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Level 2

Smog makes Beijing put sunrise on giant TVs

21st January, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1401/140121-sunrise-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0 and 1 (easier) and the 26–page Level 3 (harder).

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1401/140121-sunrise-2.html>

In Beijing it's difficult to see the sun. The air is full of smog (a mixture of smoke and fog). It is so thick that it blocks the sun. People miss seeing the sun. Beijing's leaders want people to see the sunrise. They put giant screens in the city. People watch the sunrise on them. One screen has a special message on it. It read: "Protecting the atmosphere and environment is everyone's responsibility." The live, digital sunrise is popular with tourists. Ricardo Hernandez from Mexico said it looked like science fiction. He said it was cool, but also worrying.

The air in China's cities is often bad in winter. People burn more coal for heating. This makes more pollution. Beijing's mayor promised to make the air cleaner. He will use \$2.4 billion this year to make things better. Many workers wore face masks to work. They could not breathe the bad air. One man said: "I couldn't see the tall buildings across the street this morning. The smog has become worse in the last two to three years." He often feels bad: "I often cough and my nose is always running," he said. The US embassy said people should not do any exercise outside.

Sources: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2540955/Beijing-clouded-smog-way-sunrise-watch-giant-commercial-screens-Tiananmen-Square.html>
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/01/17/beijing-fake-sunrise_n_4618536.html?utm_hp_ref=world

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1401/140121-sunrise-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. In Beijing it's difficult | a. responsibility |
| 2. It is so thick that it blocks | b. message on it |
| 3. They put giant | c. tourists |
| 4. One screen has a special | d. the sun |
| 5. Protecting the | e. to see the sun |
| 6. everyone's | f. screens in the city |
| 7. popular with | g. fiction |
| 8. it looked like science | h. atmosphere |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. The air in China's cities is | a. better |
| 2. People burn more | b. any exercise outside |
| 3. Beijing's mayor promised to | c. masks to work |
| 4. make things | d. often bad in winter |
| 5. Many workers wore face | e. is always running |
| 6. They could not breathe | f. make the air cleaner |
| 7. I often cough and my nose | g. coal for heating |
| 8. people should not do | h. the bad air |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1401/140121-sunrise-2.html>

In Beijing (1) _____ the sun. The air is full of smog (a mixture of smoke and fog). It (2) _____ blocks the sun. People miss seeing the sun. Beijing's leaders want people to see the sunrise. They (3) _____ in the city. People watch the sunrise on them. One screen has a special message on it. It read: "(4) _____ and environment is everyone's responsibility." The live, digital sunrise is (5) _____. Ricardo Hernandez from Mexico said it looked like science fiction. He (6) _____, but also worrying.

The air in China's cities (7) _____ winter. People burn more coal for heating. This (8) _____. Beijing's mayor promised to make the air cleaner. He will use \$2.4 billion this year to (9) _____. Many workers wore face masks to work. They (10) _____ the bad air. One man said: "I couldn't see the tall buildings across the street this morning. The smog has become worse in the last two to three years." He often feels bad: "I (11) _____ nose is always running," he said. The US embassy said people should not (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1401/140121-sunrise-2.html>

In Beijing it's difficult to see the sun. The air is full of smog (a mixture of smoke and fog). It is so thick that it blocks the sun. People miss seeing the sun. Beijing's leaders want people to see the sunrise. They put giant screens in the city. People watch the sunrise on them. One screen has a special message on it. It read: "Protecting the atmosphere and environment is everyone's responsibility." The live, digital sunrise is popular with tourists. Ricardo Hernandez from Mexico said it looked like science fiction. He said it was cool, but also worrying. The air in China's cities is often bad in winter. People burn more coal for heating. This makes more pollution. Beijing's mayor promised to make the air cleaner. He will use \$2.4 billion this year to make things better. Many workers wore face masks to work. They could not breathe the bad air. One man said: "I couldn't see the tall buildings across the street this morning. The smog has become worse in the last two to three years." He often feels bad: "I often cough and my nose is always running," he said. The US embassy said people should not do any exercise outside.

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)

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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)

g)

h)
