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Level 6 – 25th June, 2018

Birds' stomachs too full of plastic to eat

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180625-plastic-pollution.html>

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

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180625-plastic-pollution.html>

A BBC team has filmed disturbing footage of the devastating impact plastic pollution is having on seabirds in the Tasman Sea, which is between Australia and New Zealand. The film crew was working on the remote Lord Howe Island for a new wildlife documentary called "Drowning in Plastic". They filmed many birds that had died because their stomachs were literally too full of plastic to be able to eat any food. The birds starved to death because there was no room in their stomachs for food. The documentary team filmed marine biologists working on the island to try and save the birds. The scientists captured hundreds of chicks and physically removed plastic from their stomachs to give them a chance of survival.

Marine biologist Jennifer Lavers explained what was happening to the birds. She said the birds were predators that will eat anything. She said: "When you put plastic in the ocean, it means they have no ability to detect plastic from non-plastic, so they eat it." Adult birds feed the plastic to their chicks, oblivious to what they are feeding them. Professor Lavers lamented that most of the plastic is "entirely preventable". She said: "We find plastic clothes pegs and plastic tooth brushes. Those could easily be swapped out for other materials - aluminium or wood. My own toothbrush is made of bamboo." TV presenter Liz Bonnin said: "We saw...90 pieces of plastic come out of one of the chicks."

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-44579422>
<https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/birds-are-dropping-dead-off-australia-s-coast-and-it-s-all-our-fault-20180518-p4zg4t.html>
<http://en.mercopress.com/2018/06/23/seabirds-starving-to-death-because-of-plastic-pollution-reveals-documentary>

WARM-UPS

1. PLASTIC POLLUTION: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about plastic pollution. 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?

BBC / impact / plastic / pollution / wildlife / documentary / stomach / island / birds / biologist / predators / ability / chicks / preventable / toothbrush / materials / bamboo

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

3. BAN: Students A **strongly** believe all plastic should be banned; Students B **strongly** believe it shouldn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. ALTERNATIVES: What alternatives are there to using plastic for these things? How likely would these replace plastic? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Alternative	Would this happen?
Pen		
Toothbrush		
Bottle		
Toys		
Straws		
Glitter		

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

6. PLASTIC GOODS: Rank these with your partner. Put the plastic goods that should be replaced most at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- toothbrushes
- water bottles
- straws
- CDs / DVDs
- chairs
- bowls
- pipes
- car interiors

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. disturbing | a. Located or situated far from the main centers of population; distant. |
| 2. footage | b. Causing anxiety; worrying. |
| 3. devastating | c. Highly destructive or damaging. |
| 4. remote | d. Suffered severely or died from hunger. |
| 5. literally | e. Taken into one's possession or control. |
| 6. starved | f. A length of film made for movies or television. |
| 7. captured | g. Exactly. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 8. predators | h. An expression of regret or disappointment. |
| 9. detect | i. Taken part in an exchange of something. |
| 10. oblivious | j. Able to be stopped or avoided. |
| 11. lamented | k. Not aware of or not concerned about what is happening around one. |
| 12. entirely | l. Completely; solely. |
| 13. preventable | m. Animals that naturally hunt and prey on others. |
| 14. swapped | n. Discovered or identified the presence or existence of. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180625-plastic-pollution.html>

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

- a. A documentary about seabirds was made by National Geographic. **T / F**
- b. The documentary looked at seabird's on Australia's east coast. **T / F**
- c. The documentary is called "Drowning in Plastic". **T / F**
- d. The researchers could not remove the plastic from the chicks' stomachs. **T / F**
- e. The birds in the documentary were not predators. **T / F**
- f. The seabirds did not know whether or not what they ate was plastic. **T / F**
- g. A scientist said she used a bamboo and not a plastic toothbrush. **T / F**
- h. A TV presenter counted 90 pieces of plastic in a chick's stomach. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

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

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| 1. disturbing | a. actually |
| 2. crew | b. exchanged |
| 3. literally | c. opportunity |
| 4. save | d. notice |
| 5. chance | e. rescue |
| 6. explained | f. worrying |
| 7. detect | g. unaware |
| 8. oblivious | h. bits |
| 9. swapped | i. team |
| 10. pieces | j. described |

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

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. filmed disturbing footage of the | a. plastic |
| 2. The film crew was working on the | b. of survival |
| 3. The birds starved | c. is made of bamboo |
| 4. physically removed | d. to detect plastic |
| 5. give them a chance | e. remote Lord Howe Island |
| 6. the birds were predators | f. preventable |
| 7. they have no ability | g. to death |
| 8. oblivious to what they | h. devastating impact |
| 9. entirely | i. that will eat anything |
| 10. My own toothbrush | j. are feeding them |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180625-plastic-pollution.html>

A BBC team has filmed disturbing (1) _____ of the devastating (2) _____ plastic pollution is having on seabirds in the Tasman Sea, which is between Australia and New Zealand. The film crew was working on the (3) _____ Lord Howe Island for a new wildlife documentary called "Drowning in Plastic". They filmed many birds that had died because their stomachs were (4) _____ too full of plastic to be able to eat any food. The birds (5) _____ to death because there was no room in their stomachs for food. The documentary team filmed marine biologists working on the island to try and (6) _____ the birds. The scientists captured hundreds of chicks and (7) _____ removed plastic from their stomachs to give them a chance of (8) _____.

impact
literally
physically
remote
survival
save
footage
starved

Marine biologist Jennifer Lavers explained what was happening to the birds. She said the birds were (9) _____ that will eat anything. She said: "When you put plastic in the ocean, it means they have no (10) _____ to detect plastic from non-plastic, so they eat it." Adult birds feed the plastic to their chicks, (11) _____ to what they are feeding them. Professor Lavers (12) _____ that most of the plastic is "(13) _____ preventable". She said: "We find plastic clothes pegs and plastic tooth brushes. Those could easily be (14) _____ out for other materials - aluminium or wood. My own toothbrush is made of (15) _____." TV presenter Liz Bonnin said: "We saw...90 (16) _____ of plastic come out of one of the chicks."

bamboo
ability
entirely
oblivious
pieces
predators
swapped
lamented

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180625-plastic-pollution.html>

- 1) A BBC team has filmed disturbing footage of the _____
 - a. devastating in pact
 - b. devastating imp act
 - c. devastating in packed
 - d. devastating impact
- 2) The film crew was working on the remote Lord Howe Island for a new _____
 - a. wildlife document try
 - b. wildlife dock you meant a tree
 - c. wildlife document a tree
 - d. wildlife documentary
- 3) They filmed many birds that had died because their stomachs were literally too _____
 - a. full of plastic
 - b. full off plastic
 - c. fill of plastic
 - d. fuel off plastic
- 4) The documentary team filmed marine biologists working on the island to try _____
 - a. and saved the birds
 - b. and save the birds
 - c. and saves the birds
 - d. and suave the birds
- 5) physically removed plastic from their stomachs to give them a _____
 - a. chances of survival
 - b. chance of survival
 - c. chanced of survival
 - d. chancing of survival
- 6) Marine biologist Jennifer Lavers explained what was _____ birds
 - a. happen in to the
 - b. happened to the
 - c. happening to the
 - d. happens in to the
- 7) When you put plastic in the ocean, it means they have no ability _____
 - a. to detect plastic
 - b. to defect plastic
 - c. to detract plastic
 - d. to dissect plastic
- 8) Professor Lavers lamented that most of the plastic is " _____ "
 - a. entirely preventable
 - b. entry preventable
 - c. entire lea preventable
 - d. entry lea preventable
- 9) We find plastic clothes pegs and plastic tooth brushes. Those could easily _____
 - a. be swaggered
 - b. be swabbed
 - c. be swapped
 - d. be swatted
- 10) TV presenter Liz Bonnin said: "We saw...90 pieces of plastic come _____ the chicks"
 - a. out off one of
 - b. out of one off
 - c. out of one of
 - d. out off one off

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180625-plastic-pollution.html>

A BBC team (1) _____ footage of the devastating impact plastic pollution is having on seabirds in the Tasman Sea, which is between Australia and New Zealand. The film crew was working (2) _____ Lord Howe Island for a new wildlife documentary called "Drowning in Plastic". They filmed many birds that had died because their stomachs were (3) _____ of plastic to be able to eat any food. The birds starved to death because there was (4) _____ their stomachs for food. The documentary team filmed marine biologists working on (5) _____ try and save the birds. The scientists captured hundreds of chicks and physically removed plastic from their stomachs to give (6) _____ of survival.

Marine biologist Jennifer Lavers explained what was happening to the birds. She said the birds were (7) _____ eat anything. She said: "When you put plastic in the ocean, it means they have no (8) _____ plastic from non-plastic, so they eat it." Adult birds feed the plastic to their chicks, (9) _____ they are feeding them. Professor Lavers lamented that most of the plastic is "entirely preventable". She said: "We find plastic clothes (10) _____ tooth brushes. Those could (11) _____ out for other materials - aluminium or wood. My own toothbrush is made of bamboo." TV presenter Liz Bonnin said: "We saw... (12) _____ plastic come out of one of the chicks."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180625-plastic-pollution.html>

1. What agency made the documentary?
2. What is the name of the island the documentary was filmed on?
3. What is the name of the documentary?
4. What kind of scientists did the documentary team film?
5. How many chicks did the scientists capture?
6. What kind of creature did a scientist say the birds were?
7. What can't the sea birds detect?
8. What two things did a scientist say she found?
9. What is the scientist's toothbrush made of?
10. How many pieces of plastic did a TV presenter find in a chick?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180625-plastic-pollution.html>

1) What agency made the documentary?

- a) CNN
- b) BBC
- c) Nat Geo
- d) Disney

2) What is the name of the island the documentary was filmed on?

- a) Lord Ham
- b) Lord Halifax
- c) Lord Huron
- d) Lord Howe

3) What is the name of the documentary?

- a) Drowning in Plastic
- b) Plastic for Dinner
- c) Plastic Death
- d) Plastic Birds

4) What kind of scientists did the documentary team film?

- a) ornithologists
- b) zoologists
- c) marine biologists
- d) plasticologists

5) How many chicks did the scientists capture?

- a) dozens
- b) hundreds
- c) thousands
- d) 99

6) What kind of creature did a scientist say the birds were?

- a) beautiful
- b) streamlined
- c) predators
- d) endangered

7) What can't the sea birds detect?

- a) danger
- b) storms
- c) fish
- d) plastic

8) What two things did a scientist say she found?

- a) clothes pegs and toothbrushes
- b) Lego blocks and straws
- c) water bottles and pens
- d) DVDs and CDs

9) What is the scientist's toothbrush made of?

- a) bamboo
- b) aluminium
- c) wood
- d) carbon

10) How many pieces of plastic did a TV presenter find in a chick?

- a) 80
- b) 90
- c) 70
- d) 50

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180625-plastic-pollution.html>

Role A – Toothbrushes

You think toothbrushes are the biggest plastic things that should be replaced. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the last of these to be replaced of these (and why): water bottles, pipes or straws.

Role B – Water Bottles

You think water bottles are the biggest plastic things that should be replaced. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the last of these to be replaced of these (and why): toothbrushes, pipes or straws.

Role C – Pipes

You think pipes are the biggest plastic things that should be replaced. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the last of these to be replaced of these (and why): water bottles, toothbrushes or straws.

Role D – Straws

You think straws are the biggest plastic things that should be replaced. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the last of these to be replaced of these (and why): water bottles, pipes or toothbrushes.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180625-plastic-pollution.html>

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

plastic	pollution
----------------	------------------

- 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">• impact• new• literally• starved• try• chance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• happening• put• oblivious• pegs• own• 90
---	---

PLASTIC POLLUTION SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180625-plastic-pollution.html>

Write five GOOD questions about plastic pollution 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.

PLASTIC POLLUTION 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 'plastic'?
3. How damaging is plastic to the environment?
4. What can we do to reduce our use of plastic?
5. What would it be like to be on the documentary team?
6. To what degree are we "drowning in plastic"?
7. How sad is this news?
8. Should anyone be punished for the plastic problem?
9. Who has the biggest responsibility to reduce plastic use?
10. What do you think of the chances of the birds surviving?

Birds' stomachs too full of plastic to eat – 25th June, 2018
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PLASTIC POLLUTION 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 'pollution'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do marine biologists do?
15. How can we better protect seabirds?
16. How easy is it to live without plastic?
17. Will you buy bamboo toothbrushes from now?
18. Why is plastic so damaging?
19. Is it too late to reverse the damage done by plastic to wildlife?
20. What questions would you like to ask the researchers?

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/1806/180625-plastic-pollution.html>

A BBC team has filmed disturbing footage of the devastating (1) _____ plastic pollution is having (2) _____ seabirds in the Tasman Sea, which is between Australia and New Zealand. The film crew was working on the (3) _____ Lord Howe Island for a new wildlife documentary called "Drowning in Plastic". They filmed many birds that had died because their stomachs were (4) _____ too full of plastic to be able to eat any food. The birds starved (5) _____ death because there was no room in their stomachs for food. The documentary team filmed marine biologists working on the island to try and save the birds. The scientists captured hundreds of chicks and physically removed plastic from their stomachs to give them a (6) _____ of survival.

Marine biologist Jennifer Lavers explained what was happening to the birds. She said the birds were (7) _____ that will eat anything. She said: "When you put plastic in the ocean, it means they have no ability to (8) _____ plastic from non-plastic, so they eat it." Adult birds feed the plastic to their chicks, (9) _____ to what they are feeding them. Professor Lavers lamented that most of the plastic is "entirely preventable". She said: "We find plastic clothes pegs and plastic tooth brushes. Those could easily (10) _____ swapped out for other materials - aluminium or wood. My own toothbrush is made (11) _____ bamboo." TV presenter Liz Bonnin said: "We saw...90 pieces of plastic come (12) _____ of one of the chicks."

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. | (a) compact | (b) pact | (c) impact | (d) epact |
| 2. | (a) on | (b) at | (c) to | (d) as |
| 3. | (a) remote | (b) demote | (c) emote | (d) promote |
| 4. | (a) literally | (b) literal | (c) literary | (d) illiterate |
| 5. | (a) of | (b) to | (c) as | (d) at |
| 6. | (a) charts | (b) chants | (c) choice | (d) chance |
| 7. | (a) reptiles | (b) mammals | (c) predators | (d) invertebrates |
| 8. | (a) detain | (b) detract | (c) detail | (d) detect |
| 9. | (a) oblivious | (b) curious | (c) spurious | (d) cautious |
| 10. | (a) get | (b) be | (c) have | (d) make |
| 11. | (a) out | (b) of | (c) by | (d) to |
| 12. | (a) in | (b) from | (c) out | (d) at |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180625-plastic-pollution.html>

Paragraph 1

1. disturbing oogtafe
2. the devastating pmitac
3. their stomachs were rylaitell too full of plastic
4. marine stliibsogo
5. scientists rectpadu hundreds of chicks
6. give them a chance of uislrva

Paragraph 2

7. the birds were dtaporsre
8. no ability to dceett plastic
9. oiuolbsvi to what they are feeding
10. the plastic is erinytle preventable
11. Those could easily be dpspwea
12. made of omabob

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180625-plastic-pollution.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () "We find plastic clothes pegs and plastic tooth brushes. Those could easily
- () working on the remote Lord Howe Island for a new wildlife documentary called "Drowning in Plastic". They filmed
- () Marine biologist Jennifer Lavers explained what was happening to the birds. She said the birds were predators that will
- () eat any food. The birds starved to death because there was no room in their stomachs for food. The documentary team filmed
- () feeding them. Professor Lavers lamented that most of the plastic is "entirely preventable". She said:
- () on seabirds in the Tasman Sea, which is between Australia and New Zealand. The film crew was
- () marine biologists working on the island to try and save the birds. The scientists captured hundreds
- () of chicks and physically removed plastic from their stomachs to give them a chance of survival.
- () many birds that had died because their stomachs were literally too full of plastic to be able to
- () plastic from non-plastic, so they eat it." Adult birds feed the plastic to their chicks, oblivious to what they are
- () bamboo." TV presenter Liz Bonnin said: "We saw...90 pieces of plastic come out of one of the chicks."
- () be swapped out for other materials - aluminium or wood. My own toothbrush is made of
- (**1**) A BBC team has filmed disturbing footage of the devastating impact plastic pollution is having
- () eat anything. She said: "When you put plastic in the ocean, it means they have no ability to detect

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180625-plastic-pollution.html>

1. devastating plastic is pollution The impact having .
2. island . was crew remote The the working on
3. were literally too stomachs of full plastic . Their
4. died . birds They had that many filmed
5. a give them chance To of survival .
6. will birds that predators anything . The eat were
7. to have detect . It ability no they means
8. the feed birds Adult plastic their to chicks .
9. be other for could easily Those materials . swapped
10. pieces come We of saw out . plastic 90

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180625-plastic-pollution.html>

A BBC team has filmed disturbing *footing* / *footage* of the devastating impact plastic pollution is having *in* / *on* seabirds in the Tasman Sea, which is between Australia and New Zealand. The film crew was working on the *remotely* / *remote* Lord Howe Island for a new wildlife *documentary* / *documented* called "Drowning in Plastic". They filmed many birds that had died because their stomachs were *literal* / *literally* too full of plastic to be able to eat *any* / *many* food. The birds starved to *death* / *dead* because there was no room in their stomachs for food. The documentary team *filming* / *filmed* marine biologists working on the island to try and save the birds. The scientists *raptured* / *captured* hundreds of chicks and physically removed plastic from their stomachs to give them a chance of *survive* / *survival*.

Marine biologist Jennifer Lavers explained what was *happening* / *happened* to the birds. She said the birds were *predators* / *prey* that will eat anything. She said: "When you put plastic in the ocean, it means they have no *able* / *ability* to *detect* / *defect* plastic from non-plastic, so they eat it." Adult birds feed the plastic to their chicks, *obvious* / *oblivious* to what they are feeding *it* / *them*. Professor Lavers *lamented* / *placated* that most of the plastic is "entirely preventable". She said: "We find plastic clothes pegs and plastic tooth brushes. Those could easily be *shaped* / *swapped* out for other materials - aluminium or wood. My own toothbrush is made *by* / *of* bamboo." TV presenter Liz Bonnin said: "We saw...90 pieces of plastic come out *of* / *off* one of the chicks."

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/1806/180625-plastic-pollution.html>

A BBC t__ m h_s f_l m_d d_s t_r b_n g f__ t_g__ f
t h_ d_v_s t_t_n g _m p_c t p_l_s t_c p_l_l_t__ n _s
h_v_n g _n s__ b_r d_s _n t h_ T_s m_n S__ , w h_c
h _s b_t w__ n A_s t_r_l__ _n d N_w Z__ l_n d . T
h_ f_l m c_r_w w_s w_r k_n g _n t h_ r_m_t_ L_r d
H_w_ I_s l_n d f_r _ n_w w_l d l_f_ d_c_m_n t_r y c_l
l_d " D_r_w_n_n g _n P_l_s t_c " . T h_y f_l m_d m_n
y b_r d_s t h_t h_d d__ d b_c__ s_ t h__ r s t_m_c
h_s w_r_ l_t_r_l_l y t__ f_l_l_f p_l_s t_c t_ b__ b
l_ t__ t _n y f__ d . T h_ b_r d_s s t_r v_d t_ d__
t h_ b_c__ s_ t h_r_ w_s n_ r__ m _n t h__ r s
t_m_c h_s f_r f__ d . T h_ d_c_m_n t_r y t__ m f_l
m_d m_r_n_ b__ l_g_s t_s w_r k_n g _n t h_ s_l_n d
t_ t_r y _n d s_v_ t h_ b_r d_s . T h_ s_c__ n t_s t_s
c_p t_r_d h_n d_r d_s _f c_h_c k_s _n d p_h_y_s_c_l_l y
r_m_v_d p_l_s t_c f_r m t h__ r s t_m_c h_s t_ g_v_
t h_m _ c_h_n c_ _f s_r v_v_l .

M_r_n_ b__ l_g_s t J_n n_f_r L_v_r s _x p_l__ n_d w
h_t w_s h_p_p_n_n g t_ t h_ b_r d_s . S h_ s__ d t
h_ b_r d_s w_r_ p_r_d_t_r s t h_t w_l_l __ t _n y t
h_n g . S h_ s__ d : " W h_n y__ p_t p_l_s t_c _n
t h_ _c__ n , _t m__ n_s t h_y h_v_ n_ _b_l_t_y t_
d_t_c t p_l_s t_c f_r m n_n - p_l_s t_c , s_ t h_y __ t
_t . " A d_l_t b_r d_s f__ d t h_ p_l_s t_c t_ t h__ r
c_h_c k_s , _b_l_v__ s t_ w h_t t h_y _r_ f__ d_n g t
h_m . P_r_f_s_s_r L_v_r s l_m_n t_d t h_t m_s t _f
t h_ p_l_s t_c _s "_n t_r_l_y p_r_v_n t_b_l_" . S h_ s__
d : " W_ f_n d p_l_s t_c c_l_t h_s p_g_s _n d p_l_s
t_c t__ t h_ b_r_s h_s . T h_s_ c__ l_d __ s_l_y b_ s
w_p_p_d __ t f_r _t h_r m_t_r__ l_s - _l_m_n__ m _r
w__ d . M_y _w_n t__ t h_ b_r_s h_ _s m_d _f b_m b__
." T V p_r_s_n t_r L_z B_n n_n s__ d : " W_ s_w .
. . 90 p__ c_s _f p_l_s t_c c_m_ __ t _f _n_ _f t h_
c_h_c k_s . "

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180625-plastic-pollution.html>

a bbc team has filmed disturbing footage of the devastating impact plastic pollution is having on seabirds in the tasman sea which is between australia and new zealand the film crew was working on the remote lord howe island for a new wildlife documentary called drowning in plastic they filmed many birds that had died because their stomachs were literally too full of plastic to be able to eat any food the birds starved to death because there was no room in their stomachs for food the documentary team filmed marine biologists working on the island to try and save the birds the scientists captured hundreds of chicks and physically removed plastic from their stomachs to give them a chance of survival

marine biologist jennifer lavers explained what was happening to the birds she said the birds were predators that will eat anything she said when you put plastic in the ocean it means they have no ability to detect plastic from nonplastic so they eat it adult birds feed the plastic to their chicks oblivious to what they are feeding them professor lavers lamented that most of the plastic is entirely preventable she said we find plastic clothes pegs and plastic tooth brushes those could easily be swapped out for other materials aluminium or wood my own toothbrush is made of bamboo tv presenter liz bonnin said we saw 90 pieces of plastic come out of one of the chicks"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180625-plastic-pollution.html>

ABBCteamhasfilmeddisturbingfootageofthedevastatingimpactplasticpollutionishavingonseabirdsintheTasmanSea,whichisbetweenAustraliaandNewZealand.ThefilmcrewwasworkingontheremoteLordHoweIslandforanewwildlifedocumentarycalled"DrowninginPlastic".Theyfilmedmanybirdsthathaddiedbecausetheirstomachswereliterallytoofullofplastictobeabletoeatanyfood.Thebirdsstarvedtodeathbecausetherewasnoroomintheirstomachsforfood.Thedocumentaryteamfilmedmarinebiologistsworkingontheislandtotryandsavethebirds.Thescientistscapturedhundredsofchicksandphysicallyremovedplasticfromtheirstomachstogivethemachanceofsurvival.MarinebiologistJenniferLaversexplainedwhatwashappeningtothebirds.Shesaidthebirdswerepredatorsthatwilleatanything.Shesaid:"Whenyouputplasticintheocean,itmeanstheyhavenoabilitytodetectplasticfromnon-plastic,sotheyeatit."Adultbirdsfeedtheplastictotheirchicks,obliviousastheyarefeedingthem.ProfessorLaverslamentedthatmostoftheplasticis"entirelypreventable".Shesaid:"Wefindplasticclothespegsandplastictoothbrushes.Thosecouldeasilybeswappedoutforothermaterials-aluminiumorwood.Myowntoothbrushismadeofbamboo."TVpresenterLizBonninsaid:"Wesaw...90piecesofplasticcomeoutofoneofthechicks."

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. PLASTIC POLLUTION: Make a poster about plastic pollution. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. PLASTIC BAN: Write a magazine article about a ban on plastic. 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 plastic pollution. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on how we can deal with plastic pollution. 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. f 3. c 4. a 5. g 6. d 7. e
8. m 9. n 10. k 11. h 12. l 13. j 14. i

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. disturbing | a. worrying |
| 2. crew | b. team |
| 3. literally | c. actually |
| 4. save | d. rescue |
| 5. chance | e. opportunity |
| 6. explained | f. described |
| 7. detect | g. notice |
| 8. oblivious | h. unaware |
| 9. swapped | i. exchanged |
| 10. pieces | j. bits |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. The BBC
2. Lord Howe Island
3. Drowning in Plastic
4. Marine biologists
5. Hundreds
6. Predators
7. Plastic
8. Clothes pegs and toothbrushes
9. Bamboo
10. 90

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. The devastating impact plastic pollution is having.
2. They filmed many birds that had died.
3. Their stomachs were literally too full of plastic.
4. They filmed many birds that had died.
5. To give them a chance of survival.
6. The birds were predators that will eat anything.
7. It means they have no ability to detect.
8. Adult birds feed the plastic to their chicks.
9. Those could easily be swapped for other materials.
10. We saw 90 pieces of plastic come out.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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