

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

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

www.freematerials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html

Level 4

Internet damaging 20,000 U.K. stores

3rd September, 2013

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1309/130903-retail-chains-4.html>

Contents

The Reading	2
Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
Survey	5
Discussion	6
Writing	7

Please try the harder Level 5 and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).

Twitter



twitter.com/SeanBanville

Facebook



www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176

Google +



plus.google.com/110990608764591804698/posts

THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1309/130903-retail-chains-4.html>

The Internet has changed how we shop. More of us shop online instead of in real stores. This is having terrible effects for traditional high-street stores in the U.K. A new report contains worrying statistics on the future of U.K. retailing. A CEO warns that 47 per cent of stores (20,000 shops) are "horribly stressed financially". He predicts a quarter will be gone in three years. The move away from traditional shops has also led to "ugly" town centres.

The report explained the decline of Britain's downtown areas. Over 40,000 shops are empty. Stores have not met challenges from the Internet. Stores are being "nostalgic" and are stuck in the past, without looking at the future. They need fresh ideas to get customers back. Multinational companies are taking money away from local areas. It isn't difficult to keep local money in the local economy if people did not focus on big companies.

Sources: <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/newsbysector/retailandconsumer/10278443/Half-of-high-street-retailers-in-danger-of-closing-down.html>
<http://www.thisismoney.co.uk/money/news/article-2407852/Warning-20-000-high-street-shops-brink-collapse.html#ixzz2dchKcX2v>
<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/editorials/editorial-time-to-rethink-the-high-street-8792880.html>

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1309/130903-retail-chains-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. More of us shop online | a. of U.K. retailing |
| 2. worrying | b. in three years |
| 3. the future | c. statistics |
| 4. 20,000 shops are horribly | d. from traditional shops |
| 5. a quarter will be gone | e. instead of in real stores |
| 6. The move away | f. stressed financially |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. the decline of | a. in the local economy |
| 2. The report explained the decline | b. on big companies |
| 3. Stores are being "nostalgic" and | c. of Britain's downtown areas |
| 4. fresh ideas | d. Britain's downtown areas |
| 5. keep local money | e. are stuck in the past |
| 6. people did not focus | f. to get customers back |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1309/130903-retail-chains-4.html>

The Internet (1) _____ shop. More of us shop online instead of in real stores. This is (2) _____ for traditional high-street stores in the U.K. A new report contains (3) _____ on the future of U.K. retailing. A CEO (4) _____ of stores (20,000 shops) are "horribly stressed financially". He (5) _____ will be gone in three years. The move away from (6) _____ also led to "ugly" town centres.

The report (7) _____ of Britain's downtown areas. Over 40,000 shops are empty. Stores have (8) _____ from the Internet. Stores are being "nostalgic" (9) _____ the past, without looking at the future. They need (10) _____ customers back. Multinational companies (11) _____ away from local areas. It isn't difficult to keep local money in the local economy if people (12) _____ big companies.

SHOPS SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1309/130903-retail-chains-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about shops 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)

g)

h)

Internet damaging 20,000 U.K. stores - 3rd September, 2013
More free lessons at www.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)

g)

h)

