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**Level 6 – 15th August, 2022**

## 'Warm banks' spread in UK as heating costs rise

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220815-warm-banks.html>

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

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220815-warm-banks.html>

The U.K. is one of the world's richest countries, but people are finding it increasingly difficult to pay energy bills. Electricity and gas bills could rise fourfold by the winter. Even people on good salaries are feeling the pinch. Lower-paid workers and those who have retired may soon be faced with a stark choice of heating or eating. Local governments have devised a makeshift solution. They are converting communal areas like libraries into spaces where people can go to stay warm for free. These are called "heat banks". Money-saving expert Martin Lewis said he is dumbfounded by the idea of warm banks in a supposedly wealthy country. The U.K. already has hundreds of food banks for those who struggle to afford to eat.

Britons are already taking drastic measures to avoid skyrocketing energy costs. One woman has disconnected her refrigerator and is storing perishable goods in cold water. A man has turned off his electric kettle and is drinking water instead of hot coffee. Last winter, an older lady used her free bus pass to sit on a warm bus all day instead of sitting at home in the cold. Many people are furious with the government and fossil fuel companies. Giant oil companies are making record profits, and the government is reluctant to implement a one-off "windfall tax". The U.K.'s National Energy Action group said that each year, around 11,400 deaths are caused by cold weather. They predict this figure will rise further this year.

Sources: <https://metro.co.uk/2022/07/14/warm-banks-to-be-set-up-this-winter-but-what-are-they-16998804/>  
<https://www.ladbible.com/news/martin-lewis-brits-advice-energy-bills-rise-again-20220725>  
<https://www.energylivenews.com/2022/07/18/another-council-considers-creating-warm-banks/>

# WARM-UPS

**1. KEEPING WARM:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about keeping warm. 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?

difficult / energy bills / electricity / gas bills / winter / feeling the pinch / wealthy / drastic measures / energy / refrigerator / electric kettle / fossil fuels / profits / tax

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

**3. WARM BANKS:** Students A **strongly** believe warm banks are a great idea; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. BILLS:** How high are these bills in your house? How can we reduce them? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How High	How to Reduce Them
Gas bill		
Electricity bill		
Food bill		
Water bill		
Internet bill		
Phone bill		

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

**6. STAYING WARM:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best ways to stay warm in the cold winter at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Extra clothes
- Blanket
- Sit under the sun
- Drink hot tea
- Exercise
- Hot bath
- Go to McDonald's
- Hug someone

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| 1. bill              | a. Planned or invented a system by careful thought.                           |
| 2. fourfold          | b. Experiencing hardship, especially financial.                               |
| 3. feeling the pinch | c. Four times as great or as numerous.  |
| 4. stark             | d. Greatly astonished or amazed.  |
| 5. devised           | e. A printed or written statement of the money owed for goods or services.    |
| 6. expert            | f. Severe.  |
| 7. dumbfounded       | g. A person who is very knowledgeable about or skillful in a particular area. |

## Paragraph 2

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 8. drastic      | h. Extremely angry.   |
| 9. skyrocketing | i. Put a decision, plan, agreement, etc. into effect.                   |
| 10. perishable  | j. Unwilling and hesitant.  |
| 11. furious     | k. Increasing very steeply or rapidly.                                  |
| 12. reluctant   | l. A large amount of money that is won or received unexpectedly.        |
| 13. implement   | m. Likely to have a strong or far-reaching effect; radical and extreme. |
| 14. windfall    | n. Especially of food, likely to decay or go bad quickly.               |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220815-warm-banks.html>

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

1. The U.K. is the world's richest country. **T / F**
2. People on good salaries in the U.K. won't notice the rises in energy bills. **T / F**
3. Some people in the U.K. may have to decide whether to heat or eat. **T / F**
4. The U.K. has hundreds of food banks for people who have no food. **T / F**
5. Britons are measuring drastic and skyrocketing energy bills. **T / F**
6. A woman is keeping some of her food in cold water to save energy. **T / F**
7. The U.K. is not going to tax the huge profits of energy companies. **T / F**
8. It is predicted that over 10,000 Britons will die from the cold this year. **T / F**

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

- |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. <b>richest</b>     | a. shared             |
| 2. <b>makeshift</b>   | b. irate              |
| 3. <b>communal</b>    | c. have the money for |
| 4. <b>dumbfounded</b> | d. easily spoilt      |
| 5. <b>afford</b>      | e. temporary          |
| 6. <b>measures</b>    | f. hesitant           |
| 7. <b>perishable</b>  | g. wealthiest         |
| 8. <b>furious</b>     | h. forecast           |
| 9. <b>reluctant</b>   | i. amazed             |
| 10. <b>predict</b>    | j. actions            |

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

- |                                       |                           |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. gas bills could rise               | a. by the idea            |
| 2. be faced with a stark              | b. goods                  |
| 3. he is dumbfounded                  | c. afford to eat          |
| 4. a supposedly                       | d. her refrigerator       |
| 5. those who struggle to              | e. choice                 |
| 6. Britons are already taking drastic | f. wealthy country        |
| 7. One woman has disconnected         | g. off "windfall tax"     |
| 8. perishable                         | h. fuel companies         |
| 9. fossil                             | i. fourfold by the winter |
| 10. reluctant to implement a one-     | j. measures               |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220815-warm-banks.html>

The U.K. is one of the world's richest countries, but people are (1) \_\_\_\_\_ it increasingly difficult to pay energy bills. Electricity and gas bills could rise (2) \_\_\_\_\_ by the winter. Even people on good salaries are feeling the (3) \_\_\_\_\_. Lower-paid workers and those who have retired may soon be faced with a (4) \_\_\_\_\_ choice of heating or eating. Local governments have devised a (5) \_\_\_\_\_ solution. They are converting (6) \_\_\_\_\_ areas like libraries into spaces where people can go to stay warm for free. These are called "heat banks". Money-saving (7) \_\_\_\_\_ Martin Lewis said he is dumbfounded by the idea of warm banks in a supposedly wealthy country. The U.K. already has hundreds of food banks for those who (8) \_\_\_\_\_ to afford to eat.

*pinch*  
*communal*  
*finding*  
*struggle*  
*stark*  
*expert*  
*fourfold*  
*makeshift*

Britons are already taking (9) \_\_\_\_\_ measures to avoid skyrocketing energy costs. One woman has (10) \_\_\_\_\_ her refrigerator and is storing (11) \_\_\_\_\_ goods in cold water. A man has turned off his electric (12) \_\_\_\_\_ and is drinking water instead of hot coffee. Last winter, an older lady used her free bus (13) \_\_\_\_\_ to sit on a warm bus all day instead of sitting at home in the cold. Many people are furious with the government and (14) \_\_\_\_\_ fuel companies. Giant oil companies are making record profits, and the government is reluctant to implement a (15) \_\_\_\_\_ "windfall tax". The U.K.'s National Energy Action group said that each year, around 11,400 deaths are caused by cold weather. They (16) \_\_\_\_\_ this figure will rise further this year.

*pass*  
*disconnected*  
*one-off*  
*drastic*  
*predict*  
*kettle*  
*fossil*  
*perishable*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220815-warm-banks.html>

- 1) The UK is one of the world's richest countries, but people are finding \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. it increasing lid if a cult
  - b. it increasing lid diff occult
  - c. it increasing in difficulty
  - d. it increasingly difficult
- 2) Electricity and gas bills \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. could rise far fooled
  - b. could rise few fold
  - c. could rise fourfold
  - d. could rise for fooled
- 3) Even people on good salaries are \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. feel in the pinch
  - b. feeling the pinch
  - c. feeling a pinch
  - d. fearing a pinch
- 4) Local governments have devised \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. a make shift solution
  - b. a makeshift resolution
  - c. a makeshift solution
  - d. a make shift resolution
- 5) Money-saving expert Martin Lewis said \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. he is dumbfounded
  - b. he is done founded
  - c. he is done funded
  - d. he is dumb funded
- 6) Britons are already taking drastic measures to avoid \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. sky rocket inner G-costs
  - b. skyrocket in any G-costs
  - c. skyrocketing energy costs
  - d. sky rocket thin-energy cost
- 7) One woman has disconnected her refrigerator and is \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. strong perishable goodies
  - b. storing perishable goods
  - c. staring perishable goodies
  - d. steering perishable goods
- 8) in cold water. A man has turned off \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. his electrical kitty
  - b. his electric kettle
  - c. his electricity kettle
  - d. his electric cuttle
- 9) Many people are furious with the government and \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. fossil feel companies
  - b. fossil fool companies
  - c. fossil fuel companies
  - d. fossil fail companies
- 10) and the government is reluctant to implement a \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. one-off windfall tax"
  - b. one-on windfall tax"
  - c. once-on windier tax"
  - d. once-off windmill tax"

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220815-warm-banks.html>

The U.K. is one of the world's richest countries, but people are finding it increasingly difficult to (1) \_\_\_\_\_. Electricity and gas bills could rise fourfold by the winter. Even people (2) \_\_\_\_\_ are feeling the pinch. Lower-paid workers and those who have retired may soon be faced with a stark choice of heating or eating. Local governments have (3) \_\_\_\_\_ solution. They are converting communal areas like libraries into spaces where people can go to stay warm for free. These are called "heat banks". (4) \_\_\_\_\_ Martin Lewis said he is dumbfounded by the idea of warm banks (5) \_\_\_\_\_ wealthy country. The U.K. already has hundreds of food banks for those who struggle (6) \_\_\_\_\_ eat.

Britons are already taking (7) \_\_\_\_\_ avoid skyrocketing energy costs. One woman has disconnected her refrigerator and is storing (8) \_\_\_\_\_ cold water. A man has turned off his electric kettle and is drinking water instead of hot coffee. Last winter, an older lady used her free bus pass to sit on a warm bus all (9) \_\_\_\_\_ sitting at home in the cold. Many people are furious with the government and (10) \_\_\_\_\_. Giant oil companies are making record profits, and the government is reluctant to implement a (11) \_\_\_\_\_. The U.K.'s National Energy Action group said that each year, around 11,400 deaths are caused by cold weather. They predict this (12) \_\_\_\_\_ this year.



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220815-warm-banks.html>

1. By how much could energy bills rise in the UK?
2. What are people on good salaries feeling?
3. What two choices might lower-paid workers be faced with?
4. What is Martin Lewis' job?
5. What does the article say there are hundreds of in the UK?
6. What kind of measures are Britons taking?
7. Where is one woman storing the food that spoils easily?
8. Where did a woman sit all day to keep warm?
9. What does the article say giant oil companies are making?
10. What kills around 11,400 Britons each year?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220815-warm-banks.html>

- 1) By how much could energy bills rise in the UK?
  - a) 90%
  - b) double
  - c) no one knows
  - d) fourfold
- 2) What are people on good salaries feeling?
  - a) happy
  - b) the pinch
  - c) relieved
  - d) cold
- 3) What two choices might lower-paid workers be faced with?
  - a) gas or electricity
  - b) salad or soup
  - c) heating or eating
  - d) work or not work
- 4) What is Martin Lewis' job?
  - a) he's a money-saving expert
  - b) he's a doctor
  - c) he's a heating engineer
  - d) he's a journalist
- 5) What does the article say there are hundreds of in the UK?
  - a) commercial banks
  - b) riverbanks
  - c) food banks
  - d) investment banks
- 6) What kind of measures are Britons taking?
  - a) long ones
  - b) drastic measures
  - c) cautious measures
  - d) sudden measures
- 7) Where is one woman storing the food that spoils easily?
  - a) in a local store
  - b) in her garden
  - c) underground
  - d) in cold water
- 8) Where did a woman sit all day to keep warm?
  - a) on a bus
  - b) in a fast-food restaurant
  - c) in a sauna
  - d) on a hot water bottle
- 9) What does the article say giant oil companies are making?
  - a) petrol
  - b) plastics
  - c) record profits
  - d) a lot of fuss
- 10) What kills around 11,400 Britons each year?
  - a) food poisoning
  - b) cold weather
  - c) snow
  - d) falling on ice

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220815-warm-banks.html>

## **Role A – Exercise**

You think exercise is the best thing for keeping warm. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): extra clothes, a blanket or drinking hot tea.

## **Role B – Extra Clothes**

You think extra clothes is the best thing for keeping warm. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): exercise, a blanket or drinking hot tea.

## **Role C – A Blanket**

You think a blanket is the best thing for keeping warm. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): extra clothes, exercise or drinking hot tea.

## **Role D – Drinking Hot Tea**

You think drinking hot tea is the best thing for keeping warm. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): extra clothes, a blanket or exercise.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220815-warm-banks.html>

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

<b>warm</b>	<b>bank</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>• richest</li><li>• fourfold</li><li>• faced</li><li>• areas</li><li>• idea</li><li>• afford</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• avoid</li><li>• goods</li><li>• coffee</li><li>• furious</li><li>• record</li><li>• each</li></ul>
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# KEEPING WARM SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220815-warm-banks.html>

Write five GOOD questions about keeping warm 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.

# KEEPING WARM 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 'heat'?
3. How rich is your country?
4. Are your bills increasingly difficult to pay?
5. When was the last time you felt the pinch?
6. Have you ever had a stark choice to make?
7. What do you think of people in the UK having to heat or eat?
8. What do you think of the idea of 'warm banks'?
9. Why does a rich country like the UK have warm banks?
10. How bad would it be if you struggled to eat?

*'Warm banks' spread in UK as heating costs rise – 15th August, 2022*  
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# KEEPING WARM 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 'bank'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Have you ever taken drastic measures in your life?
15. How can we avoid skyrocketing costs?
16. Would you disconnect your fridge to save energy?
17. Would you drink water instead of hot drinks to save energy?
18. What do you think of giant oil companies?
19. What does 11,000 deaths because of cold say about the UK?
20. What questions would you like to ask the U.K. government?

## 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/2208/220815-warm-banks.html>

The U.K. is one of the world's (1) \_\_\_\_\_ countries, but people are finding it increasingly difficult to pay energy bills. Electricity and gas bills could rise (2) \_\_\_\_\_ by the winter. Even people on good salaries are feeling the pinch. Lower-paid workers and those who have retired may soon be faced with a (3) \_\_\_\_\_ choice of heating or eating. Local governments have devised a makeshift solution. They are converting (4) \_\_\_\_\_ areas like libraries into spaces where people can go to stay warm for free. These are called "heat banks". Money-saving (5) \_\_\_\_\_ Martin Lewis said he is dumbfounded by the idea of warm banks in a (6) \_\_\_\_\_ wealthy country. The U.K. already has hundreds of food banks for those who struggle to afford to eat.

Britons are already taking (7) \_\_\_\_\_ measures to avoid skyrocketing energy costs. One woman has disconnected her refrigerator and is storing perishable goods in cold water. A man has turned off his electric kettle and is drinking water (8) \_\_\_\_\_ of hot coffee. Last winter, an older lady used her free bus (9) \_\_\_\_\_ to sit on a warm bus all day instead of sitting at home in the cold. Many people are furious (10) \_\_\_\_\_ the government and fossil fuel companies. Giant oil companies are making record profits, and the government is reluctant (11) \_\_\_\_\_ implement a one-off "windfall tax". The U.K.'s National Energy Action group said that each year, around 11,400 deaths are caused by cold weather. They (12) \_\_\_\_\_ this figure will rise further this year.

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

- |     |               |                |               |                |
|-----|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1.  | (a) enriching | (b) riches     | (c) richest   | (d) enrich     |
| 2.  | (a) fourfold  | (b) folding    | (c) folded    | (d) folds      |
| 3.  | (a) stark     | (b) stork      | (c) stake     | (d) strike     |
| 4.  | (a) communal  | (b) immune     | (c) commuter  | (d) amassed    |
| 5.  | (a) export    | (b) expert     | (c) expat     | (d) expect     |
| 6.  | (a) advisedly | (b) admittedly | (c) hurriedly | (d) supposedly |
| 7.  | (a) caustic   | (b) mastic     | (c) drastic   | (d) rustic     |
| 8.  | (a) lieu      | (b) prefer     | (c) rather    | (d) instead    |
| 9.  | (a) pass      | (b) coupon     | (c) voucher   | (d) conductor  |
| 10. | (a) by        | (b) with       | (c) on        | (d) as         |
| 11. | (a) of        | (b) to         | (c) by        | (d) at         |
| 12. | (a) predicts  | (b) prediction | (c) predict   | (d) predictive |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220815-warm-banks.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. gas bills could rise ruffolod by the winter
2. be faced with a atsrk choice of heating or eating
3. devised a aksmiheft solution
4. he is ombdunufded by the idea
5. in a oppsudesly wealthy country
6. those who tusggrle to afford to eat

## Paragraph 2

7. Britons are already taking sartdic measures
8. storing rhiseabple goods
9. sfsoil fuel companies
10. the government is lcuetrnat
11. eplimemnt a one-off "windfall tax"
12. They epidrct this figure will rise

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220815-warm-banks.html>

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

- ( ) choice of heating or eating. Local governments have devised a makeshift solution. They are converting communal
- ( ) off "windfall tax". The U.K.'s National Energy Action group said that each year,
- ( ) companies are making record profits, and the government is reluctant to implement a one-
- ( ) salaries are feeling the pinch. Lower-paid workers and those who have retired may soon be faced with a stark
- ( ) Britons are already taking drastic measures to avoid skyrocketing energy costs. One woman has disconnected her
- ( ) areas like libraries into spaces where people can go to stay warm for free. These are called "heat banks". Money-saving
- ( ) bills. Electricity and gas bills could rise fourfold by the winter. Even people on good
- ( ) bus all day instead of sitting at home in the cold. Many people are furious with the government and fossil fuel companies. Giant oil
- ( ) wealthy country. The U.K. already has hundreds of food banks for those who struggle to afford to eat.
- ( ) refrigerator and is storing perishable goods in cold water. A man has turned off his electric kettle
- ( ) and is drinking water instead of hot coffee. Last winter, an older lady used her free bus pass to sit on a warm
- ( ) expert Martin Lewis said he is dumbfounded by the idea of warm banks in a supposedly
- ( **1** ) The U.K. is one of the world's richest countries, but people are finding it increasingly difficult to pay energy
- ( ) around 11,400 deaths are caused by cold weather. They predict this figure will rise further this year.

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220815-warm-banks.html>

1. are increasingly it finding difficult People to pay .
2. on salaries People feeling are good the pinch .
3. be soon They faced may stark with choices .
4. have Local a devised governments makeshift solution .
5. banks food Hundreds for of who those struggle .
6. measures Taking avoid to drastic skyrocketing energy costs .
7. is storing perishable goods in She cold water .
8. older her used lady free An bus pass .
9. government reluctant The implement to is a tax .
10. figure this They will predict this rise year .

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220815-warm-banks.html>

The U.K. is one of the world's richest countries, but people are finding it increasingly difficult to pay energy *billing* / *bills*. Electricity and gas bills could rise fourfold *by* / *for* the winter. Even people on good salaries are feeling the *pinch* / *inch*. Lower-paid workers and those who have *attired* / *retired* may soon be faced with a *stork* / *stark* choice of heating or eating. Local governments have devised a makeshift *soluble* / *solution*. They are converting communal areas like libraries into spaces where people can go to stay warm *as* / *for* free. These are called "heat banks". Money-saving expert Martin Lewis said he is *dumbfounded* / *founded* at the idea of warm banks in a *disputed* / *supposedly* wealthy country. The U.K. already has hundreds of food banks for those who *struggles* / *struggle* to afford to eat.

Britons are already taking *drastic* / *caustic* measures to *avoid* / *evade* skyrocketing energy costs. One woman has disconnected her refrigerator and is storing *punishable* / *perishable* goods in cold water. A man has turned off his *electricity* / *electric* kettle and is drinking water instead of hot coffee. Last winter, an older lady used her free bus pass to sit on a warm bus all day instead of sitting at home *in* / *by* the cold. Many people are *furiosus* / *spurious* with the government and fossil *fuel* / *fuelled* companies. Giant oil companies are making record profits, and the government is *recalcitrant* / *reluctant* to implement a one-off "*windfall* / *windmill* tax". The U.K.'s National Energy Action group said that each year, around 11,400 deaths are caused by cold weather. They predict this *figuring* / *figure* will rise further this year.

**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)

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Th\_ \_K. \_s \_n\_ \_f th\_ w\_rld's r\_ch\_st c\_\_ntr\_\_s, b\_t  
p\_\_pl\_ \_r\_ f\_ndng \_t \_ncr\_\_sngly d\_ff\_c\_lt t\_ p\_y  
\_n\_rgy b\_lls. \_l\_ctr\_c\_ty \_nd g\_s b\_lls c\_\_ld r\_s\_  
f\_\_rf\_ld by th\_ w\_nt\_r. \_v\_n p\_\_pl\_ \_n g\_\_d s\_l\_r\_\_s  
\_r\_ f\_\_l\_ng th\_ p\_nch. L\_w\_r-p\_\_d w\_rk\_rs \_nd th\_s\_  
wh\_ h\_v\_ r\_t\_r\_d m\_y s\_\_n b\_ f\_c\_d w\_th \_ st\_rk  
ch\_\_c\_ \_f h\_\_t\_ng \_r \_\_t\_ng. L\_c\_l g\_v\_rnm\_nts h\_v\_  
d\_v\_s\_d \_ m\_k\_sh\_ft s\_l\_t\_\_n. Th\_y \_r\_ c\_nv\_rtn\_g  
c\_mm\_n\_l \_r\_\_s l\_k\_ l\_br\_r\_\_s \_nt\_ sp\_c\_s wh\_r\_  
p\_\_pl\_ c\_n g\_ t\_ st\_y w\_rm f\_r fr\_\_\_. Th\_s\_ \_r\_ c\_ll\_d  
"h\_\_t b\_nks". M\_n\_y-s\_v\_ng \_xp\_rt M\_rt\_n L\_w\_s s\_\_d  
h\_ \_s d\_mbf\_\_nd\_d by th\_ \_d\_\_ \_f w\_rm b\_nks \_n \_  
s\_pp\_s\_dly w\_\_lthy c\_\_ntry. Th\_ \_K. \_lr\_\_dy h\_s  
h\_ndr\_ds \_f f\_\_d b\_nks f\_r th\_s\_ wh\_ str\_ggl\_ t\_  
\_ff\_rd t\_ \_\_t.

Br\_t\_ns \_r\_ \_lr\_\_dy t\_k\_ng dr\_st\_c m\_\_s\_r\_s t\_ \_v\_\_d  
skyr\_ck\_t\_ng \_n\_rgy c\_sts. \_n\_ w\_m\_n h\_s  
d\_sc\_nn\_ct\_d h\_r r\_fr\_g\_r\_t\_r \_nd \_s st\_r\_ng  
p\_r\_sh\_bl\_ g\_\_ds \_n c\_ld w\_t\_r. \_ m\_n h\_s t\_rn\_d \_ff  
h\_s \_l\_ctr\_c kttl\_ \_nd \_s dr\_nk\_ng w\_t\_r \_nst\_\_d \_f  
h\_t c\_ff\_\_\_. L\_st w\_nt\_r, \_n \_ld\_r l\_dy \_s\_d h\_r fr\_\_  
b\_s p\_ss t\_ s\_t \_n \_ w\_rm b\_s \_ll d\_y \_nst\_\_d \_f  
s\_ttng \_t h\_m\_ \_n th\_ c\_ld. M\_ny p\_\_pl\_ \_r\_ f\_r\_\_s  
w\_th th\_ g\_v\_rnm\_nt \_nd f\_ss\_l f\_\_l c\_mpn\_\_s. G\_\_nt  
\_\_l c\_mpn\_\_s \_r\_ m\_k\_ng r\_c\_rd pr\_f\_ts, \_nd th\_  
g\_v\_rnm\_nt \_s r\_l\_ct\_nt t\_ \_mpl\_m\_nt \_ \_n\_\_ff  
"w\_ndf\_ll t\_x". Th\_ \_K.'s N\_t\_\_n\_l \_n\_rgy \_ct\_\_n  
gr\_\_p s\_\_d th\_t \_\_ch y\_\_r, \_r\_\_nd 11,400 d\_\_ths \_r\_  
c\_\_s\_d by c\_ld w\_\_th\_r. Th\_y pr\_d\_ct th\_s f\_g\_r\_ w\_ll  
r\_s\_ f\_rth\_r th\_s y\_\_r.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220815-warm-banks.html>

the uk is one of the worlds richest countries but people are finding it increasingly difficult to pay energy bills electricity and gas bills could rise fourfold by the winter even people on good salaries are feeling the pinch lowerpaid workers and those who have retired may soon be faced with a stark choice of heating or eating local governments have devised a makeshift solution they are converting communal areas like libraries into spaces where people can go to stay warm for free these are called heat banks moneysaving expert martin lewis said he is dumbfounded by the idea of warm banks in a supposedly wealthy country the uk already has hundreds of food banks for those who struggle to afford to eat

britons are already taking drastic measures to avoid skyrocketing energy costs one woman has disconnected her refrigerator and is storing perishable goods in cold water a man has turned off his electric kettle and is drinking water instead of hot coffee last winter an older lady used her free bus pass to sit on a warm bus all day instead of sitting at home in the cold many people are furious with the government and fossil fuel companies giant oil companies are making record profits and the government is reluctant to implement a oneoff windfall tax the uks national energy action group said that each year around 11400 deaths are caused by cold weather they predict this figure will rise further this year

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220815-warm-banks.html>

The U.K. is one of the world's richest countries, but people are finding it increasingly difficult to pay energy bills. Electricity and gas bills could rise fourfold by the winter. Even people on good salaries are feeling the pinch. Lower-paid workers and those who have retired may soon be faced with a stark choice of heating or eating. Local governments have devised a makeshift solution. They are converting communal areas like libraries into spaces where people can go to stay warm for free. These are called "heat banks". Money-saving expert Martin Lewis said he is dumbfounded by the idea of warm banks in a supposedly wealthy country. The U.K. already has hundreds of food banks for those who struggle to afford to eat. Britons are already taking drastic measures to avoid skyrocketing energy costs. One woman has disconnected her refrigerator and is storing perishable goods in cold water. A man has turned off his electric kettle and is drinking water instead of hot coffee. Last winter, an older lady used her free bus pass to sit on a warm bus all day instead of sitting at home in the cold. Many people are furious with the government and fossil fuel companies. Giant oil companies are making record profits, and the government is reluctant to implement a one-off "windfall tax". The U.K.'s National Energy Action groups said that each year, around 11,400 deaths are caused by cold weather. They predict this figure will rise further this year.

# FREE WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220815-warm-banks.html>

Write about **keeping warm** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

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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. KEEPING WARM:** Make a poster about keeping warm. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. WARM BANKS:** Write a magazine article about creating lots of "warm banks" and "cool banks" to help poorer people stay warm or cool. 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 keeping warm. Ask him/her three questions about this. Give him/her three of your ideas on how poor people can survive freezing cold weather. 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 F    2 F    3 T    4 T    5 F    6 T    7 F    8 T

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Fourfold
- The pinch
- Heating or eating
- He's a money-saving expert
- Food banks
- Drastic measures
- In cold water
- On a bus
- Record profits
- Cold weather

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- People are finding it increasingly difficult to pay.
- People on good salaries are feeling the pinch.
- They may soon be faced with stark choices.
- Local governments have devised a makeshift solution.
- Hundreds of food banks for those who struggle.
- Taking drastic measures to avoid skyrocketing energy costs.
- She is storing perishable goods in cold water.
- An older lady used her free bus pass.
- The government is reluctant to implement a tax.
- They predict this figure will rise this year.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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