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**Level 5** – 14th June, 2019

## UK economy shrinks by 25 per cent

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200614-uk-economy-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/2006/200614-uk-economy-5.html>

The UK suffered its worst performance since a mini ice age 300 years ago, when the River Thames froze. The UK's Office for National Statistics said the economy was 25 per cent smaller in April than in February. The Bank of England acknowledged there was a 20.4 per cent drop in GDP in April. It called this "a dramatic and big number". It was positive about the future and that there were signs the economy was coming back to life. Much of the UK economy shut down to curb coronavirus. It is experiencing the biggest collapse among the world's developed economies.

The UK economy has seen nearly 20 years' worth of growth wiped out because of lockdown measures. This week, people are being encouraged to go shopping again. Many shoppers remain wary about venturing out to shops, as the number of daily deaths is still around 200. The Bank of England said: "The economy clearly closed out substantially at the end of March into April. The big question is what happens next." The UK's 'Guardian' newspaper was pessimistic about any recovery. It wrote: "Britain's economy has fallen off a cliff. It will be a long climb back."

Sources: <https://news.sky.com/story/coronavirus-bank-of-england-ready-to-take-action-after-economy-tanks-20-12005488>  
<https://www.aljazeera.com/ajimpact/uk-economy-shrinks-20-percent-april-2002-level-200612091955524.html>  
<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2020/jun/12/calamitous-gdp-figures-show-uk-economy-has-fallen-off-a-cliff>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200614-uk-economy-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                     |                      |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. since a mini ice                 | a. curb coronavirus  |
| 2. The Bank of England acknowledged | b. drop in GDP       |
| 3. there was a 20.4 per cent        | c. collapse          |
| 4. It was positive                  | d. there was         |
| 5. signs the economy was coming     | e. economies         |
| 6. shut down to                     | f. about the future  |
| 7. It is experiencing the biggest   | g. back to life      |
| 8. among the world's developed      | h. age 300 years ago |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                  |                      |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. nearly 20 years' worth        | a. any recovery      |
| 2. wiped out because of lockdown | b. to go shopping    |
| 3. people are being encouraged   | c. off a cliff       |
| 4. Many shoppers remain          | d. of growth         |
| 5. The big question is           | e. climb back        |
| 6. pessimistic about             | f. wary              |
| 7. Britain's economy has fallen  | g. what happens next |
| 8. It will be a long             | h. measures          |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200614-uk-economy-5.html>

The UK (1) \_\_\_\_\_ performance since a mini ice age 300 years ago, when the River Thames froze. The UK's Office (2) \_\_\_\_\_ said the economy was 25 per cent smaller in April than in February. The Bank of England (3) \_\_\_\_\_ a 20.4 per cent drop in GDP in April. It called this "a (4) \_\_\_\_\_ number". It was positive about the future and that there were signs the economy was coming (5) \_\_\_\_\_. Much of the UK economy shut down to curb coronavirus. It is experiencing the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the world's developed economies.

The UK economy has seen nearly 20 years' (7) \_\_\_\_\_ wiped out because (8) \_\_\_\_\_. This week, people are being encouraged to go shopping again. Many shoppers (9) \_\_\_\_\_ venturing out to shops, as the number (10) \_\_\_\_\_ is still around 200. The Bank of England said: "The economy clearly closed out substantially at the end of March into April. The (11) \_\_\_\_\_ what happens next." The UK's 'Guardian' newspaper was pessimistic about any recovery. It wrote: "Britain's economy has fallen (12) \_\_\_\_\_. It will be a long climb back."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200614-uk-economy-5.html>

The UK suffered its worst performance since a mini ice age 300 years ago, when the River Thames froze. The UK's Office for National Statistics said the economy was 25 per cent smaller in April than in February. The Bank of England acknowledged there was a 20.4 per cent drop in GDP in April. It called this "a dramatic and big number". It was positive about the future and that there were signs the economy was coming back to life. Much of the UK economy shut down to curb coronavirus. It is experiencing the biggest collapse among the world's developed economies. The UK economy has seen nearly 20 years' worth of growth wiped out because of lockdown measures. This week, people are being encouraged to go shopping again. Many shoppers remain wary about venturing out to shops, as the number of daily deaths is still around 200. The Bank of England said: "The economy closed out substantially at the end of March into April. The big question is what happens next." The UK's 'Guardian' newspaper was pessimistic about any recovery. It wrote: "Britain's economy has fallen off a cliff. It will be a long climb back."

# ECONOMIES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200614-uk-economy-4.html>

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

