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Level 1 – 28th July, 2019

Arctic wildfires visible from space

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires-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/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires-1.html>

There are hundreds of wildfires all across the Arctic Circle, in Greenland, Siberia, Scandinavia and Alaska. The smoke can be seen from space. The Arctic is warming twice as fast as anywhere on Earth. It is also having its worst wildfire season ever. In Alaska, there are 400 fires out of control. The Greenland ice sheet has started melting a month earlier than usual. Meteorologists say the Arctic fires are unheard of in history.

Scientists say the fires could affect global warming. One explained what is causing the fires. He said: "Temperatures in the Arctic have been increasing at a much faster rate than the global average, and warmer conditions encourage fires to grow." Dry ground, lightning and strong winds caused the fires to spread. The methane below the ice is now on fire. This is releasing lots of CO₂ into the atmosphere. The fires are destroying habitat and killing animals.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-49125391>
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/jul/26/unprecedented-more-than-100-wildfires-burning-in-the-arctic-in-worst-ever-season>
<https://www.sciencealert.com/unprecedented-wildfires-are-ravaging-the-arctic-and-the-images-from-space-are-astonishing>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. hundreds of wildfires all | a. history |
| 2. The smoke can be | b. of control |
| 3. twice as fast as anywhere | c. seen from space |
| 4. having its worst wildfire | d. than usual |
| 5. there are 400 fires out | e. on Earth |
| 6. The Greenland ice sheet | f. season ever |
| 7. a month earlier | g. across the Arctic |
| 8. unheard of in | h. has started melting |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. explained what is | a. into the atmosphere |
| 2. at a much faster | b. to grow |
| 3. the global | c. animals |
| 4. warmer conditions encourage fires | d. rate |
| 5. strong winds caused | e. is now on fire |
| 6. The methane below the ice | f. causing the fires |
| 7. releasing lots of CO2 | g. the fires to spread |
| 8. killing | h. average |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires-1.html>

There are hundreds of (1) _____ the Arctic Circle, in Greenland, Siberia, Scandinavia and Alaska. The smoke can be (2) _____. The Arctic is warming (3) _____ as anywhere on Earth. It is also having its worst (4) _____. In Alaska, there are 400 fires out of control. The Greenland ice sheet (5) _____ a month earlier than usual. Meteorologists say the Arctic fires are unheard (6) _____.

Scientists (7) _____ could affect global warming. One explained what is (8) _____. He said: "Temperatures in the Arctic have been increasing at a much faster rate than (9) _____, and warmer conditions encourage fires to grow." (10) _____ and strong winds caused the fires to spread. The methane below the ice is now on fire. This is (11) _____ CO2 into the atmosphere. The fires are destroying (12) _____ animals.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires-1.html>

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THE ARCTIC SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1907/190728-arctic-wildfires-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about the Arctic 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) _____

