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## Level 6

### Video of starving polar bear goes viral

12th December, 2017

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171212-polar-bear.html>

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

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171212-polar-bear.html>

A video of a starving and emaciated polar bear collapsing in Canada's wilderness has gone viral on the Internet. The video shows the bear in search of food, wandering across land with no snow or ice. The creature is all skin and bones and is seen foraging for food in rusty waste containers. It is at times too weak to support its own body weight and has difficulty standing. Paul Nicklen, the photographer who took the video footage, stated the polar bear's plight was a clear sign of the devastating impact of climate change. He said filming the animal had been heart-wrenching. He explained his team were, "pushing through their tears and emotions while documenting this dying polar bear".

Mr Nicklen is part of the environmental group Sea Legacy. His team was on Canada's Baffin Island to shoot a documentary on conservation. He said the bear they filmed was not old and probably died within hours. He said: "This is what starvation looks like. The muscles atrophy. No energy. It's a slow, painful death." He blamed the bear's sad plight on global warming. He said: "As temperatures rise and sea ice melts, polar bears lose access to the main staple of their diets - seals." Climate change is the biggest threat to the world's 26,000 polar bears. The video explains that bears are, "starving, and running out of energy" and are "forced to wander into human settlements for any source of food."

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2017/dec/08/starving-polar-bear-arctic-climate-change-video>  
<http://montrealgazette.com/news/national/viral-video-of-starving-polar-bear-likely-the-product-of-climate-change-expert>  
<http://montreal.ctvnews.ca/viral-video-of-starving-polar-bear-spurs-calls-for-climate-change-action-1.3714570>

# WARM-UPS

**1. POLAR BEARS:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about polar bears. 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?

video / polar bear / viral / snow / skin / bones / photographer / heart-wrenching / environmental / documentary / conservation / starvation / atrophy / seals / climate

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

**3. EXTINCT:** Students A **strongly** believe polar bears will be extinct one day; Students B **strongly** believe they won't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. CLIMATE CHANGE:** Who or what does climate change affect most? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How?	How can we change this?
Polar bears		
Me		
Our weather		
Rainforest frogs		
Low-lying islands		
Poor people		

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

**6. SAD:** Rank these with your partner. Put the saddest things about global warming at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- dying polar bears
- melting ice caps
- acid rain
- ineffective leaders
- our future children's world
- corporate greed
- increase in diseases
- desertification

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                    |                                                                              |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. starving        | a. A wild, uninhabited region that is difficult to live in.                  |
| 2. emaciated       | b. Of a person or animal suffering from a lack of food or dying from hunger. |
| 3. wilderness      | c. Spread everywhere and quickly all over the Internet.                      |
| 4. gone viral      | d. Of a person or animal searching widely for food.                          |
| 5. foraging        | e. Abnormally thin or weak, especially because of illness or a lack of food. |
| 6. plight          | f. Something that is unbelievably sad and could make you cry.                |
| 7. heart-wrenching | g. A dangerous, difficult, or otherwise unfortunate situation.               |

## Paragraph 2

- |                 |                                                                                      |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8. conservation | h. Of body tissue or an organ wasting away, usually because of the wasting of cells. |
| 9. atrophy      | i. Made a person or animal do something they didn't want to do.                      |
| 10. staple      | j. The action of doing things to help protect the environment.                       |
| 11. threat      | k. A main or most important part of the diet of a person or animal.                  |
| 12. forced      | l. Moved or traveled slowly through or over a place or area.                         |
| 13. wander      | m. A person or thing likely to cause damage or danger.                               |
| 14. source      | n. A place, person, or thing from which something comes or can be obtained.          |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171212-polar-bear.html>

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

- a. A starving polar bear was filmed wandering around a Canadian city. **T / F**
- b. The bear is seen foraging for food in old market stalls. **T / F**
- c. A photographer said the starving bear was a sign of climate change. **T / F**
- d. The video crew showed very little emotion as they filmed the bear. **T / F**
- e. The video crew was on Baffin Island making a travel documentary. **T / F**
- f. The photographer said the bear would probably die within hours. **T / F**
- g. The photographer said seals were the main part of a polar bear's diet. **T / F**
- h. The video said bears would be going into where humans live for food. **T / F**

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH:

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

- |                        |                 |
|------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>1. emaciated</b>    | a. hold up      |
| <b>2. wandering</b>    | b. difficulty   |
| <b>3. foraging</b>     | c. film         |
| <b>4. support</b>      | d. roaming      |
| <b>5. documenting</b>  | e. food         |
| <b>6. shoot</b>        | f. recording    |
| <b>7. atrophy</b>      | g. communities  |
| <b>8. plight</b>       | h. half-starved |
| <b>9. diet</b>         | i. waste away   |
| <b>10. settlements</b> | j. hunting      |

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

- |                                        |                          |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. a starving and                      | a. documentary           |
| 2. in search                           | b. body weight           |
| 3. The creature is all skin            | c. 26,000 polar bears    |
| 4. too weak to support its own         | d. on global warming     |
| 5. the devastating impact of           | e. of food               |
| 6. shoot a                             | f. settlements           |
| 7. He blamed the bear's sad plight     | g. climate change        |
| 8. polar bears lose access to the main | h. emaciated polar bear  |
| 9. the biggest threat to the world's   | i. staple of their diets |
| 10. wander into human                  | j. and bones             |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171212-polar-bear.html>

A video of a starving and (1) \_\_\_\_\_ polar bear collapsing in Canada's wilderness has gone (2) \_\_\_\_\_ on the Internet. The video shows the bear in search of food, wandering across land with no snow or ice. The (3) \_\_\_\_\_ is all skin and bones and is seen foraging for food in (4) \_\_\_\_\_ waste containers. It is at times too weak to (5) \_\_\_\_\_ its own body weight and has difficulty standing. Paul Nicklen, the photographer who took the video (6) \_\_\_\_\_, stated the polar bear's plight was a clear sign of the devastating (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of climate change. He said filming the animal had been heart-wrenching. He explained his team were, "pushing through their tears and (8) \_\_\_\_\_ while documenting this dying polar bear".

*footage*  
*rusty*  
*viral*  
*emotions*  
*emaciated*  
*impact*  
*creature*  
*support*

Mr Nicklen is (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of the environmental group Sea Legacy. His team was on Canada's Baffin Island to (10) \_\_\_\_\_ a documentary on conservation. He said the bear they filmed was not old and probably died within hours. He said: "This is what (11) \_\_\_\_\_ looks like. The muscles atrophy. No energy. It's a slow, painful death." He (12) \_\_\_\_\_ the bear's sad plight on global warming. He said: "As temperatures rise and sea ice (13) \_\_\_\_\_, polar bears lose access to the main (14) \_\_\_\_\_ of their diets - seals." Climate change is the biggest threat to the world's 26,000 polar bears. The video explains that bears are, "starving, and running out of energy" and are "(15) \_\_\_\_\_ to wander into human settlements for any (16) \_\_\_\_\_ of food."

*starvation*  
*forced*  
*part*  
*source*  
*melts*  
*shoot*  
*staple*  
*blamed*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171212-polar-bear.html>

- 1) A video of a starving and emaciated polar bear collapsing in Canada's wilderness \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. has gone virally
  - b. has going viral
  - c. has been viral
  - d. has gone viral
- 2) The creature is all skin and bones and is seen \_\_\_\_\_ food
  - a. forcing for
  - b. forgetting for
  - c. foray in for
  - d. foraging for
- 3) It is at times too weak to support \_\_\_\_\_ weight
  - a. its down body
  - b. its own body
  - c. its own bodied
  - d. its owned body
- 4) He said filming the animal had been \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. heart-wrenching
  - b. heart wrench in
  - c. hearty wrenching
  - d. hearted wrenching
- 5) He explained his team were pushing through their \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. tears unemotional
  - b. tear and emotion
  - c. tiers and emoticons
  - d. tears and emotions
- 6) He said the bear they filmed was not old and probably \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. died with in hours
  - b. died withering hours
  - c. died without hours
  - d. died within hours
- 7) This is what starvation looks like. The muscles atrophy. No energy. It's a slow, \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. painful deaths
  - b. painfully death
  - c. painful death
  - d. pained full death
- 8) polar bears lose access to the main \_\_\_\_\_ diets - seals
  - a. stay pull of their
  - b. stray pull of their
  - c. staple of their
  - d. stapled of their
- 9) The video explains that bears are starving, and \_\_\_\_\_ energy
  - a. run in out of
  - b. running out of
  - c. ruining out of
  - d. reining out of
- 10) forced to wander into human settlements for any \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. sauce of food
  - b. source of food
  - c. soars of food
  - d. sores of food

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171212-polar-bear.html>

A video (1) \_\_\_\_\_ and emaciated polar bear collapsing in Canada's wilderness has (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the Internet. The video shows the bear in search of food, wandering across land with no snow or ice. The creature is all (3) \_\_\_\_\_ and is seen foraging for food in rusty waste containers. It is at times too weak to (4) \_\_\_\_\_ body weight and has difficulty standing. Paul Nicklen, the photographer who took the video footage, stated the polar bear's (5) \_\_\_\_\_ clear sign of the devastating impact of climate change. He said filming the animal had been heart-wrenching. He explained his team were, "pushing (6) \_\_\_\_\_ and emotions while documenting this dying polar bear".

Mr Nicklen is part of the environmental group Sea Legacy. (7) \_\_\_\_\_ on Canada's Baffin Island to shoot a documentary on conservation. He said the bear they filmed was not old and probably (8) \_\_\_\_\_. He said: "This is what starvation looks like. The muscles atrophy. No energy. It's a slow, painful death." (9) \_\_\_\_\_ bear's sad plight on global warming. He said: "As temperatures rise and sea ice melts, polar bears (10) \_\_\_\_\_ the (11) \_\_\_\_\_ their diets - seals." Climate change is the biggest threat to the world's 26,000 polar bears. The video explains that bears are, "starving, and running out of energy" and are "forced to wander into human settlements (12) \_\_\_\_\_ of food."



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171212-polar-bear.html>

1. What kind of Canadian environment was the bear wandering through?
2. What did the article say the bear was besides all skin?
3. What could the bear not support?
4. What did the photographer say the bear's plight was a sign of?
5. What was the team pushing through while filming the bear?
6. What was the Sea Legacy film crew shooting?
7. When did the photographer say the bear might have died?
8. What is the bear's staple diet?
9. How many polar bears are there in the world?
10. Where are polar bears being forced into looking for food?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171212-polar-bear.html>

- 1) What kind of Canadian environment was the bear wandering through?
  - a) ice and snow
  - b) wilderness
  - c) pastures
  - d) cities
- 2) What did the article say the bear was besides all skin?
  - a) muscles
  - b) fur
  - c) bones
  - d) energy
- 3) What could the bear not support?
  - a) the environment
  - b) its cubs
  - c) the ice
  - d) its own weight
- 4) What did the photographer say the bear's plight was a sign of?
  - a) a lack of fish
  - b) climate change
  - c) conservation
  - d) the times
- 5) What was the team pushing through while filming the bear?
  - a) emotions and tears
  - b) snow
  - c) rubbish
  - d) fish and seaweed
- 6) What was the Sea Legacy film crew shooting?
  - a) a documentary
  - b) wildlife
  - c) predators
  - d) a movie
- 7) When did the photographer say the bear might have died?
  - a) within minutes
  - b) within weeks
  - c) within days
  - d) within hours
- 8) What is the bear's staple diet?
  - a) penguins
  - b) seaweed
  - c) seals
  - d) fish
- 9) How many polar bears are there in the world?
  - a) 29,000
  - b) 28,000
  - c) 27,000
  - d) 26,000
- 10) Where are polar bears being forced into looking for food?
  - a) beaches
  - b) human settlements
  - c) markets
  - d) restaurants

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171212-polar-bear.html>

## **Role A – Dying Polar Bears**

You think dying polar bears is the saddest thing about global warming. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as sad. Also, tell the others which is the easiest to find a solution for (and why): acid rain, ineffective leaders or desertification.

## **Role B – Acid Rain**

You think acid rain is the saddest thing about global warming. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as sad. Also, tell the others which is the easiest to find a solution for (and why): dying polar bears, ineffective leaders or desertification.

## **Role C – Ineffective Leaders**

You think ineffective leaders is the saddest thing about global warming. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as sad. Also, tell the others which is the easiest to find a solution for (and why): acid rain, dying polar bears or desertification.

## **Role D – Desertification**

You think desertification is the saddest thing about global warming. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as sad. Also, tell the others which is the easiest to find a solution for (and why): acid rain, ineffective leaders or dying polar bears.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171212-polar-bear.html>

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

<b>polar</b>	<b>bear</b>
--------------	-------------

- 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"><li>• viral</li><li>• search</li><li>• waste</li><li>• own</li><li>• clear</li><li>• heart</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• team</li><li>• old</li><li>• blamed</li><li>• diets</li><li>• threat</li><li>• source</li></ul>
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# POLAR BEARS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171212-polar-bear.html>

Write five GOOD questions about polar bears 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.

# **POLAR BEARS DISCUSSION**

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

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'polar'?
3. What do you think of polar bears?
4. Why was the polar bear walking across land and not snow?
5. Should the film crew have given the bear some food?
6. How sad to you get when bad things happen to animals?
7. What do you think of climate change?
8. What other things is global warming devastating?
9. How important are the ice and snow in the Arctic?
10. Would you like to be a wildlife documentary maker?

*Video of starving polar bear goes viral – 12th December, 2017*  
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# **POLAR BEARS DISCUSSION**

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

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'bear'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you know about polar bears?
15. Would you volunteer to work with an environmental group?
16. What's the hungriest you've been?
17. How sad would it be if the polar bears disappeared?
18. What are the dangers of polar bears entering human settlements?
19. What three adjectives best describe this news, and why?
20. What questions would you like to ask Paul Nicklen?

# 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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171212-polar-bear.html>

A video of a (1) \_\_\_\_\_ and emaciated polar bear collapsing in Canada's wilderness has gone viral on the Internet. The video shows the bear (2) \_\_\_\_\_ search of food, wandering across land with no snow or ice. The creature is (3) \_\_\_\_\_ skin and bones and is seen foraging for food in rusty waste containers. It is at times too weak to support its own body weight and has difficulty standing. Paul Nicklen, the photographer who took the video (4) \_\_\_\_\_, stated the polar bear's plight was a clear sign of the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ impact of climate change. He said filming the animal had been heart-wrenching. He explained his team were, "pushing through their tears and emotions while (6) \_\_\_\_\_ this dying polar bear".

Mr Nicklen is part of the environmental group Sea Legacy. His team was on Canada's Baffin Island to (7) \_\_\_\_\_ a documentary on conservation. He said the bear they filmed was not old and probably died within hours. He said: "This is what starvation looks like. The muscles (8) \_\_\_\_\_. No energy. It's a slow, painful death." He blamed the bear's sad (9) \_\_\_\_\_ on global warming. He said: "As temperatures rise and sea ice melts, polar bears lose access to the main (10) \_\_\_\_\_ of their diets - seals." Climate change is the biggest (11) \_\_\_\_\_ to the world's 26,000 polar bears. The video explains that bears are, "starving, and running out of energy" and are "forced to wander into human settlements for any (12) \_\_\_\_\_ of food."

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

- |     |                |                 |                 |                |
|-----|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1.  | (a) starving   | (b) starves     | (c) starve      | (d) starvation |
| 2.  | (a) an         | (b) on          | (c) in          | (d) at         |
| 3.  | (a) some       | (b) any         | (c) all         | (d) made       |
| 4.  | (a) frontage   | (b) adage       | (c) underage    | (d) footage    |
| 5.  | (a) devastates | (b) devastation | (c) devastating | (d) devastate  |
| 6.  | (a) faxing     | (b) documenting | (c) mailing     | (d) filing     |
| 7.  | (a) aim        | (b) shoot       | (c) fire        | (d) set        |
| 8.  | (a) apostrophe | (b) atrophy     | (c) catastrophe | (d) philosophy |
| 9.  | (a) flight     | (b) blight      | (c) plight      | (d) slight     |
| 10. | (a) stipple    | (b) stable      | (c) stubble     | (d) staple     |
| 11. | (a) treaty     | (b) throat      | (c) treat       | (d) threat     |
| 12. | (a) sauce      | (b) soars       | (c) sores       | (d) source     |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171212-polar-bear.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. a starving and ieceaamtd polar bear
2. ridwnnega across land
3. ggiaonfr for food
4. the polar bear's gihlpt
5. the edsiatnvt impact of climate change
6. tears and meostnio

## Paragraph 2

7. the nelratvimnone group
8. a reutnmdyaoc on conservation
9. The ulscmse atrophy
10. As esteprrmuta rises
11. the main slatep of their diets - seals
12. any oecsr of food

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171212-polar-bear.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) painful death." He blamed the bear's sad plight on global warming. He said: "As temperatures rise and sea ice
- ( ) documentary on conservation. He said the bear they filmed was not old and probably died within
- ( ) out of energy" and are "forced to wander into human settlements for any source of food."
- ( ) melts, polar bears lose access to the main staple of their diets - seals." Climate change is the biggest
- ( ) threat to the world's 26,000 polar bears. The video explains that bears are, "starving, and running
- ( **1** ) A video of a starving and emaciated polar bear collapsing in Canada's wilderness has gone
- ( ) hours. He said: "This is what starvation looks like. The muscles atrophy. No energy. It's a slow,
- ( ) through their tears and emotions while documenting this dying polar bear".
- ( ) change. He said filming the animal had been heart-wrenching. He explained his team were, "pushing
- ( ) to support its own body weight and has difficulty standing. Paul Nicklen, the photographer who took the video
- ( ) viral on the Internet. The video shows the bear in search of food, wandering across land with no snow
- ( ) or ice. The creature is all skin and bones and is seen foraging for food in rusty waste containers. It is at times too weak
- ( ) footage, stated the polar bear's plight was a clear sign of the devastating impact of climate
- ( ) Mr Nicklen is part of the environmental group Sea Legacy. His team was on Canada's Baffin Island to shoot a

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171212-polar-bear.html>

1. video search shows of the food bear The in .
2. skin bones creature all and The is .
3. body own its support to weak Too weight .
4. the been wrenching filming had said animal heart- He .
5. His were through tears team pushing their .
6. they He filmed said was the not bear .
7. on the global bear's warming sad He plight blamed .
8. main their lose the of Bears to staple diets access .
9. threat bears biggest The polar world's the to 26,000 .
10. into wander to Forced food for settlements human .

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171212-polar-bear.html>

A video of a starving and *emancipated* / *emaciated* polar bear collapsing in Canada's wilderness has gone *viral* / *virtual* on the Internet. The video shows the bear in *searching* / *search* of food, wandering across land with no snow or ice. The creature is *some* / *all* skin and bones and is seen *forging* / *foraging* for food in rusty waste containers. It is at times too weak to support its own body weight and has *difficulty* / *difficult* standing. Paul Nicklen, the photographer who took the video *frontage* / *footage*, stated the polar bear's plight was a clear sign of the devastating *impact* / *compact* of climate change. He said *filmed* / *filming* the animal had been heart-wrenching. He explained his team were, "pushing through their tears and emotions *whole* / *while* documenting this dying polar bear".

Mr Nicklen is part of the environmental group Sea Legacy. His team was on Canada's Baffin Island to *shoot* / *fire* a documentary on conservation. He said the bear they filmed was not old and probably *dead* / *died* within hours. He said: "This is what *starvation* / *starved* looks like. The muscles *atrophy* / *trophy*. No energy. It's a slow, painful death." He *flamed* / *blamed* the bear's sad plight on global warming. He said: "As temperatures *rise* / *raise* and sea ice melts, polar bears lose *access* / *excess* to the main staple of their diets - seals." Climate change is the biggest *threat* / *treat* to the world's 26,000 polar bears. The video explains that bears are, "starving, and running *in* / *out* of energy" and are "forced to *wonder* / *wander* into human settlements for any source of food."

**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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171212-polar-bear.html>

\_ v \_ d \_ \_ \_ f \_ \_ st \_ rv \_ ng \_ nd \_ m \_ c \_ \_ t \_ d p \_ l \_ r b \_ \_ r  
c \_ ll \_ ps \_ ng \_ n C \_ n \_ d \_ 's w \_ ld \_ rn \_ ss h \_ s \_ g \_ n \_ v \_ r \_ l \_ n  
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f \_ \_ d, w \_ nd \_ r \_ ng \_ cr \_ ss l \_ nd w \_ th n \_ sn \_ w \_ r \_ c \_ . Th \_  
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Mr N \_ ckl \_ n \_ s p \_ rt \_ f th \_ \_ nv \_ r \_ nm \_ nt \_ l gr \_ \_ p S \_ \_  
L \_ g \_ cy. H \_ s \_ t \_ \_ m \_ w \_ s \_ \_ n C \_ n \_ d \_ 's B \_ ff \_ n \_ sl \_ nd \_ t \_  
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l \_ k \_ . Th \_ m \_ scl \_ s \_ tr \_ phy. N \_ \_ n \_ rgy. \_ t's \_ sl \_ w,  
p \_ \_ nf \_ l d \_ \_ th." H \_ bl \_ m \_ d th \_ b \_ \_ r's s \_ d pl \_ ght \_ n  
gl \_ b \_ l w \_ rm \_ ng. H \_ s \_ \_ d: " \_ s \_ t \_ mp \_ r \_ t \_ r \_ s \_ r \_ s \_ \_ nd  
s \_ \_ \_ c \_ m \_ lts, p \_ l \_ r b \_ \_ rs l \_ s \_ \_ cc \_ ss \_ t \_ th \_ m \_ \_ n  
st \_ pl \_ \_ f th \_ \_ r d \_ \_ ts - s \_ \_ ls." Cl \_ m \_ t \_ ch \_ ng \_ \_ s th \_  
b \_ gg \_ st thr \_ \_ t \_ t \_ th \_ w \_ rld's 26,000 p \_ l \_ r b \_ \_ rs. Th \_  
v \_ d \_ \_ \_ xpl \_ \_ ns th \_ t b \_ \_ rs \_ r \_ , "st \_ rv \_ ng, \_ nd r \_ nn \_ ng  
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s \_ ttl \_ m \_ nts f \_ r \_ ny s \_ \_ rc \_ \_ f \_ f \_ \_ d."

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171212-polar-bear.html>

a video of a starving and emaciated polar bear collapsing in canada's wilderness has gone viral on the internet the video shows the bear in search of food wandering across land with no snow or ice the creature is all skin and bones and is seen foraging for food in rusty waste containers it is at times too weak to support its own body weight and has difficulty standing paul nicklen the photographer who took the video footage stated the polar bear's plight was a clear sign of the devastating impact of climate change he said filming the animal had been heart-wrenching he explained his team were "pushing through their tears and emotions while documenting this dying polar bear"

mr nicklen is part of the environmental group sea legacy his team was on canada's baffin island to shoot a documentary on conservation he said the bear they filmed was not old and probably died within hours he said "this is what starvation looks like the muscles atrophy no energy it's a slow painful death" he blamed the bear's sad plight on global warming he said "as temperatures rise and sea ice melts polar bears lose access to the main staple of their diets - seals" climate change is the biggest threat to the world's 26000 polar bears the video explains that bears are "starving and running out of energy" and are "forced to wander into human settlements for any source of food"

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171212-polar-bear.html>

A video of a starving and emaciated polar bear collapsing in Canada's wilderness has gone viral on the Internet. The video shows the bear in search of food, wandering across land with no snow or ice. The creature is all skin and bones and is seen foraging for food in rusty waste containers. It is so weak that it struggles to support its own body weight and has difficulty standing. Paul Nicklen, the photographer who took the video footage, stated that the polar bear's plight was a clear sign of the devastating impact of climate change. He said filming the animal had been heart-wrenching. He explained that his team were "pushing through their tears and emotions while documenting this dying polar bear". Mr Nicklen is part of the environmental group SeaLegacy. His team was on Canada's Baffin Island to shoot a documentary on conservation. He said the bear they filmed was not old and probably died within hours. He said: "This is what starvation looks like. The muscles atrophy. No energy. It's a slow, painful death." He blamed the bear's sad plight on global warming. He said: "As temperatures rise and sea ice melts, polar bears lose access to the main staple of their diets - seals." Climate change is the biggest threat to the world's 26,000 polar bears. The video explains that bears are "starving, and running out of energy" and are "forced to wander into human settlements for any source of food."

# FREE WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171212-polar-bear.html>

Write about **polar bears** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

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**ACADEMIC WRITING**

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171212-polar-bear.html>

Governments will never do enough to combat climate change. Discuss.

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# 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 story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. POLAR BEARS:** Make a poster about polar bears. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. GLOBAL WARMING:** Write a magazine article about global warming. Argue that we must all greatly change the way we live to save Earth. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against it.

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 polar bears. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how we can help protect their habitat. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. b    2. e    3. a    4. c    5. d    6. g    7. f  
8. j    9. h    10. k    11. m    12. i    13. l    14. n

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

- |                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. emaciated    | a. half-starved |
| 2. wandering    | b. roaming      |
| 3. foraging     | c. hunting      |
| 4. support      | d. hold up      |
| 5. documenting  | e. recording    |
| 6. shoot        | f. film         |
| 7. atrophy      | g. waste away   |
| 8. plight       | h. difficulty   |
| 9. diet         | i. food         |
| 10. settlements | j. communities  |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Wilderness
2. Bones
3. Its own body weight
4. Climate change
5. Tears and emotions
6. A conservation documentary
7. Within hours
8. Seals
9. 26,000
10. Human settlements

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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