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**Level 4 – 13th August, 2018**

## **French theme park uses crows to pick up litter**

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1808/180813-litter-4.html>

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**Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1808/180813-litter-4.html>

A theme park in France started a new and environmentally-friendly way to deal with litter. It has trained six rooks to pick up rubbish. Rooks are members of the crow family. The birds have been trained to pick up cigarette ends, paper and other things thrown on the ground. The birds pick up the litter and put it in a trash can. This gives the crows food as a reward. The more litter the birds put in the trash, the more food they get.

The head of the park gave several reasons why it is using the crows. He said: "The goal is not just to clean up...but also to demonstrate that nature itself can teach us to take care of the environment." Crows are sociable and intelligent. They may be as smart as a seven-year-old child. The theme park head said: "In an affectionate, supportive atmosphere, they like to communicate with humans and establish a relationship through play." The crows are quick workers. They can fill a bucket with rubbish in less than 45 minutes.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-45155818>  
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/08/11/french-park-trains-clever-crows-pick-litter/>  
<https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/world-news/crows-trained-pick-up-cigarette-13066533>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1808/180813-litter-4.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                  |                  |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. deal                          | a. the ground    |
| 2. pick up                       | b. in the trash  |
| 3. The birds have been           | c. rubbish       |
| 4. other things thrown on        | d. they get      |
| 5. The birds pick                | e. trained       |
| 6. This gives the crows food as  | f. up the litter |
| 7. The more litter the birds put | g. with litter   |
| 8. the more food                 | h. a reward      |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                |                           |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. several                     | a. than 45 minutes        |
| 2. take care of the            | b. quick workers          |
| 3. as smart as                 | c. environment            |
| 4. an affectionate, supportive | d. with rubbish           |
| 5. establish a relationship    | e. reasons                |
| 6. The crows are               | f. atmosphere             |
| 7. They can fill a bucket      | g. through play           |
| 8. in less                     | h. a seven-year-old child |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1808/180813-litter-4.html>

A theme park in France (1) \_\_\_\_\_ and environmentally-friendly way to deal with litter. It has trained six (2) \_\_\_\_\_ up rubbish. Rooks are (3) \_\_\_\_\_ crow family. The birds have been trained to pick up cigarette ends, paper (4) \_\_\_\_\_ thrown on the ground. The birds pick (5) \_\_\_\_\_ and put it in a trash can. This gives the crows food as a reward. The more litter the birds put in the trash, the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ get.

The head of the park (7) \_\_\_\_\_ why it is using the crows. He said: "The goal is not (8) \_\_\_\_\_ up...but also to demonstrate that nature itself can teach us to (9) \_\_\_\_\_ the environment." Crows are sociable and intelligent. They may (10) \_\_\_\_\_ as a seven-year-old child. The theme park head said: "In an affectionate, supportive atmosphere, they like to communicate with humans (11) \_\_\_\_\_ relationship through play." The crows are quick workers. They (12) \_\_\_\_\_ bucket with rubbish in less than 45 minutes.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1808/180813-litter-4.html>

A theme park in France started a new and environmentally-friendly way to deal with litter. It has trained six rooks to pick up rubbish. Rooks are members of the crow family. The birds have been trained to pick up cigarette ends, paper and other things thrown on the ground. The birds pick up the litter and put it in a trash can. This gives the crows food as a reward. The more litter the birds put in the trash, the more food they get. The head of the park gave several reasons why it is using the crows. He said: "The goal is not just to clean up... but also to demonstrate that nature itself can teach us to take care of the environment." Crows are sociable and intelligent. They may be as smart as a seven-year-old child. The theme park head said: "In a affectionate, supportive atmosphere, they like to communicate with humans and establish a relationship through play." The crows are quick workers. They can fill a bucket with rubbish in less than 45 minutes.

# LITTER SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1808/180813-litter-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about litter 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) \_\_\_\_\_

