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Level 1 – 5th October 2023

"Bed poverty" on the rise in the UK

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2310/231005-bed-poverty-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/2310/231005-bed-poverty-1.html>

A charity said more than a million children in the UK live in "bed poverty". This means they have no bed. Around 700,000 children share beds, and 440,000 sleep on the floor. The charity said bed poverty is because people are poorer because the cost of living has increased. Food, gas and electricity are more expensive. Even a bed is now a "luxury" item for poorer people. Having no bed means children are tired and cannot concentrate at school.

Bed poverty shows that many people in Britain are struggling. It is an example of child poverty. Parents have painful challenges. They do not have enough money to buy things to keep their children healthy. Many families have to choose between heating and eating. They cannot fix a broken bed. Bed poverty is affecting children's mental health. The charity asked the government to take "urgent action" to fix these "deep-rooted issues".

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2023/sep/29/more-than-1-million-children-in-uk-sleep-on-floor-or-share-bed-study-finds>
<https://www.churchtimes.co.uk/articles/2023/6-october/news/uk/hundreds-of-thousands-of-children-suffer-bed-poverty-says-barnardo-s>
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/cost-of-living-uk-bed-poverty-children-b2420763.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2310/231005-bed-poverty-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. more than | a. more expensive |
| 2. Around 700,000 children share | b. at school |
| 3. people are | c. beds |
| 4. the cost of living | d. are tired |
| 5. Food, gas and electricity are | e. has increased |
| 6. a bed is now a | f. poorer |
| 7. Having no bed means children | g. a million children |
| 8. cannot concentrate | h. "luxury" item |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. many people in Britain are | a. healthy |
| 2. Parents have painful | b. a broken bed |
| 3. keep their children | c. take urgent action |
| 4. families have to choose between | d. challenges |
| 5. They cannot fix | e. issues |
| 6. Bed poverty is affecting children's | f. heating and eating |
| 7. asked the government to | g. struggling |
| 8. to fix these deep-rooted | h. mental health |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2310/231005-bed-poverty-1.html>

A charity said more than a million children in the UK live in "bed poverty". This (1) _____ no bed. Around 700,000 children share beds, and 440,000 sleep (2) _____. The charity said bed poverty is because people are poorer because the (3) _____ has increased. Food, gas and electricity (4) _____. Even a bed is now (5) _____ for poorer people. Having no bed means children are tired and cannot (6) _____.

Bed poverty shows (7) _____ in Britain are struggling. It is (8) _____ child poverty. Parents have painful challenges. They do not (9) _____ to buy things to keep their children healthy. Many families have to choose between (10) _____. They cannot fix a broken bed. Bed poverty is affecting children's mental health. The charity asked the government to (11) _____ to fix these "(12) _____".

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2310/231005-bed-poverty-1.html>

A charity said more than a million children in the UK live in "bed poverty". This means they have no bed. Around 700,000 children share beds, and 440,000 sleep on the floor. The charity said bed poverty is because people are poorer because the cost of living has increased. Food, gas and electricity are more expensive. Even a bed is now a "luxury" item for poorer people. Having no bed means children are tired and cannot concentrate at school. Bed poverty shows that many people in Britain are struggling. It is an example of child poverty. Parents have painful challenges. They do not have enough money to buy things to keep their children healthy. Many families have to choose between heating and eating. They cannot fix a broken bed. Bed poverty is affecting children's mental health. The charity asked the government to take "urgent action" to fix these "deep-rooted issues".

BEDS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2310/231005-bed-poverty-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about beds 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/2310/231005-bed-poverty-1.html>

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