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Level 6

Man sells firewood to pay dead wife's medical bills

25th November, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1611/161125-online-campaign.html>

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Please try Levels 5 and 4 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1611/161125-online-campaign.html>

An Internet campaign has come to the rescue of an 80-year-old man in the USA who was reduced to selling firewood on the roadside to pay for his wife's medical bills. Octogenarian Kenneth Smith spent hours a day selling kindling for \$5 a bag. He started last year and was then helped by his wife of over 30 years, Helen, who was dying of lung cancer. Tragically, she lost her battle in October and Mr Smith was left with crippling hospital fees, which wiped out his life savings. A local woman, Jessica Pittman, saw Mr Smith and posted a Facebook message urging people to help him. Her post has been shared over 9,000 times and motorists have stopped their car to give Mr Smith some cash.

Ms Pittman's kind deed encouraged Mr Smith's son to go a step further and set up an online appeal. He created a page at the website GoFundMe and donations soon came flooding in from all corners of the Earth. The online campaign raised \$20,000 in three days. Ms Pittman told the BBC that she had "no clue" her actions would prompt such generosity. She said: "Although it will not lessen the heartache of losing his wife, I am thankful it will at least take a little worry off of his plate and help him make ends meet." Mr Smith said he has been "overwhelmed" with the response. He added that even though his wife wasn't by his side, he still feels her presence, "because she's looking down on me," he said.

Sources: <http://www.sunherald.com/news/state/mississippi/article116633298.html>
<http://www.ksla.com/story/33764148/support-pouring-in-for-widower-selling-firewood>
<http://blogs.mprnews.org/newscut/2016/11/man-sells-firewood-to-pay-dead-wifes-medical-bills/>
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-38081732>

WARM-UPS

1. ONLINE CAMPAIGNS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about online campaigns. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

campaign / rescue / firewood / medical bills / battle / life savings / motorists / cash / kind deed / online appeal / flooding / corners / generosity / heartache / presence

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. OCTOGENEARIANS: Students A **strongly** believe people aged 8- and over should receive free health care; Students B **strongly** believe they shouldn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. INTERNET CAMPAIGNS: Complete this table with your partner(s). What are your ideas for the campaign video? How do you spread the word online? Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Video ideas	How to spread the word
Presidential election		
Visit Tokyo		
Help children in need		
The new iPhone 10		
Stop influenza		
Drive carefully		

5. HOSPITAL: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "hospital". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. BILLS: Rank these with your partner. Put the most important at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Medical bills
- School fees
- Electricity bills
- Credit card bills
- Telephone bills
- Water bills
- Bank fees
- Repair bills

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1611/161125-online-campaign.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. An Internet campaign helped a man who was an octogenarian. **T / F**
- b. The man had been married for more than 30 years. **T / F**
- c. A woman 8,000 miles away posted a Facebook message to help him. **T / F**
- d. Car drivers stopped to give the man some money. **T / F**
- e. The man's daughter set up a web page to help him. **T / F**
- f. The man received money from all over the world. **T / F**
- g. A woman said the money would lessen the man's heartache. **T / F**
- h. The man said he no longer feels his wife is near him. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| 1. campaign | a. encouraging |
| 2. battle | b. money |
| 3. wiped out | c. get by |
| 4. urging | d. fight |
| 5. cash | e. spirit |
| 6. deed | f. drive |
| 7. generosity | g. moved |
| 8. make ends meet | h. act |
| 9. overwhelmed | i. destroyed |
| 10. presence | j. kindness |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. come to the | a. flooding in |
| 2. Tragically, she | b. their car |
| 3. wiped out his life | c. a step further |
| 4. a Facebook message urging | d. presence |
| 5. motorists have stopped | e. rescue |
| 6. encouraged Mr Smith's son to go | f. of the Earth |
| 7. donations soon came | g. savings |
| 8. from all corners | h. of losing his wife |
| 9. lessen the heartache | i. people to help him |
| 10. he still feels her | j. lost her battle |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1611/161125-online-campaign.html>

An Internet campaign has come to the (1) _____ of an 80-year-old man in the USA who was (2) _____ to selling firewood on the roadside to pay for his wife's medical bills. Octogenarian Kenneth Smith spent hours a day selling kindling for \$5 a (3) _____. He started last year and was then helped by his wife of over 30 years, Helen, who was dying of lung cancer. Tragically, she lost her (4) _____ in October and Mr Smith was left with (5) _____ hospital fees, which wiped out his life (6) _____. A local woman, Jessica Pittman, saw Mr Smith and posted a Facebook message (7) _____ people to help him. Her post has been shared over 9,000 times and (8) _____ have stopped their car to give Mr Smith some cash.

bag
savings
reduced
crippling
motorists
rescue
urging
battle

Ms Pittman's kind (9) _____ encouraged Mr Smith's son to go a step further and set up an online (10) _____. He created a page at the website GoFundMe and donations soon came (11) _____ in from all corners of the Earth. The online campaign raised \$20,000 in three days. Ms Pittman told the BBC that she had "no (12) _____ " her actions would prompt such generosity. She said: "Although it will not lessen the (13) _____ of losing his wife, I am thankful it will at least take a little worry off of his plate and help him make (14) _____ meet." Mr Smith said he has been "overwhelmed" with the (15) _____. He added that even though his wife wasn't by his side, he still feels her (16) _____, "because she's looking down on me," he said.

presence
deed
appeal
ends
clue
response
flooding
heartache

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1611/161125-online-campaign.html>

- 1) an 80-year-old man in the USA who was reduced to selling firewood _____
 - a. in the roadside
 - b. on the roadside
 - c. on the road's side
 - d. in the road sides
- 2) He started last year and was then helped by his wife _____ years
 - a. of more 30
 - b. of late 30
 - c. of over 30
 - d. of moreover 30
- 3) she lost her battle in October and Mr Smith was left with _____ fees
 - a. crippling hospitalise
 - b. crippling hospitals
 - c. crippling hospital
 - d. crippling hospitality
- 4) Jessica Pittman, saw Mr Smith and posted a Facebook message _____ help
 - a. purging people to
 - b. urchin people to
 - c. urgent people to
 - d. urging people to
- 5) Her post has been shared over 9,000 times and _____ stopped
 - a. motor wrists have
 - b. motorists have
 - c. no tourists have
 - d. motor lists have
- 6) encouraged Mr Smith's son to go a step further and set up _____
 - a. the online appeals
 - b. the online appeal
 - c. an online appeals
 - d. an online appeal
- 7) donations soon came flooding in from all _____ Earth
 - a. edges of the
 - b. concerns of the
 - c. borders of the
 - d. corners of the
- 8) Ms Pittman told the BBC that she had "no clue" her actions would _____ generosity
 - a. prompt much
 - b. prompt touch
 - c. prompt such
 - d. prompt this
- 9) I am thankful it will at least take a little worry off of his plate and help _____ meet
 - a. him make ends
 - b. him take ends
 - c. him bake ends
 - d. him wake ends
- 10) He added that even though his wife wasn't by his side, he still feels _____
 - a. her presence
 - b. her presents
 - c. her pleasant
 - d. her pretense

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1611/161125-online-campaign.html>

An Internet campaign (1) _____ the rescue of an 80-year-old man in the USA who (2) _____ selling firewood on the roadside to pay for his wife's medical bills. Octogenarian Kenneth Smith spent (3) _____ selling kindling for \$5 a bag. He started last year and was then helped by his wife of over 30 years, Helen, who was dying of lung cancer. Tragically, (4) _____ battle in October and Mr Smith was left with crippling hospital fees, which (5) _____ life savings. A local woman, Jessica Pittman, saw Mr Smith and posted a Facebook message (6) _____ help him. Her post has been shared over 9,000 times and motorists have stopped their car to give Mr Smith some cash.

Ms Pittman's (7) _____ encouraged Mr Smith's son to go a step further and set up an online appeal. He created a page at the website GoFundMe and donations soon came (8) _____ all corners of the Earth. The online campaign raised \$20,000 in three days. Ms Pittman told the BBC that she (9) _____ her actions would prompt such generosity. She said: "Although it (10) _____ the heartache of losing his wife, I am thankful it will at least take a little worry off of his plate and help him (11) _____." Mr Smith said he has been "overwhelmed" with the response. He added that even though his wife wasn't by his side, (12) _____ presence, "because she's looking down on me," he said.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1611/161125-online-campaign.html>

1. How old was the man who had to sell firewood?
2. For how much did the man sell his bags of kindling?
3. For how long was the man married?
4. What did the hospital fees wipe out?
5. How many times did a Facebook post get shared?
6. Who set up a web page for Mr Smith?
7. From where did donations come flooding in?
8. How much did the online campaign raise?
9. What did Ms Pittman say the generosity would help Mr Smith with?
10. What does Mr Smith still feel?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1611/161125-online-campaign.html>

- 1) How old was the man who had to sell firewood?
 - a) 70
 - b) 75
 - c) 80
 - d) 85
- 2) For how much did the man sell his bags of kindling?
 - a) \$5
 - b) \$6
 - c) \$7
 - d) \$8
- 3) For how long was the man married?
 - a) over 30 years
 - b) 28 years
 - c) a year
 - d) 3 years
- 4) What did the hospital fees wipe out?
 - a) Mr Smith's record
 - b) Mr Smith's life savings
 - c) Mr Smith's memory
 - d) Mr Smith's computer storage
- 5) How many times did a Facebook post get shared?
 - a) just fewer than 9,000 times
 - b) exactly 9,000 times
 - c) around 9,000 times
 - d) over 9,000 times
- 6) Who set up a web page for Mr Smith?
 - a) a local woman
 - b) his son
 - c) a company
 - d) his daughter
- 7) From where did donations come flooding in?
 - a) all corners of the Earth
 - b) the length and breadth of the USA
 - c) from coast to coast
 - d)
- 8) How much did the online campaign raise?
 - a) a million dollars
 - b) \$100,000
 - c) \$20,000
 - d) \$50,000
- 9) What did Ms Pittman say the generosity would help Mr Smith with?
 - a) plates
 - b) motorists
 - c) firewood
 - d) making ends meet
- 10) What does Mr Smith still feel?
 - a) his wife's presence
 - b) numb
 - c) lessened
 - d) down

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1611/161125-online-campaign.html>

Role A – Medical Bills

You think medical bills are the most important. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their bills/fees aren't as important. Also, tell the others which are the least important of these (and why): school fees, credit card bills or electricity bills.

Role B – School Fees

You think school fees are the most important. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their bills/fees aren't as important. Also, tell the others which are the least important of these (and why): medical bills, credit card bills or electricity bills.

Role C – Credit Card Bills

You think credit card bills are the most important. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their bills/fees aren't as important. Also, tell the others which are the least important of these (and why): school fees, medical bills or electricity bills.

Role D – Electricity Bills

You think electricity bills are the most important. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their bills/fees aren't as important. Also, tell the others which are the least important of these (and why): school fees, credit card bills or medical bills.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1611/161125-online-campaign.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'online' and 'campaign'.

online	campaign
---------------	-----------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• rescue• pay• 30• battle• posted• car	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• kind• soon• clue• lessen• meet• down
---	---

ONLINE CAMPAIGNS SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1611/161125-online-campaign.html>

Write five GOOD questions about online campaigns 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.

ONLINE CAMPAIGN DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What springs to mind when you hear the word 'bills'?
3. How sad is it an 80-year-old struggles to pay hospital bills?
4. Should all governments provide free health care?
5. What do you think about what you read?
6. What would you do at 80 if you needed money?
7. How good is social media at helping people in need?
8. What do you think of Ms Pittman's kind deed?
9. How would you feel if your life savings were wiped out?
10. What advice do you have for Mr Smith?

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ONLINE CAMPAIGN DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What was the last kind deed you did?
13. Have you ever given money to an online charity or appeal page?
14. What do you think of people asking for financial help online?
15. Why do we say 'all corners of the Earth' when the Earth is round?
16. How generous are you?
17. Do you find it difficult to make ends meet?
18. When was the last time someone's kindness overwhelmed you?
19. What else can people do to help Mr Smith?
20. What questions would you like to ask Mr Smith?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1611/161125-online-campaign.html>

An Internet campaign has come to (1) _____ rescue of an 80-year-old man in the USA who was reduced (2) _____ selling firewood on the roadside to pay for his wife's medical bills. Octogenarian Kenneth Smith spent hours a day selling kindling for \$5 a bag. He started last year and was then helped by his wife of (3) _____ 30 years, Helen, who was dying of lung cancer. Tragically, she (4) _____ her battle in October and Mr Smith was left with crippling hospital fees, which (5) _____ out his life savings. A local woman, Jessica Pittman, saw Mr Smith and posted a Facebook message (6) _____ people to help him. Her post has been shared over 9,000 times and motorists have stopped their car to give Mr Smith some cash.

Ms Pittman's kind (7) _____ encouraged Mr Smith's son to go a step further and set up an online appeal. He created a page at the website GoFundMe and donations soon came flooding in from all (8) _____ of the Earth. The online campaign raised \$20,000 in three days. Ms Pittman told the BBC that she had "no (9) _____" her actions would prompt such generosity. She said: "Although it will not (10) _____ the heartache of losing his wife, I am thankful it will at least take a little worry off of his (11) _____ and help him make ends meet." Mr Smith said he has been "overwhelmed" with the response. He added that even though his wife wasn't by his side, he still feels her (12) _____, "because she's looking down on me," he said.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. | (a) the | (b) do | (c) have | (d) a |
| 2. | (a) by | (b) at | (c) to | (d) of |
| 3. | (a) more | (b) post | (c) over | (d) after |
| 4. | (a) competed | (b) fought | (c) met | (d) lost |
| 5. | (a) polished | (b) smeared | (c) wiped | (d) erased |
| 6. | (a) urged | (b) urging | (c) urgent | (d) purging |
| 7. | (a) did | (b) deed | (c) dead | (d) done |
| 8. | (a) edges | (b) corners | (c) borders | (d) concerns |
| 9. | (a) glue | (b) crew | (c) clue | (d) crow |
| 10. | (a) less | (b) lesson | (c) listen | (d) lessen |
| 11. | (a) dish | (b) bowl | (c) saucer | (d) plate |
| 12. | (a) pretense | (b) pleasant | (c) presents | (d) presence |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1611/161125-online-campaign.html>

Paragraph 1

1. come to the eseurc
2. iaogtarcneeo Kenneth Smith
3. gtlalacryi, she lost her battle
4. Mr Smith was left with irpiplncg hospital fees
5. a Facebook message igurng people to help
6. toirosnst have stopped their car

Paragraph 2

7. set up an online papela
8. The online cmpgaani
9. her actions would prompt such niestorgye
10. it will not enslse the heartache
11. he has been wmeldehreov with the response
12. he still feels her prcesene

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1611/161125-online-campaign.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () post has been shared over 9,000 times and motorists have stopped their car to give Mr Smith some cash.
- () of the Earth. The online campaign raised \$20,000 in three days. Ms Pittman told the BBC that she had "no
- () clue" her actions would prompt such generosity. She said: "Although it will not lessen the heartache of
- () losing his wife, I am thankful it will at least take a little worry off of his plate and help him make ends
- () savings. A local woman, Jessica Pittman, saw Mr Smith and posted a Facebook message urging people to help him. Her
- () his side, he still feels her presence, "because she's looking down on me," he said.
- (**1**) An Internet campaign has come to the rescue of an 80-year-old man in the USA who was reduced
- () Ms Pittman's kind deed encouraged Mr Smith's son to go a step further and set up an online
- () to selling firewood on the roadside to pay for his wife's medical bills. Octogenarian Kenneth Smith spent
- () battle in October and Mr Smith was left with crippling hospital fees, which wiped out his life
- () appeal. He created a page at the website GoFundMe and donations soon came flooding in from all corners
- () hours a day selling kindling for \$5 a bag. He started last year and was then helped by his wife
- () of over 30 years, Helen, who was dying of lung cancer. Tragically, she lost her
- () meet." Mr Smith said he has been "overwhelmed" with the response. He added that even though his wife wasn't by

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1611/161125-online-campaign.html>

1. rescue the to come has campaign Internet An .
2. year and was then helped by his wife He started last .
3. hospital his fees life which savings wiped Crippling out .
4. has over 9,000 post shared Her been times .
5. some cash Motorists have stopped their car to give Mr Smith .
6. Go further up appeal step set online a and an .
7. flooding all the came from of Donations in corners Earth .
8. losing It lessen of wife not heartache his will the .
9. he the has response been Smith overwhelmed said with .
10. he his wife Even still side wasn't though feels , by his her .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1611/161125-online-campaign.html>

An Internet campaign has come to the *rescued* / *rescue* of an 80-year-old man in the USA who was *reduced* / *reducing* to selling firewood on the roadside to pay for his wife's medical *billing* / *bills*. Octogenarian Kenneth Smith spent *hours* / *hour* a day selling kindling for \$5 a bag. He started last year and was then helped by his wife *of* / *at* over 30 years, Helen, who was dying of lung cancer. Tragically, she *lost* / *loses* her battle in October and Mr Smith was left with crippling hospital *fee* / *fees*, which wiped *out* / *in* his life savings. A local woman, Jessica Pittman, saw Mr Smith and posted a Facebook message *urging* / *urgently* people to help him. Her post has been shared over 9,000 times and *motorists* / *motors* have stopped their car to give Mr Smith some cash.

Ms Pittman's kind *deed* / *indeed* encouraged Mr Smith's son to go a *step* / *stair* further and set up an online appeal. He created a page at the website GoFundMe and donations soon came *floods* / *flooding* in from all *corners* / *edges* of the Earth. The online campaign *risen* / *raised* \$20,000 in three days. Ms Pittman told the BBC that she had "no clue" her actions would prompt such *generous* / *generosity*. She said: "Although it will not *lessen* / *least* the heartache of losing his wife, I am thankful it will at least take a little worry off of his *saucer* / *plate* and help him make ends *meet* / *agree*." Mr Smith said he has been "overwhelmed" with the response. He added that even though his wife wasn't by his side, he still feels her *presents* / *presence*, "because she's looking down on me," he said.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1611/161125-online-campaign.html>

_n _nt_rn_t c_m_p__gn h_s c_m_ t_ th_ r_sc__ _f _n
80-y__r-ld m_n _n th_ _S_ wh_ w_s r_d_c_d t_
s_ll_ng f_r_w__d _n th_ r__ds_d_ t_ p_y f_r h_s
w_f_'s m_d_c_l b_lls. _ct_g_n_r__n K_nn_th Sm_th
sp_nt h__rs _d_y s_ll_ng k_ndl_ng f_r \$5 _b_g. H_
st_rt_d l_st y__r _nd w_s th_n h_lp_d by h_s w_f_ _f
_v_r 30 y__rs, H_l_n, wh_ w_s dy_ng _f l_ng c_nc_r.
Tr_g_c_lly, sh_l_st h_r b_ttl_ _n _ct_b_r _nd Mr Sm_th
w_s l_ft w_th cr_pp_lng h_sp_t_l f__s, wh_ch w_p_d
__t h_s l_f_ s_v_ngs. _l_c_l w_m_n, J_ss_c P_ttm_n,
s_w Mr Sm_th _nd p_st_d _F_c_b__k m_ss_g_ _rg_ng
p__pl_ t_ h_lp h_m. H_r p_st h_s b__n sh_r_d _v_r
9,000 t_m_s _nd m_t_r_sts h_v_ st_pp_d th__r c_r_t_
g_v_ Mr Sm_th s_m_ c_sh.

Ms P_ttm_n's k_nd d__d _nc__r_g_d Mr Sm_th's s_n t_
g_ _st_p f_rth_r _nd s_t _p _n _nl_n_ _pp__l. H_
cr__t_d _p_g_ _t th_ w_bs_t_ G_F_ndM_ _nd
d_n_t__ns s__n c_m_ fl__d_ng _n fr_m _ll c_rn_rs _f
th_ __rth. Th_ _nl_n_ c_m_p__gn r__s_d \$20,000 _n
thr__d_ys. Ms P_ttm_n t_ld th_ BBC th_t sh_ h_d "n_
cl__" h_r _ct__ns w__ld pr_mpt s_ch g_n_r_s_ty. Sh_
s__d: "_lth__gh _t w_ll n_t l_ss_n th_ h__rt_ch_ _f
l_s_ng h_s w_f_, _m th_nkf_l_t w_ll _t l__st t_k_ _
l_ttl_ w_rry _ff _f h_s pl_t_ _nd h_lp h_m m_k_ _nds
m__t." Mr Sm_th s__d h_ h_s b__n "_v_rwh_lm_d" w_th
th_ r_sp_ns_. H_ _dd_d th_t _v_n th__gh h_s w_f_
w_sn't by h_s s_d_, h_ st_ll f__ls h_r pr_s_nc_,
"b_c__s_ sh_'s l__k_ng d_wn _n m_," h_s __d.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1611/161125-online-campaign.html>

an internet campaign has come to the rescue of an 80-year-old man in the usa who was reduced to selling firewood on the roadside to pay for his wife's medical bills octogenarian kenneth smith spent hours a day selling kindling for \$5 a bag he started last year and was then helped by his wife of over 30 years helen who was dying of lung cancer tragically she lost her battle in october and mr smith was left with crippling hospital fees which wiped out his life savings a local woman jessica pittman saw mr smith and posted a facebook message urging people to help him her post has been shared over 9000 times and motorists have stopped their car to give mr smith some cash ms pittman's kind deed encouraged mr smith's son to go a step further and set up an online appeal he created a page at the website gofundme and donations soon came flooding in from all corners of the earth the online campaign raised \$20000 in three days ms pittman told the bbc that she had "no clue" her actions would prompt such generosity she said "although it will not lessen the heartache of losing his wife i am thankful it will at least take a little worry off of his plate and help him make ends meet" mr smith said he has been "overwhelmed" with the response he added that even though his wife wasn't by his side he still feels her presence "because she's looking down on me" he said

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1611/161125-online-campaign.html>

An Internet campaign has come to the rescue of an 80-year-old man in the USA who was reduced to selling firewood on the roadside to pay for his wife's medical bills. Octogenarian Kenneth Smith spent hours a day selling kindling for \$5 a bag. He started last year and was then helped by his wife of over 30 years, Helen, who was dying of lung cancer. Tragically, she lost the battle in October and Mr Smith was left with crippling hospital fees, which wiped out his life savings. A local woman, Jessica Pittman, saw Mr Smith and posted a Facebook message urging people to help him. Her post has been shared over 9,000 times and motorists have stopped their car to give Mr Smith some cash. Ms Pittman's kind deed encouraged Mr Smith's son to go a step further and set up an online appeal. He created a page at the website GoFundMe and donations soon came flooding in from all corners of the Earth. The online campaign raised \$20,000 in three days. Ms Pittman told the BBC that she had "no clue" her actions would prompt such generosity. She said: "Although it will not lessen the heartache of losing his wife, I am thankful it will at least take a little worry off of his plate and help him make ends meet." Mr Smith said he has been "overwhelmed" with the response. He added that even though his wife wasn't by his side, he still feels her presence, "because she's looking down on me," he said.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. ONLINE CAMPAIGNS: Make a poster about online campaigns and websites that help people raise money. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. HEALTHCARE: Write a magazine article about governments providing free healthcare to citizens out of taxes. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on online campaigns. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her your thoughts on them. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a T b T c F d T e F f T g F h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| 1. campaign | a. drive |
| 2. battle | b. fight |
| 3. wiped out | c. destroyed |
| 4. urging | d. encouraging |
| 5. cash | e. money |
| 6. deed | f. act |
| 7. generosity | g. kindness |
| 8. make ends meet | h. get by |
| 9. overwhelmed | i. moved |
| 10. presence | j. spirit |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. 80
2. \$5
3. Over 30 years
4. His life savings
5. Over 9,000 times
6. His son
7. All corners of the Earth
8. \$20,000
9. Making ends meet
10. His wife's presence

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. c 2. a 3. a 4. b 5. d 6. b 7. a 8. c 9. d 10. a

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)