | e. struggle |
| 6. tropical areas and | f. of freshwater |
| 7. highly populated areas could | g. shift |
| 8. It was part of a mission | h. regions are drying |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. a co-author of | a. altered |
| 2. drastically | b. reason |
| 3. the global water | c. of climate change |
| 4. in a very profound | d. of groundwater |
| 5. We see it as a driver | e. landscape |
| 6. because of human | f. the research |
| 7. one big | g. way |
| 8. the excessive pumping | h. activity |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1805/180520-freshwater-5.html>

NASA has said that human (1) _____ a huge redistribution of freshwater across Earth. The redistribution is continuing as populations shift and demand (2) _____. NASA said equatorial regions are drying, while tropical areas (3) _____ are getting wetter. If this trend continues, many highly populated (4) _____ to find enough water in the future. NASA spent 14 years studying (5) _____ of freshwater. It was part of (6) _____ GRACE, which is an acronym for Gravity Recovery and Climate Experiment.

Jay Famiglietti, a co-author (7) _____ and NASA's Senior Water Scientist, said: "The study shows that humans (8) _____ altered the global water landscape in a very profound way. The human fingerprint (9) _____ changing freshwater availability." He warned that: "We see it (10) _____ of climate change." Professor Famiglietti said (11) _____ 40 per cent of the 34 hot areas looked at in the research were drier than twenty years ago because of human activity. One big reason (12) _____ pumping of groundwater for farming.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1805/180520-freshwater-5.html>

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FRESHWATER SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1805/180520-freshwater-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about freshwater 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) _____

