

# www.**Breaking News English**.com

Ready-to-use English Lessons by Sean Banville

**"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES  
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"**

[www.breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html](http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html)

**Thousands more free lessons  
from Sean's other websites**

[www.freematerials.com/sean\\_banville\\_lessons.html](http://www.freematerials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html)

## **Sandy asks new climate change questions**

**1st November, 2012**

[http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane\\_sandy.html](http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane_sandy.html)

### **Contents**

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	14
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Multiple Choice)	15
Before Reading / Listening	4	Spelling	16
While Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	17
Match The Sentences And Listen	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	18
Listening Gap Fill	7	Circle The Correct Word	19
Comprehension Questions	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	20
Multiple Choice - Quiz	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	21
Role Play	10	Put A Slash ( / ) Where The Spaces Are	22
After Reading / Listening	11	Free Writing	23
Student Survey	12	Academic Writing	24
Discussion (20 Questions)	13	Homework	25
		Answers	26

### **Follow Sean Banville on**

**Twitter**



[twitter.com/SeanBanville](https://twitter.com/SeanBanville)

**Facebook**



[www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176](https://www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176)

**Google +**



[plus.google.com/110990608764591804698/posts](https://plus.google.com/110990608764591804698/posts)

# THE ARTICLE

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane\\_sandy.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane_sandy.html)

Hurricane Sandy killed at least 62 people and caused billions of dollars of damage to America's east coast. Water from the superstorm, which hit on Tuesday night, has flooded subways and tunnels in New York City and cut off electricity to millions of homes. Politicians and scientists are now asking whether America and the world are ready for such devastating and deadly weather events. Sandy has firmly put climate change back onto the agenda of the 2012 presidential election. Former U.S. vice president Al Gore told reporters: "Hurricane Sandy is a disturbing sign of things to come. We must [pay attention to] this warning and act quickly to solve the climate crisis." Mr Gore added: "Dirty energy makes dirty weather."

Climate expert Dr Shaye Wolf warned of "a future full of Frankenstorms". He said: "Climate change raises sea levels and super-sizes storms. The threat of killer winds and crushing storm surges will grow by the year unless we get serious about tackling greenhouse gas." Other scientists say a mixture of rare weather systems caused Sandy. They say that warmer temperatures and rising sea levels were probably not the reason for the hurricane. Meteorologist Kevin Trenberth said of Sandy: "A lot of [different] weather conditions that lined up [caused] what we might call a meteorological bomb." Sandy is certain to get politicians once again asking questions about fossil fuels and pollution.

Sources: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2012/oct/31/sandy-climate-change-us-election>  
<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/10/31/storm-sandy-climate-idUSL1E8LUCF320121031>

# WARM-UPS

**1. CLIMATE CHANGE:** Walk around the class and talk to other students about climate change. Change partners often. Share your findings with your first partner.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

*hurricanes / damage / flooded / devastating weather events / climate / dirty energy / Frankenstorms / greenhouse gas / warmer temperatures / meteorologist / pollution*

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

**3. WEATHER EVENTS:** How are they changing? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners and share what you wrote. Change and share again.

	Real-life examples	Problems and how to fix them
Wind		
Rain		
El Nino / La Nina		
Snow		
Heat		
Cold		

**4. GLOBAL WARMING:** Students A **strongly** believe global warming is caused by human activity; Students B **strongly** believe it isn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. HELP:** What can you do to help the Earth? Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- use the stairs, not the elevator
- turn on lights only when it's dark
- walk, don't drive
- recycle everything
- use MUCH less air-con / heating
- plant trees (more than one)
- use less hot water
- buy energy-efficient products

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

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane\\_sandy.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane_sandy.html)

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

- a. Hurricane Sandy caused billions, not millions of dollars of damage. T / F
- b. Climate change wasn't such a hot topic for politicians before Sandy. T / F
- c. An ex-vice president of the USA said there was no need to take action. T / F
- d. The ex-VP suggested that using coal and gas brings us bad weather. T / F
- e. A specialist on the climate warned of what he called "Dracula-storms". T / F
- f. The expert said there would be more deadly weather year by year. T / F
- g. Many experts said a mix of common weather systems caused Sandy. T / F
- h. The article said Sandy would soon disappear from politicians' agendas. T / F

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the following synonyms from the article.

- |                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. at least    | a. questioning   |
| 2. hit         | b. sure          |
| 3. asking      | c. struck        |
| 4. devastating | d. worrying      |
| 5. disturbing  | e. combination   |
| 6. expert      | f. not less than |
| 7. threat      | g. uncommon      |
| 8. mixture     | h. danger        |
| 9. rare        | i. damaging      |
| 10. certain    | j. specialist    |

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

- |   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| 1. Hurricane Sandy killed at                | a. sea levels          |
| 2. flooded                                  | b. things to come      |
| 3. Sandy has firmly put climate change back | c. greenhouse gas      |
| 4. a disturbing sign of                     | d. onto the agenda     |
| 5. Dirty energy                             | e. least 62 people     |
| 6. warned of a future full                  | f. for the hurricane   |
| 7. Climate change raises                    | g. subways and tunnels |
| 8. get serious about tackling               | h. fuels and pollution |
| 9. probably not the reason                  | i. of Frankenstorms    |
| 10. asking questions about fossil.          | j. makes dirty weather |

# WHILE READING / LISTENING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane\\_sandy.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane_sandy.html)

**GAP FILL:** Put the words into the gaps in the text.

Hurricane Sandy killed at (1) \_\_\_\_\_ 62 people and caused billions of dollars of damage to America's east (2) \_\_\_\_\_. Water from the superstorm, which hit on Tuesday night, has (3) \_\_\_\_\_ subways and tunnels in New York City and (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of electricity to millions of homes. Politicians and scientists are now asking whether America and the world are ready for such (5) \_\_\_\_\_ and deadly weather events. Sandy has firmly put climate change back onto the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of the 2012 presidential election. Former U.S. vice president Al Gore told reporters: "Hurricane Sandy is a (7) \_\_\_\_\_ sign of things to come. We must [pay (8) \_\_\_\_\_ to] this warning and act quickly to solve the climate crisis." Mr Gore added: "Dirty energy makes dirty weather."

*cut*  
*disturbing*  
*coast*  
*devastating*  
*least*  
*attention*  
*flooded*  
*agenda*

Climate expert Dr Shaye Wolf (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of "a future full of Frankenstorms". He said: "Climate change (10) \_\_\_\_\_ sea levels and super-sizes storms. The (11) \_\_\_\_\_ of killer winds and crushing storm surges will grow by the year unless we get serious about (12) \_\_\_\_\_ greenhouse gas." Other scientists say a mixture of (13) \_\_\_\_\_ weather systems caused Sandy. They say that warmer temperatures and rising sea levels were probably not the (14) \_\_\_\_\_ for the hurricane. Meteorologist Kevin Trenberth said of Sandy: "A lot of [different] weather conditions that (15) \_\_\_\_\_ up [caused] what we might call a meteorological bomb." Sandy is certain to get politicians once again asking questions about (16) \_\_\_\_\_ fuels and pollution.

*rare*  
*threat*  
*warned*  
*lined*  
*fossil*  
*raises*  
*tackling*  
*reason*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane\\_sandy.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane_sandy.html)

- 1) Hurricane Sandy killed at ...
  - a. most 62 people
  - b. least 62 people
  - c. least 63 people
  - d. most 63 people
- 2) Politicians and scientists are now asking whether America and the world are ready ...
  - a. for such debilitating and deathly weather events
  - b. for such devastating and deadly weather events
  - c. for such deadly and devastating weather events
  - d. for such deathly and debilitating weather events
- 3) Sandy has firmly put climate change back onto ...
  - a. the weather
  - b. the discussion boards
  - c. the map
  - d. the agenda
- 4) Hurricane Sandy is a disturbing \_\_\_\_\_ of things to come
  - a. sign
  - b. pattern
  - c. thing
  - d. signal
- 5) Dirty energy makes dirty weather ...
  - a. clean weather
  - b. weather dirty
  - c. dirty weather
  - d. weather clean
- 6) "a future \_\_\_\_\_ of Frankenstorms"
  - a. full
  - b. filled
  - c. fail
  - d. full up
- 7) The threat of killer winds and crushing storm surges will grow ...
  - a. by the year
  - b. year by year
  - c. each year
  - d. every year
- 8) They say that warmer temperatures and rising sea levels were probably ...
  - a. the reason for the hurricane
  - b. the main reason for the hurricane
  - c. not the reason for the hurricane
  - d. one of the main reasons for the hurricane
- 9) what we might call a meteorological ...
  - a. bomber
  - b. bomb shell
  - c. time bomb
  - d. bomb
- 10) Sandy is certain to get politicians once \_\_\_\_\_ asking questions
  - a. more
  - b. time
  - c. again
  - d. only

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane\\_sandy.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane_sandy.html)

Hurricane Sandy killed at least 62 people and (1) \_\_\_\_\_ of damage to America's east coast. Water from the superstorm, which hit on Tuesday night, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ and tunnels in New York City and cut off electricity to millions of homes. Politicians and scientists are now asking whether America and the world (3) \_\_\_\_\_ devastating and deadly weather events. Sandy (4) \_\_\_\_\_ change (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of the 2012 presidential election. Former U.S. vice president Al Gore told reporters: "Hurricane Sandy is a disturbing sign of things to come. We must [pay attention to] this warning and (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the climate crisis." Mr Gore added: "Dirty energy makes dirty weather."

Climate expert Dr Shaye Wolf warned of "a future full of Frankenstorms". He said: "Climate (7) \_\_\_\_\_ and super-sizes storms. The threat of killer winds and crushing (8) \_\_\_\_\_ by the year unless we get (9) \_\_\_\_\_ greenhouse gas." Other scientists say (10) \_\_\_\_\_ weather systems caused Sandy. They say that warmer temperatures and rising sea levels were (11) \_\_\_\_\_ for the hurricane. Meteorologist Kevin Trenberth said of Sandy: "A lot of [different] weather conditions that lined up [caused] what we might call a meteorological bomb." Sandy is certain to get politicians once again asking questions about (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane\\_sandy.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane_sandy.html)

1. How many people were killed by the hurricane?

---

2. What two things did the water flood?

---

3. Who is asking whether America is ready for deadly weather?

---

4. What has Sandy done to the 21012 presidential agenda?

---

5. What did Al Gore say makes "dirty weather"?

---

6. What did climate expert Dr Shaye Wolf warn of?

---

7. How often will the threat of threat of killer winds grow?

---

8. What must we get serious about tackling?

---

9. What did meteorologist Kevin Trenberth call Sandy?

---

10. What is Sandy sure to do to politicians?

---



# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane\\_sandy.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane_sandy.html)

1. A climate expert warned of a future of...
  - a) 61
  - b) 62
  - c) 63
  - d) 64
2. What must we get serious about?
  - a) hundreds of thousands
  - b) millions
  - c) tens of millions
  - d) billions
3. Sandy has put climate change ...
  - a) back onto the agenda
  - b) back onto the back burner
  - c) back 10,000 years
  - d) back to the ice age
4. Al Gore said Sandy is a sign of ....
  - a) things that go bump in the night
  - b) the times
  - c) things to come
  - d) the end of the world
5. Al Gore said...
  - a) "Dirty weather makes dirty energy."
  - b) "Dirty energy makes dirty weather."
  - c) "Dirty energy makes dirty energy."
  - d) "Dirty weather makes dirty weather."
6. A climate expert warned of a future of...
  - a) Frankenstorms
  - b) Monster storms
  - c) "Dracula-storms"
  - d) "Zombicanes"
7. What must we get serious about?
  - a) destroying fossil fuels
  - b) crushing storm surges
  - c) tackling greenhouse gas
  - d) getting politicians to use less fuel
8. Some scientists said Sandy was
  - a) a mixture of rare weather systems
  - b) a mixture of common weather patterns
  - c) the devil's work
  - d) a warning of more rain to come
9. A meteorologist called Sandy ...
  - a) a meteorological bomb a meteorological time bomb
  - b) a meteorological bomber
  - c) a meteorological bombing
10. Sandy will get politicians asking about
  - a) their salaries
  - b) the melting Arctic ice caps
  - c) the cost of living
  - d) fossil fuels and pollution

# ROLE PLAY

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane\\_sandy.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane_sandy.html)

## **Role A – Scientist A**

You don't think human activity causes global warming. The Earth is too big for a few billion people to do this. You think it's just the normal weather. It happens every thousand years. You believe the others have no idea what they are talking about. Tell them that every time they speak.

## **Role B – Scientist B**

You strongly believe that humans cause global warming. There are thousands of reports that say this. The Earth's weather is going crazy. People who say humans do not create climate change get lots of money from oil companies. You think scientist A should quit his/her job for his/her opinions.

## **Role C – Average Jo**

You are an average person. You are sure there is a link between the way humans live their lives and the changing weather. Ask the scientists lots of questions. Ask them what we can do to save the penguins. Tell them to change their lifestyles to save energy.

## **Role D – A penguin**

You are a penguin living in Antarctica. You are fed up with humans. You know how to live a life that does not pollute the air, rivers and oceans. Order the others to go back to nature and live lives that create zero pollution. If they do not do this, all penguins will die one day.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane\\_sandy.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane_sandy.html)

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

<b>climate</b>	<b>change</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>• 62</li><li>• coast</li><li>• ready</li><li>• agenda</li><li>• sign</li><li>• dirty</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• future</li><li>• grow</li><li>• rare</li><li>• reason</li><li>• bomb</li><li>• fossil</li></ul>
--	---

# CLIMATE CHANGE SURVEY

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane\\_sandy.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane_sandy.html)

Write five GOOD questions about climate change 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.

# CLIMATE CHANGE DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'hurricane'?
- c) What do you know about Hurricane Sandy?
- d) How can we help the people affected by Sandy?
- e) Why did politicians in the USA stop talking about climate change?
- f) How important is climate change?
- g) What do you do every day to save energy?
- h) What pictures of Sandy do you remember looking at / watching?
- i) What does "Dirty energy makes dirty weather" mean?
- j) What can people do to prepare for deadly weather events?

*Sandy asks new climate change questions – 1st November, 2012*  
More free lessons at [www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com)

---

# CLIMATE CHANGE DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article?
- b) Do you think we will ever get serious about storms like Sandy and take action?
- c) What do you think of the word "Frankenstorm"?
- d) How has the climate changed in your country recently?
- e) Why can't scientists agree on climate change?
- f) What should we do every day to save energy?
- g) Why do countries do so little about climate change?
- h) How much influence do oil companies have with politicians?
- i) What questions would you like to ask climate expert Dr Shaye Wolf?
- j) What is a "meteorological bomb"? What do you think of this term?

## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

Copyright © [www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com)

---

## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - LANGUAGE

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane\\_sandy.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane_sandy.html)

Hurricane Sandy killed at (1) \_\_\_\_\_ 62 people and caused billions of dollars of damage to America's east coast. Water from the superstorm, which hit on Tuesday night, has (2) \_\_\_\_\_ subways and tunnels in New York City and cut off electricity to millions of homes. Politicians and scientists are now asking whether America and the world are ready for such (3) \_\_\_\_\_ and deadly weather events. Sandy has (4) \_\_\_\_\_ put climate change back onto the agenda of the 2012 presidential election. Former U.S. vice president Al Gore told reporters: "Hurricane Sandy is a disturbing sign of things to come. We must [(5) \_\_\_\_\_ attention to] this warning and act quickly to (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the climate crisis." Mr Gore added: "Dirty energy makes dirty weather."

Climate expert Dr Shaye Wolf warned of "a future full of Frankenstorms". He said: "Climate change raises sea levels and super-sizes storms. The (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of killer winds and crushing storm (8) \_\_\_\_\_ will grow by the year unless we get serious about (9) \_\_\_\_\_ greenhouse gas." Other scientists say a mixture of rare weather systems caused Sandy. They say that warmer temperatures and (10) \_\_\_\_\_ sea levels were probably not the reason for the hurricane. Meteorologist Kevin Trenberth said of Sandy: "A lot of [different] weather conditions that (11) \_\_\_\_\_ up [caused] what we might call a meteorological bomb." Sandy is certain to get politicians once again asking questions about (12) \_\_\_\_\_ fuels and pollution.

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

- |     |                 |              |             |                |
|-----|-----------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|
| 1.  | (a) most        | (b) mainly   | (c) least   | (d) lesson     |
| 2.  | (a) flooded     | (b) flood    | (c) floods  | (d) flooding   |
| 3.  | (a) devastating | (b) rambling | (c) brewing | (d) shuttering |
| 4.  | (a) firmly      | (b) firm     | (c) firm up | (d) firms      |
| 5.  | (a) cost        | (b) pay      | (c) sell    | (d) budget     |
| 6.  | (a) soluble     | (b) solution | (c) solvent | (d) solve      |
| 7.  | (a) treat       | (b) treaty   | (c) threat  | (d) threaten   |
| 8.  | (a) purses      | (b) purges   | (c) urges   | (d) surges     |
| 9.  | (a) tackling    | (b) tackles  | (c) tackled | (d) tackle     |
| 10. | (a) arisen      | (b) rising   | (c) raises  | (d) raising    |
| 11. | (a) weathered   | (b) lined    | (c) pointed | (d) waited     |
| 12. | (a) cheap       | (b) rare     | (c) fossil  | (d) dangerous  |

Sandy asks new climate change questions – 1st November, 2012

More free lessons at [www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com) - Copyright Sean Banville 2012

# SPELLING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane\\_sandy.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane_sandy.html)

## Paragraph 1

1. doledfo subways and tunnels
2. tiadgnetvas and deadly
3. back onto the daaneg of the 2012 presidential election
4. a ubntrisdg sign of things to come
5. We must pay eanotntti
6. Dirty energy makes dirty haeertw

## Paragraph 2

7. climate perxet
8. the etarth of killer winds
9. crushing storm uessrg
10. warmer ttarspmreeeu
11. a oalgleeotimrco bomb
12. sofsli fuels



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane\\_sandy.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane_sandy.html)

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

- ( ) attention to] this warning and act quickly to solve the climate crisis." Mr Gore added: "Dirty energy makes dirty weather."
- ( ) U.S. vice president Al Gore told reporters: "Hurricane Sandy is a disturbing sign of things to come. We must [pay
- ( **1** ) Hurricane Sandy killed at least 62 people and caused billions of dollars of damage to America's east
- ( ) levels and super-sizes storms. The threat of killer winds and crushing storm surges will grow by the year
- ( ) caused Sandy. They say that warmer temperatures and rising sea levels were probably not the reason
- ( ) coast. Water from the superstorm, which hit on Tuesday night, has flooded subways and
- ( ) whether America and the world are ready for such devastating and deadly weather
- ( ) for the hurricane. Meteorologist Kevin Trenberth said of Sandy: "A lot of [different] weather
- ( ) bomb." Sandy is certain to get politicians once again asking questions about fossil fuels and pollution.
- ( ) tunnels in New York City and cut off electricity to millions of homes. Politicians and scientists are now asking
- ( ) events. Sandy has firmly put climate change back onto the agenda of the 2012 presidential election. Former
- ( ) conditions that lined up [caused] what we might call a meteorological
- ( ) Climate expert Dr Shaye Wolf warned of "a future full of Frankenstorms". He said: "Climate change raises sea
- ( ) unless we get serious about tackling greenhouse gas." Other scientists say a mixture of rare weather systems

Sandy asks new climate change questions – 1st November, 2012

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane\\_sandy.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane_sandy.html)

1. of of America's damage dollars east to Billions coast.

---

2. millions to electricity off Cut homes of.

---

3. agenda the onto back change climate Put.

---

4. pay this act must to and We attention warning.

---

5. weather dirty Mr energy Gore ." makes added : " Dirty

---

6. threat winds storm The killer crushing of and surges.

---

7. serious about Unless tackling we greenhouse get gas.

---

8. caused of Sandy rare weather A systems mixture.

---

9. bomb meteorological a call might we What.

---

10. fuels fossil about questions Asking pollution and.

---

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane\\_sandy.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane_sandy.html)

Hurricane Sandy killed at *most* / *least* 62 people and caused billions of dollars of damage to America's *east* / *easterly* coast. Water from the superstorm, which hit on Tuesday night, has *flooding* / *flooded* subways and tunnels in New York City and cut *off* / *in* electricity to millions of homes. Politicians and scientists are now asking *weather* / *whether* America and the world are ready for such devastating and *death* / *deadly* weather events. Sandy has *firmly* / *hardly* put climate change back onto the agenda of the 2012 presidential election. Former U.S. vice president Al Gore told reporters: "Hurricane Sandy is a disturbing sign *from* / *of* things to come. We must [pay attention to] this warning and *action* / *act* quickly to solve the climate crisis." Mr Gore added: "Dirty energy makes *pure* / *dirty* weather."

Climate expert Dr Shaye Wolf warned of "a future *full* / *filled* of Frankenstorms". He said: "Climate change *raises* / *rises* sea levels and super-sizes storms. The *treat* / *threat* of killer winds and crushing storm surges will *grow* / *growth* by the year unless we get serious about *heckling* / *tackling* greenhouse gas." Other scientists say a mixture of *common* / *rare* weather systems caused Sandy. They say that warmer temperatures and rising sea levels were *probably* / *likely* not the reason for the hurricane. Meteorologist Kevin Trenberth said of Sandy: "A lot of [different] weather conditions that lined *on* / *up* [caused] what we might call a meteorological *bomb* / *grenade*." Sandy is certain to get politicians once again asking questions about *hybrid* / *fossil* fuels and pollution.

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane\\_sandy.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane_sandy.html)

H\_rr\_c\_n\_ S\_ndy k\_ll\_d \_t l\_\_st 62 p\_\_pl\_ \_nd c\_\_s\_d  
b\_ll\_\_ns \_f d\_ll\_rs \_f d\_m\_g\_t\_ \_m\_r\_c\_'s \_\_st c\_\_st.  
W\_t\_r fr\_m th\_ s\_p\_rst\_rm, wh\_ch h\_t \_n T\_\_sd\_y  
n\_ght, h\_s fl\_\_d\_d s\_bw\_ys \_nd t\_nn\_ls \_n N\_w Y\_rk  
C\_ty \_nd c\_t \_ff \_l\_ctr\_c\_ty t\_ m\_ll\_\_ns \_f h\_m\_s.  
P\_l\_t\_c\_\_ns \_nd sc\_\_nt\_sts \_r\_n\_w \_sk\_ng wh\_th\_r  
\_m\_r\_c\_ \_nd th\_ w\_rld \_r\_r\_\_dy f\_r\_s\_ch\_d\_v\_st\_t\_ng  
\_nd d\_\_dly w\_\_th\_r \_v\_nts. S\_ndy h\_s f\_rml\_y p\_t  
cl\_m\_t\_ ch\_ng\_ b\_ck \_nt\_ th\_ \_g\_nd\_ \_f th\_ 2012  
pr\_s\_d\_nt\_\_l \_l\_ct\_\_n. F\_rm\_r \_\_.S. v\_c\_ pr\_s\_d\_nt \_l  
G\_r\_t\_ld r\_p\_rts: "H\_rr\_c\_n\_ S\_ndy \_s \_d\_st\_rbn\_g  
s\_gn \_f th\_ngs t\_ c\_m\_. W\_ m\_st [p\_y \_tt\_nt\_\_n\_t\_]  
th\_s w\_rn\_g \_nd \_ct q\_\_ckly t\_ s\_lv\_ th\_ cl\_m\_t\_  
cr\_s\_s." Mr G\_r\_ \_dd\_d: "D\_rty \_n\_rgy m\_k\_s d\_rty  
w\_\_th\_r."

Cl\_m\_t\_ \_\_xp\_r\_t Dr Sh\_y\_ W\_lf w\_rn\_d \_f "\_ f\_t\_r\_ f\_ll  
\_f Fr\_nk\_nst\_rms". H\_s\_\_d: "Cl\_m\_t\_ ch\_ng\_ r\_\_s\_s  
s\_\_l\_v\_ls \_nd s\_p\_r-s\_z\_s st\_rms. Th\_ thr\_\_t \_f k\_ll\_r  
w\_nds \_nd cr\_sh\_ng st\_rm s\_rg\_s w\_ll gr\_w by th\_ y\_\_r  
\_nl\_ss w\_ g\_t s\_r\_\_s \_b\_\_t t\_ckl\_ng gr\_\_nh\_\_s  
g\_s." \_th\_r sc\_\_nt\_sts s\_y \_m\_xt\_r\_ \_f r\_r\_w\_\_th\_r  
syst\_ms c\_\_s\_d S\_ndy. Th\_y s\_y th\_t w\_rm\_r  
t\_m\_p\_r\_t\_r\_s \_nd r\_s\_ng s\_\_l\_v\_ls w\_r\_ pr\_b\_bly n\_t  
th\_ r\_\_s\_n f\_r th\_ h\_rr\_c\_n\_. M\_t\_\_r\_l\_g\_st K\_v\_n  
Tr\_nb\_rth s\_\_d \_f S\_ndy: "\_ l\_t \_f [d\_ff\_r\_nt] w\_\_th\_r  
c\_nd\_t\_\_ns th\_t l\_n\_d \_p [c\_\_s\_d] wh\_t w\_ m\_ght c\_ll  
\_m\_t\_\_r\_l\_g\_c\_l b\_mb." S\_ndy \_s c\_r\_t\_\_n t\_ g\_t  
p\_l\_t\_c\_\_ns \_nc\_ \_g\_\_n \_sk\_ng q\_\_st\_\_ns \_b\_\_t f\_ss\_l  
f\_\_ls \_nd p\_ll\_t\_\_n.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane\\_sandy.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane_sandy.html)

hurricane sandy killed at least 62 people and caused billions of dollars of damage to america's east coast water from the superstorm which hit on tuesday night has flooded subways and tunnels in new york city and cut off electricity to millions of homes politicians and scientists are now asking whether america and the world are ready for such devastating and deadly weather events sandy has firmly put climate change back onto the agenda of the 2012 presidential election former us vice president al gore told reporters "hurricane sandy is a disturbing sign of things to come we must [pay attention to] this warning and act quickly to solve the climate crisis" mr gore added "dirty energy makes dirty weather"

climate expert dr shaye wolf warned of "a future full of frankenstorms" he said "climate change raises sea levels and super-sizes storms the threat of killer winds and crushing storm surges will grow by the year unless we get serious about tackling greenhouse gas" other scientists say a mixture of rare weather systems caused sandy they say that warmer temperatures and rising sea levels were probably not the reason for the hurricane meteorologist kevin trenberth said of sandy "a lot of [different] weather conditions that lined up [caused] what we might call a meteorological bomb" sandy is certain to get politicians once again asking questions about fossil fuels and pollution

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane\\_sandy.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane_sandy.html)

Hurricane Sandy killed at least 62 people and caused billions of dollars of damage to America's east coast. Water from the superstorm, which hit on Tuesday night, has flooded subways and tunnels in New York City and cut off electricity to millions of homes. Politicians and scientists are now asking whether America and the world are ready for such devastating and deadly weather events. Sandy has firmly put climate change back on the agenda of the 2012 presidential election. Former U.S. vice president Al Gore told reporters: "Hurricane Sandy is a disturbing sign of things to come. We must [pay attention to] this warning and act quickly to solve the climate crisis." Mr Gore added: "Dirty energy makes dirty weather."

Climate expert Dr Shaye Wolf warned of "a future full of Frankenstorms". He said: "Climate change raises sea levels and super-sizes storms. The threat of killer winds and crushing storm surges will grow by the year unless we get serious about tackling greenhouse gas." Other scientists say a mixture of rare weather systems caused Sandy. They say that warmer temperatures and rising sea levels were probably not the reason for the hurricane. Meteorologist Kevin Trenberth said of Sandy: "A lot of [different] weather conditions that lined up [caused] what we might call a meteorological bomb." Sandy is certain to get politicians once again asking questions about fossil fuels and pollution.

# FREE WRITING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane\\_sandy.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane_sandy.html)

Write about **climate change** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner’s paper.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# ACADEMIC WRITING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane\\_sandy.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121101-hurricane_sandy.html)

Writing to politicians about the need to act over climate change is our duty, but also a waste of time. Discuss.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



# 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 climate change. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. CLIMATE CHANGE:** Make a poster about climate change. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. SANDY:** Write a magazine article about Hurricane Sandy. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against it.

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 the US President. Ask him three questions about climate change and what his government is doing about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to save the Earth. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a. T    b. T    c. F    d. T    e. F    f. T    g. F    h. F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |                |                  |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. at least    | a. not less than |
| 2. hit         | b. struck        |
| 3. asking      | c. questioning   |
| 4. devastating | d. damaging      |
| 5. disturbing  | e. worrying      |
| 6. expert      | f. specialist    |
| 7. threat      | g. danger        |
| 8. mixture     | h. combination   |
| 9. rare        | i. uncommon      |
| 10. certain    | j. sure          |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

- 62
- subways and tunnels
- politicians and scientists
- put climate change back on the agenda
- dirty energy
- a future full of Frankenstorms / Frankenstorms
- by the year
- greenhouse gas
- a meteorological bomb
- get them asking questions about fossil fuels and pollution

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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