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Level 3 – 16th June, 2022

New Zealand may tax farm animal burps

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220616-cow-burps.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220616-cow-burps.html>

New Zealand is thinking about introducing a new tax to help the environment. It wants farmers to pay tax on the numbers of farm animals they have. Sheep, cows and other livestock create a lot of methane. This is one of the most damaging greenhouse gases. It is a big cause of climate change. Animals release methane every time they burp or fart. The "burp tax" would take effect in 2025. New Zealand has over 20,000 farms. There are around 26 million sheep, 4 million cows and other animals in the country. James Shaw, New Zealand's climate change minister, said: "There is no question that we need to cut the amount of methane we are putting into the atmosphere."

Farming animals accounts for around 14.5 per cent of global greenhouse gasses. This comes from animals burping and farting, animal waste, clearing land for animals and transporting animals. Mr Shaw wants farming to be more environmentally friendly. Farmers will have to pay a kind of tax for the methane their animals produce. Shaw also wants farmers to change the way they farm. He wants them to feed their animals on seaweed instead of grass. This will produce fewer emissions. Mr Shaw also said farmers can reduce the tax they pay by planting more trees. Another suggestion is for cows to wear special masks. New Zealand's farmers support the government. They want to do their bit to help the environment.

Sources: <https://news.yahoo.com/new-zealand-considers-taxing-cow-and-sheep-burps-to-combat-climate-change-184504518.html>
<https://www.nzherald.co.nz/business/government-in-race-against-time-to-price-farm-emissions-by-2025/FSV7YDFQVOJBLCR2XCAML73XSA/>
<https://www.totallyveganbuzz.com/environment/new-zealand-tax-burps-of-cows-sheep-climate-crisis/>

WARM-UPS

1. COW BURPS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about cow burps. 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?

New Zealand / tax / environment / farmers / livestock / greenhouses gasses / sheep / burping / farting / animal waste / methane / seaweed / grass / cows / trees / masks

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

3. BURP TAX: Students A **strongly** believe taxing cow and sheep burps is a good idea; Students B **strongly** believe it isn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. TAX: What do you think of a tax on these things? How much should it be? Why? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What I Think	How Much	Why
Cow burps			
Sugar			
Cigarettes			
Company profits			
Income			
Water			

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

6. FARM ANIMALS: Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Cows
- Pigs
- Goats
- Chickens
- Sheep
- Ostriches
- Horses
- Dogs

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. introducing | a. A reason for something happening. |
| 2. pay | b. Farm animals that will be sold for meat or milk. |
| 3. livestock | c. Give money for shopping or tax. |
| 4. methane | d. Start to apply. |
| 5. cause | e. Bringing something, especially a product, action, or concept) into use or operation for the first time. |
| 6. release | f. A colourless, odourless gas that causes a lot of harm to the environment. |
| 7. take effect | g. Allow something to move, act, or flow freely. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 8. account for | h. To have the job of growing crops or keeping sheep, cows, etc. |
| 9. waste | i. Putting a seed, bulb, or plant in the ground so that it can grow. |
| 10. produce | j. The production and release of something, especially gas or radiation. |
| 11. farm | k. What comes out of animals' (and humans') bodies when they go to the toilet. |
| 12. emissions | l. Does a fair share of helping. |
| 13. planting | m. Be part of or make up a number, amount or proportion. |
| 14. do their bit | n. Create or make. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220616-cow-burps.html>

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

1. New Zealand wants a new tax to help the environment. **T / F**
2. Cow and sheep burps create a lot of greenhouse gas. **T / F**
3. There are around 26 million cows in New Zealand. **T / F**
4. New Zealand's climate change minister said he had no questions. **T / F**
5. New Zealand's farms create 14.5% of global greenhouse gases. **T / F**
6. Cows in New Zealand might have to eat seaweed instead of grass. **T / F**
7. Cows in New Zealand might have to wear masks. **T / F**
8. New Zealand's farmers do not support the government's plans. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. thinking about | a. idea |
| 2. livestock | b. belch |
| 3. cause | c. moving |
| 4. burp | d. reduce |
| 5. cut | e. farm animals |
| 6. transporting | f. back |
| 7. produce | g. create |
| 8. change | h. considering |
| 9. suggestion | i. amend |
| 10. support | j. reason |

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

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. New Zealand is thinking about | a. a lot of methane |
| 2. Sheep, cows and other livestock create | b. environmentally friendly |
| 3. The "burp tax" would take | c. into the atmosphere |
| 4. There is no question that we need | d. instead of grass |
| 5. methane we are putting | e. around 14.5 per cent |
| 6. Farming animals accounts for | f. bit to help |
| 7. Mr Shaw wants farming to be more | g. introducing a new tax |
| 8. feed their animals on seaweed | h. the tax they pay |
| 9. farmers can reduce | i. to cut the amount |
| 10. They want to do their | j. effect in 2025 |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220616-cow-burps.html>

New Zealand is thinking about introducing a new tax to (1) _____ the environment. It wants farmers to pay tax on the numbers of farm animals they have. Sheep, cows and other (2) _____ create a lot of methane. This is one of the most damaging greenhouse gases. It is a big (3) _____ of climate change. Animals release (4) _____ every time they burp or fart. The "burp tax" would take (5) _____ in 2025. New Zealand has over 20,000 farms. There are around 26 million sheep, 4 million cows and (6) _____ animals in the country. James Shaw, New Zealand's climate change minister, said: "There is no (7) _____ that we need to cut the amount of methane we are putting into the (8) _____."

other
livestock
atmosphere
methane
help
question
effect
cause

Farming animals (9) _____ for around 14.5 per cent of global greenhouse gasses. This comes from animals burping and farting, animal (10) _____, clearing land for animals and transporting animals. Mr Shaw wants farming to be more environmentally (11) _____. Farmers will have to pay a (12) _____ of tax for the methane their animals produce. Shaw also wants farmers to change the (13) _____ they farm. He wants them to feed their animals on seaweed instead of grass. This will produce (14) _____ emissions. Mr Shaw also said farmers can reduce the tax they pay by planting more trees. Another (15) _____ is for cows to wear special masks. New Zealand's farmers support the government. They want to do their (16) _____ to help the environment.

kind
accounts
suggestion
friendly
bit
way
waste
fewer

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220616-cow-burps.html>

- 1) New Zealand is thinking about introducing a new tax to _____
 - a. help an environment
 - b. help a environment
 - c. help that environment
 - d. help the environment
- 2) Sheep, cows and other livestock create a _____
 - a. lot off meth aim
 - b. lot of me thinks
 - c. lot of methane
 - d. lot of methanol
- 3) Animals release methane every time they _____
 - a. burp or part
 - b. burp or fart
 - c. burp or heart
 - d. burp or flirt
- 4) There are around 26 million sheep, 4 million cows and other animals _____
 - a. in a country
 - b. in the country
 - c. in that country
 - d. inner country
- 5) There is no question that we need to cut the _____
 - a. a mountain of methane
 - b. aim mount of methane
 - c. am mount of methane
 - d. amount of methane
- 6) This comes from animals burping and farting, _____
 - a. animal waste
 - b. animal wastes
 - c. animal haste
 - d. animal waist
- 7) Farmers will have to pay a kind of tax for the methane _____
 - a. their animals reduce
 - b. their animals product
 - c. their animals prod deuce
 - d. their animals produce
- 8) He wants them to feed their animals on seaweed _____
 - a. instead odd grass
 - b. instead doff grass
 - c. instead of grass
 - d. in stead of glass
- 9) Another suggestion is for cows to _____
 - a. weir special masks
 - b. wore special masks
 - c. where special masks
 - d. wear special masks
- 10) They want to do their bit to _____
 - a. helps the environment
 - b. help the environment
 - c. helping the environment
 - d. helper environment

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220616-cow-burps.html>

New Zealand (1) _____ introducing a new tax to help the environment. It wants farmers to pay tax on (2) _____ farm animals they have. Sheep, cows and other livestock create a lot of methane. This is (3) _____ most damaging greenhouse gases. It is a big cause of climate change. Animals release methane every time they burp or fart. The "burp tax" (4) _____ in 2025. New Zealand has over 20,000 farms. There are around 26 million sheep, 4 million (5) _____ animals in the country. James Shaw, New Zealand's climate change minister, said: "There is no question that we need to (6) _____ of methane we are putting into the atmosphere."

Farming animals (7) _____ 14.5 per cent of global greenhouse gasses. This comes from animals burping and farting, animal waste, (8) _____ animals and transporting animals. Mr Shaw wants farming to be more environmentally friendly. Farmers will have to pay a kind of tax for the methane (9) _____. Shaw also wants farmers to change the way they farm. He wants them to feed their animals on seaweed (10) _____. This will produce fewer emissions. Mr Shaw also said farmers can reduce the tax they pay by (11) _____. Another suggestion is for cows to wear special masks. New Zealand's farmers support the government. They want to (12) _____ to help the environment.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220616-cow-burps.html>

1. What does the new tax want to help?
2. What does livestock create a lot of?
3. When might the tax come into effect?
4. How many cows are there in New Zealand?
5. What does New Zealand's climate change minister want to cut?
6. What accounts for 14.5% of global greenhouse gasses?
7. What does James Shaw want farming to be?
8. What might cows have to eat instead of grass?
9. What might cows have to wear?
10. What do farmers want to do to help the environment?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220616-cow-burps.html>

- 1) What does the new tax want to help?
 - a) cows
 - b) farmers
 - c) the environment
 - d) chickens
- 2) What does livestock create a lot of?
 - a) methane
 - b) noise
 - c) meat
 - d) interesting smells
- 3) When might the tax come into effect?
 - a) 2024
 - b) 2025
 - c) 2026
 - d) 2027
- 4) How many cows are there in New Zealand?
 - a) 26 million
 - b) 20,000
 - c) 14.5 million
 - d) four million
- 5) What does New Zealand's climate change minister want to cut?
 - a) the number of cows
 - b) the number of farms
 - c) methane emissions
 - d) his ties with farming
- 6) What accounts for 14.5% of global greenhouse gasses?
 - a) growing vegetables
 - b) farming animals
 - c) growing rice
 - d) tractors
- 7) What does James Shaw want farming to be?
 - a) more popular
 - b) profitable
 - c) easier to do
 - d) more environmentally friendly
- 8) What might cows have to eat instead of grass?
 - a) fruit
 - b) seaweed
 - c) baked beans
 - d) tofu
- 9) What might cows have to wear?
 - a) helmets
 - b) masks
 - c) boots
 - d) cow underpants
- 10) What do farmers want to do to help the environment?
 - a) their bit
 - b) grow more vegetables
 - c) farm more chickens
 - d) become vegetarian

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220616-cow-burps.html>

Role A – Cows

You think cows are the best farm animals. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their animals. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): sheep, goats or chickens.

Role B – Sheep

You think sheep are the best farm animals. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their animals. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): cows, goats or chickens.

Role C – Goats

You think goats are the best farm animals. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their animals. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): sheep, cows or chickens.

Role D – Chickens

You think chickens are the best farm animals. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their animals. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): sheep, goats or cows.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220616-cow-burps.html>

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

tax	farm

- 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">• thinking• numbers• big• 2025• 4• question	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 14.5• waste• land• trees• fewer• bit
--	---

COW BURPS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220616-cow-burps.html>

Write five GOOD questions about cow burps 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.

COW BURPS 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 'farmer'?
3. What do you think of taxes?
4. What do you think of taxing animals that burp and fart?
5. What do you think of farmers?
6. What do you know about methane?
7. How can we better protect the environment?
8. Should we farm fewer cows and sheep?
9. Should there be a burp and fart tax on people?
10. What advice do you have for farmers?

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COW BURPS 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 'tax'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Would people becoming vegetarian cut methane emissions?
15. Do you do your bit to help the environment?
16. Do you think cows will like seaweed?
17. Should we all plant more trees?
18. Should farmers capture the methane from burping animals?
19. What kinds of masks should cows wear?
20. What questions would you like to ask New Zealand farmers?

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/2206/220616-cow-burps.html>

New Zealand is (1) _____ about introducing a new tax to help the environment. It wants farmers to pay tax (2) _____ the numbers of farm animals they have. Sheep, cows and other livestock create a lot of methane. This is one of the most (3) _____ greenhouse gases. It is a big cause of climate change. Animals (4) _____ methane every time they burp or fart. The "burp tax" would take effect in 2025. New Zealand has over 20,000 farms. There are (5) _____ 26 million sheep, 4 million cows and other animals in the country. James Shaw, New Zealand's climate change minister, said: "There is no question that we need to cut the amount of methane we are (6) _____ into the atmosphere."

Farming animals (7) _____ for around 14.5 per cent of global greenhouse gasses. This comes from animals burping and farting, animal (8) _____, clearing land for animals and transporting animals. Mr Shaw wants farming to be more environmentally friendly. Farmers will have to pay a (9) _____ of tax for the methane their animals produce. Shaw also wants farmers to change the way they (10) _____. He wants them to feed their animals on seaweed instead of grass. This will produce fewer emissions. Mr Shaw also said farmers can reduce the tax they pay by (11) _____ more trees. Another suggestion is for cows to wear special masks. New Zealand's farmers support the government. They want to do their (12) _____ to help the environment.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. | (a) thinker | (b) thinking | (c) thoughts | (d) think |
| 2. | (a) at | (b) on | (c) by | (d) as |
| 3. | (a) damaged | (b) damages | (c) damage | (d) damaging |
| 4. | (a) drop | (b) release | (c) spill | (d) distill |
| 5. | (a) round | (b) rounded | (c) roundly | (d) around |
| 6. | (a) putter | (b) puts | (c) putting | (d) put |
| 7. | (a) accounts | (b) balances | (c) profits | (d) entries |
| 8. | (a) haste | (b) baste | (c) waste | (d) paste |
| 9. | (a) selfless | (b) class | (c) gentle | (d) kind |
| 10. | (a) farm | (b) form | (c) firm | (d) frame |
| 11. | (a) planting | (b) plants | (c) plant | (d) planted |
| 12. | (a) bit | (b) bite | (c) biting | (d) byte |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220616-cow-burps.html>

Paragraph 1

1. help the vtneienmor
2. sheep, cows and other sikvleoct
3. a big sueca of climate change
4. take cfefte in 2025
5. we need to cut the nmouta
6. into the semoahterp

Paragraph 2

7. Farming animals cnoasctu for around 14.5%
8. saedwee instead of grass
9. This will produce fewer ssniimeos
10. eurced the tax they pay
11. Another tsgesogiun
12. New Zealand's farmers tpusopr the government

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220616-cow-burps.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () time they burp or fart. The "burp tax" would take effect in 2025. New Zealand has over
- () to be more environmentally friendly. Farmers will have to pay a kind of tax for the methane their animals
- () support the government. They want to do their bit to help the environment.
- () seaweed instead of grass. This will produce fewer emissions. Mr Shaw also said farmers can reduce the tax they pay by
- () Farming animals accounts for around 14.5 per cent of global greenhouse gasses. This comes
- () the country. James Shaw, New Zealand's climate change minister, said: "There is no
- () of methane. This is one of the most damaging greenhouse gases. It is a big cause of climate change. Animals release methane every
- () tax on the numbers of farm animals they have. Sheep, cows and other livestock create a lot
- () from animals burping and farting, animal waste, clearing land for animals and transporting animals. Mr Shaw wants farming
- () planting more trees. Another suggestion is for cows to wear special masks. New Zealand's farmers
- (**1**) New Zealand is thinking about introducing a new tax to help the environment. It wants farmers to pay
- () question that we need to cut the amount of methane we are putting into the atmosphere."
- () 20,000 farms. There are around 26 million sheep, 4 million cows and other animals in
- () produce. Shaw also wants farmers to change the way they farm. He wants them to feed their animals on

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220616-cow-burps.html>

1. a tax . is New Zealand about introducing thinking new
2. numbers tax of on the farm Pay animals .
3. damaging of the most greenhouse gases . One
4. every release methane Animals they burp . time
5. of The methane amount into the atmosphere . put
6. be Shaw farming to wants more environmentally friendly .
7. their animals seaweed . feed to He wants them
8. planting tax the pay they trees . by Reduce
9. is masks . wear to Another suggestion for cows
10. to their bit help . want to They do

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220616-cow-burps.html>

New Zealand is *thinking / thought* about introducing a new tax to help the environment. It wants farmers to *pay / paid* tax on the numbers of farm animals they *do / have*. Sheep, cows and other livestock create a *lot / loads* of methane. This is one of the most *damaging / damaged* greenhouse gases. It is a big *case / cause* of climate change. Animals *realize / release* methane every time they burp or fart. The "burp tax" would take *affect / effect* in 2025. New Zealand has over 20,000 farms. There are around 26 million sheep, 4 million cows and other animals *in / on* the country. James Shaw, New Zealand's climate change minister, said: "There is no question that we need to cut the amount of methane we are putting *into / onto* the atmosphere."

Farming animals *account / accounts* for around 14.5 per cent of global greenhouse gasses. This comes from animals burping and farting, animal *waste / paste*, clearing land for animals and transporting animals. Mr Shaw wants farming to be more environmentally *friends / friendly*. Farmers will have to pay a kind of tax for the methane *their / them* animals produce. Shaw also wants farmers to *charge / change* the way they farm. He wants them to *feed / food* their animals on seaweed instead *at / of* grass. This will produce fewer emissions. Mr Shaw also said farmers can reduce the tax they pay *by / as* planting more trees. Another suggestion is for cows to *wear / wearing* special masks. New Zealand's farmers support the government. They want to do their *bit / bite* to help the environment.

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/2206/220616-cow-burps.html>

N_w Z__l_nd _s th_nk_ng _b__t _ntr_d_c_ng _ n_w t_x
t_ h_lp th_ _nv_r_nm_nt. _t w_nts f_rm_rs t_ p_y t_x
n th n_mb_rs _f f_rm _n_m_ls th_y h_v_. Sh__p,
c_ws _nd _th_r l_v_st_ck cr__t_ _ l_t _f m_th_n_.
Th_s _s _n_ _f th_ m_st d_m_g_ng gr__nh__s_ g_s_s.
_t _s _ b_g c__s_ _f cl_m_t_ ch_ng_. _n_m_ls r_l__s_
m_th_n_ _v_ry t_m_ th_y b_rp _r f_rt. Th_ "b_rp t_x"
w__ld t_k_ _ff_ct _n 2025. N_w Z__l_nd h_s _v_r
20,000 f_rms. Th_r_ _r_ _r__nd 26 m_ll__n sh__p 4
m_ll__n c_ws _nd _th_r _n_m_ls _n th_ c__ntry. J_m_s
Sh_w, N_w Z__l_nd's cl_m_t_ ch_ng_ m_n_st_r, s__d:
"Th_r_ _s n_ q__st__n th_t w_ n__d t_ c_t th_
_m__nt _f m_th_n_ w_ _r_ p_tt_ng _nt_ th_
_tm_sph_r_."

F_rm_ng _n_m_ls _cc__nts f_r _r__nd 14.5 p_r c_nt _f
gl_b_l gr__nh__s_ g_ss_s. Th_s c_m_s fr_m _n_m_ls
b_rp_ng _nd f_rt_ng, _n_m_l w_st_, cl__r_ng l_nd f_r
_n_m_ls _nd tr_nsp_rt_ng _n_m_ls. Mr Sh_w w_nts
f_rm_ng t_ b_ m_r_ _nv_r_nm_nt_lly fr__ndly. F_rm_rs
w_ll h_v_ t_ p_y _ k_nd _f t_x f_r th_ m_th_n_
th__r _n_m_ls pr_d_c_. Sh_w _ls_ w_nts f_rm_rs t_
ch_ng_ th_ w_y th_y f_rm. H_ w_nts th_m t_ f__d
th__r _n_m_ls _n s__w__d _nst__d _f gr_ss. Th_s w_ll
pr_d_c_ f_w_r _m_ss__ns. Mr Sh_w _ls_ s__d f_rm_rs
c_n r_d_c_ th_ t_x th_y p_y by pl_nt_ng m_r_ tr__s.
_n_th_r s_gg_st__n _s f_r c_ws t_ w__r sp_c__l
m_sks. N_w Z__l_nd's f_rm_rs s_pp_rt th_ g_v_rnm_nt.
Th_y w_nt t_ d_ th__r b_t t_ h_lp th_ _nv_r_nm_nt.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220616-cow-burps.html>

new zealand is thinking about introducing a new tax to help the environment it wants farmers to pay tax on the numbers of farm animals they have sheep cows and other livestock create a lot of methane this is one of the most damaging greenhouse gases it is a big cause of climate change animals release methane every time they burp or fart the burp tax would take effect in 2025 new zealand has over 20000 farms there are around 26 million sheep 4 million cows and other animals in the country james shaw new zealands climate change minister said there is no question that we need to cut the amount of methane we are putting into the atmosphere

farming animals accounts for around 145 per cent of global greenhouse gasses this comes from animals burping and farting animal waste clearing land for animals and transporting animals mr shaw wants farming to be more environmentally friendly farmers will have to pay a kind of tax for the methane their animals produce shaw also wants farmers to change the way they farm he wants them to feed their animals on seaweed instead of grass this will produce fewer emissions mr shaw also said farmers can reduce the tax they pay by planting more trees another suggestion is for cows to wear special masks new zealands farmers support the government they want to do their bit to help the environment

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2206/220616-cow-burps.html>

New Zealand is thinking about introducing a new tax to help the environment. It wants farmers to pay tax on the numbers of farm animals they have. Sheep, cows and other livestock create a lot of methane. This is one of the most damaging greenhouse gases. It is a big cause of climate change. Animals release methane every time they burp or fart. The "burp tax" would take effect in 2025. New Zealand has over 20,000 farms. There are around 26 million sheep, 4 million cows and other animals in the country. James Shaw, New Zealand's climate change minister, said: "There is no question that we need to cut the amount of methane we are putting into the atmosphere." Farming animals accounts for around 14.5 percent of global greenhouse gases. This comes from animals burping and farting, animal waste, clearing land for animals and transporting animals. Mr Shaw wants farming to be more environmentally friendly. Farmers will have to pay a kind of tax for the methane their animals produce. Shaw also wants farmers to change the way they farm. He wants them to feed their animals seaweed instead of grass. This will produce fewer emissions. Mr Shaw also said farmers can reduce the tax they pay by planting more trees. Another suggestion is for cows to wear special masks. New Zealand's farmers support the government. They want to do their bit to help the environment.

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. COW BURPS: Make a poster about cow burps. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. BURP TAXES: Write a magazine article about introducing a burp tax on all farms. 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 cow burps. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your opinions on this. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 T 2 T 3 F 4 F 5 F 6 T 7 T 8 F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. h	2. e	3. j	4. b	5. d
6. c	7. g	8. i	9. a	10. f

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- The environment
- Methane
- 2025
- Four million
- Methane emissions
- Farming animals
- More environmentally friendly
- Seaweed
- Masks
- Their bit

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- New Zealand is thinking about introducing a new tax.
- Pay tax on the numbers of farm animals.
- One of the most damaging greenhouse gases.
- Animals release methane every time they burp.
- The amount of methane put into the atmosphere.
- Shaw wants farming to be more environmentally friendly.
- He wants them to feed their animals seaweed.
- Reduce the tax they pay by planting trees.
- Another suggestion is for cows to wear masks.
- They want to do their bit to help.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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