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Level 2 – 28th November 2024

Hopes for global treaty to end plastic pollution

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241128-plastic-pollution-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241128-plastic-pollution-2.html>

Around 175 countries could soon sign a treaty to limit plastic pollution. Representatives of the nations have been meeting in South Korea to talk about plastic waste. The U.N. Environment Program said the treaty is necessary to protect the future of the planet. U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres spoke about the problem. He said: "Our world is drowning in plastic pollution. Every year, we produce 460 million tons of plastic, much of which is quickly thrown away." The U.N. said a treaty is, "an insurance policy for this generation and future ones".

Mr Guterres warned what might happen in the future if we do not act. He said: "By 2050, there could be more plastic than fish in the ocean. Microplastics...are creating health problems that we're only just beginning to understand." The president of South Korea asked governments to agree on a path to zero plastic pollution. He said we must stop thinking of plastic as being convenient. He added: "The waste...in our oceans and rivers now [risks] the lives of future generations." He asked governments, "to open a new historic chapter by [signing] a treaty on plastic pollution".

Sources: <https://www.dw.com/en/environmental-plastic-waste-pollution-oil-fossil-fuel-production-climate-change/a-70835827>
<https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/11/1157426>
<https://thehill.com/opinion/energy-environment/5002803-plastic-waste-oil-industry-crisis/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241128-plastic-pollution-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. a treaty to | a. of the planet |
| 2. representatives | b. future ones |
| 3. talk about plastic | c. of the nations |
| 4. protect the future | d. tons of plastic |
| 5. Our world is drowning | e. policy |
| 6. we produce 460 million | f. limit plastic pollution |
| 7. an insurance | g. in plastic pollution |
| 8. this generation and | h. waste |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. what might happen | a. generations |
| 2. if we | b. fish in the ocean |
| 3. more plastic than | c. plastic pollution |
| 4. Microplastics are creating health | d. chapter |
| 5. we're only just beginning to | e. in the future |
| 6. a path to zero | f. problems |
| 7. risks the lives of future | g. do not act |
| 8. open a new historic | h. understand |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241128-plastic-pollution-2.html>

Around 175 countries could soon sign a (1) _____ plastic pollution. Representatives of the nations have been meeting in South Korea (2) _____ plastic waste. The U.N. Environment Program said the treaty is (3) _____ the future of the planet. U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres spoke about the problem. He said: "Our world (4) _____ plastic pollution. Every year, we produce 460 million tons of plastic, (5) _____ is quickly thrown away." The U.N. said a treaty is, "an insurance policy for (6) _____ future ones".

Mr Guterres warned (7) _____ in the future if we do not act. He said: "By 2050, there could be more plastic than fish (8) _____. Microplastics...are creating health problems that we're only just beginning to understand." The president of South Korea asked governments (9) _____ a path to zero plastic pollution. He said we must stop thinking of plastic (10) _____. He added: "The waste...in our (11) _____ now [risks] the lives of future generations." He asked governments, "to open a new historic chapter by (12) _____ on plastic pollution".

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241128-plastic-pollution-2.html>

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PLASTIC SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2411/241128-plastic-pollution-2.html>

Write five GOOD questions about plastic 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.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

