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## **Level 2**

# **Beef production damages the environment**

**24th July, 2014**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/140724-beef-production-2.html>

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**Please try Levels 0 and 1 (easier) and the 26–page Level 3 (harder).**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/140724-beef-production-2.html>

A new study says beef production damages the environment about ten times more than pork, lamb, or chicken production. Scientists said cows need 28 times more land and 11 times more water than pigs, sheep or chickens. They also produce a lot of greenhouse gas after they eat. Food like potatoes, wheat, and rice need 160 times less land and produce 11 times less greenhouse gases than beef. The scientists said the farming of animals and crops is a big cause of global warming. Farming causes 15 per cent of all greenhouse gases. About half of this is from animals.

One scientist said we could reduce our carbon footprint by eating less beef. Professor Mark Sutton said cutting down on beef is better for the environment than using the car less. He also said eating less beef means we could give the wheat that cows eat to feed starving people. This sounds simple, but many governments do not want to try it. Professor Sutton said governments should think about this carefully. He said consumers also needed to think more about what they eat. He said that eating less meat, especially less beef, is good for the environment.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-28409704>  
<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2014/jul/21/giving-up-beef-reduce-carbon-footprint-more-than-cars>  
[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/07/21/beef-environmental-impact\\_n\\_5599370.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/07/21/beef-environmental-impact_n_5599370.html)

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/140724-beef-production-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                           |                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. pork, lamb, or chicken | a. and crops         |
| 2. cows need 28 times     | b. gases             |
| 3. greenhouse             | c. and rice          |
| 4. potatoes, wheat,       | d. is from animals   |
| 5. the farming of animals | e. of global warming |
| 6. a big cause            | f. more land         |
| 7. greenhouse             | g. production        |
| 8. About half of this     | h. gas               |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                       |                    |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. reduce our carbon  | a. carefully       |
| 2. eating less        | b. the environment |
| 3. better for         | c. what they eat   |
| 4. the wheat that     | d. beef            |
| 5. feed starving      | e. want to try it  |
| 6. governments do not | f. footprint       |
| 7. think about this   | g. people          |
| 8. think more about   | h. cows eat        |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/140724-beef-production-2.html>

A new study says beef production (1) \_\_\_\_\_ about ten times more than pork, lamb, or chicken production. Scientists said cows (2) \_\_\_\_\_ land and 11 times more water than pigs, sheep or chickens. They (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of greenhouse gas after they eat. Food like (4) \_\_\_\_\_ need 160 times less land and produce 11 times less greenhouse gases than beef. The scientists (5) \_\_\_\_\_ animals and crops is a big cause (6) \_\_\_\_\_. Farming causes 15 per cent of all greenhouse gases. About half of this is from animals.

One scientist said we could reduce (7) \_\_\_\_\_ by eating less beef. Professor Mark Sutton (8) \_\_\_\_\_ beef is better for the environment than using the car less. He also said eating (9) \_\_\_\_\_ could give the wheat that cows eat to feed starving people. This sounds simple, but many governments (10) \_\_\_\_\_ it. Professor Sutton said governments should think about this carefully. He said consumers also (11) \_\_\_\_\_ about what they eat. He said that eating less meat, (12) \_\_\_\_\_, is good for the environment.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1407/140724-beef-production-2.html>

A new study says beef production damages the environment about ten times more than pork, lamb, or chicken production. Scientists said cows need 28 times more land and 11 times more water than pigs, sheep or chickens. They also produce a lot of greenhouse gas after they eat. Food like potatoes, wheat, and rice need 160 times less land and produce 11 times less greenhouse gas than beef. The scientists said the farming of animals and crops is a big cause of global warming. Farming causes 15 percent of all greenhouse gases. About half of this is from animals. One scientist said we could reduce our carbon footprint by eating less beef. Professor Mark Sutton said cutting down on beef is better for the environment than using the car less. He also said eating less beef means we could give the wheat that cowseats to feed starving people. This sounds simple, but many governments do not want to try it. Professor Sutton said governments should think about this carefully. He said consumers also needed to think more about what they eat. He said that eating less meat, especially less beef, is good for the environment.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

---

b)

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c)

---

d)

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e)

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f)

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g)

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h)

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*Beef production damages the environment – 24th July, 2014*  
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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

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b)

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c)

---

d)

---

e)

---

f)

---

g)

---

h)

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