

Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"

breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html

Thousands more free lessons
from Sean's other websites

www.freematerials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html

Level 4 – 17th February 2025

Man briefly "swallowed" by humpback whale

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2502/250217-humpback-whale-4.html>

Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

X (Twitter)



[X.com/SeanBanville](https://x.com/SeanBanville)

Facebook



www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176

THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2502/250217-humpback-whale-4.html>

A kayaker had a lucky escape this week. Adrian Simancas was paddling through the icy waters near Chile. A huge humpback whale came from the deep, and Mr Simancas ended up in its mouth. Luckily, the throat of a humpback stretches to a diameter of 40 cm. The humpback quickly spat Simancas back out into the ocean. Simancas' father captured the incident on video. He said he saw his son emerge from the waves next to "a gigantic animal".

Mr Simancas told journalists about his ordeal back on dry land. He said: "All this happened in a second. Something dark...enveloped me, and a slimy texture brushed my face." He continued: "I realized that I was in something's mouth, and I had been eaten." A newspaper reported: "For a few fleeting moments, Adrian's fate was in the jaws of the 40-ton [mammal]." Adrian said his close encounter with the whale would not stop him from rafting.

Sources: <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/02/14/world/americas/whale-swallowed-man-chile.html>
<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2025/feb/14/whale-chile-survivor-adrian-simancas>
<https://edition.cnn.com/2025/02/13/americas/chile-humpback-whale-kayaker-intl-latam/index.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2502/250217-humpback-whale-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. A kayaker had a lucky | a. of a humpback |
| 2. paddling through the | b. from the deep |
| 3. A huge humpback whale came | c. incident on video |
| 4. Mr Simancas ended | d. waves |
| 5. the throat | e. escape this week |
| 6. stretches to a | f. up in its mouth |
| 7. Simancas' father captured the | g. diameter of 40 cm |
| 8. he saw his son emerge from the | h. icy waters |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Mr Simancas told journalists | a. with the whale |
| 2. back | b. enveloped me |
| 3. All this happened | c. texture |
| 4. Something dark | d. on dry land |
| 5. a slimy | e. the 40-ton mammal |
| 6. For a few fleeting | f. in a second |
| 7. Adrian's fate was in the jaws of | g. moments |
| 8. his close encounter | h. about his ordeal |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2502/250217-humpback-whale-4.html>

A kayaker had (1) _____ this week. Adrian Simancas was paddling through (2) _____ near Chile. A huge humpback whale came from the deep, and Mr Simancas ended up in its mouth. Luckily, (3) _____ a humpback stretches to (4) _____ 40 cm. The humpback quickly spat Simancas back out into the ocean. Simancas' father (5) _____ on video. He said he saw his son emerge from the waves next to "(6) _____".

Mr Simancas told journalists about his (7) _____ dry land. He said: "All this happened (8) _____ . Something dark...enveloped me, and a (9) _____ my face." He continued: "I (10) _____ was in something's mouth, and I had been eaten." A newspaper reported: "For a (11) _____, Adrian's fate was in the jaws of the 40-ton [mammal]." Adrian said his (12) _____ the whale would not stop him from rafting.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2502/250217-humpback-whale-4.html>

A kayaker had a lucky escape this week. Adrian Simancas was paddling through the icy waters near Chile. A huge humpback whale came from the deep, and Mr Simancas ended up in its mouth. Luckily, the throat of a humpback stretches to a diameter of 40cm. The humpback quickly spat Simancas back out into the ocean. Simancas' father captured the incident on video. He said he saw his son emerge from the waves next to "a gigantic animal". Mr Simancas told journalists about his ordeal back on dry land. He said: "All this happened in a second. Something dark... enveloped me, and as I my texture brushed my face." He continued: "I realized that I was in something's mouth, and I had been eaten." A newspaper reported: "For a few fleeting moments, Adrian's fate was in the jaws of the 40-ton [mammal]."

Adrian said his close encounter with the whale would not stop him from rafting.

WHALES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2502/250217-humpback-whale-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about whales 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) _____

Man briefly "swallowed" by humpback whale – 17th February 2025
More free lessons at breakingnewsenglish.com

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2502/250217-humpback-whale-4.html>

Write about **whales** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.
