

NEWS ENGLISH LESSONS.com

Man crosses Pacific in 12,500-bottle boat

MANY FLASH AND ONLINE ACTIVITIES FOR THIS LESSON, PLUS A LISTENING, AT:

http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1007/100727-plastic_waste.html

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

27th July, 2010

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1007/100727-plastic_waste.html

A 20-metre-long boat built from 12,500 recycled plastic bottles has arrived in Sydney after crossing the Pacific Ocean. The sailboat, called Plastiki, crossed the Pacific to raise awareness of the dangers of plastic waste. It left San Francisco on March 20 and arrived in Australia just over four months later. Captain David de Rothschild, 31, said he wanted to let people know that plastic trash and other rubbish is threatening the world's oceans. He built his craft by recycling thousands of plastic bottles and sticking them together with a glue made from cashew nuts and sugar cane.

Mr Rothschild's adventure is an important lesson for us all. The world's oceans are becoming huge garbage dumps. Plastic waste regularly gets washed up on almost every beach on the planet. Rothschild sailed near the Great Pacific Garbage Patch – a floating island of non-biodegradable waste that seriously damages bird and marine life. We must all think very carefully about what happens to the plastic we throw away. Few of us realize that we are polluting our rivers and oceans. The problem seems to be getting worse. Hopefully, the Plastiki will remind us to protect our environment.

PHRASE MATCH

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1007/100727-plastic_waste.html

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. A 20-metre- | a. of plastic waste |
| 2 crossing the | b. oceans |
| 3. raise awareness of the dangers | c. long boat |
| 4. just over four | d. together |
| 5. threatening the world's | e. Pacific Ocean |
| 6. sticking them | f. months later |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. an important lesson | a. worse |
| 2 oceans are becoming huge | b. washed up |
| 3. waste regularly gets | c. life |
| 4. non-biodegradable | d. for us all |
| 5. bird and marine | e. waste |
| 6. The problem seems to be getting | f. garbage dumps |

LISTENING GAP FILL

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1007/100727-plastic_waste.html

A 20-metre-_____ 12,500 recycled plastic bottles has arrived in Sydney -_____ Pacific Ocean. The sailboat, called Plastiki, crossed the Pacific to -_____ of the dangers of plastic waste. It left San Francisco on March 20 and arrived in Australia just over four months later. Captain David de Rothschild, 31, said he wanted to -_____ plastic trash and other rubbish is threatening the world's oceans. He built -_____ ycling thousands of plastic bottles and -_____ with a glue made from cashew nuts and sugar cane.

Mr Rothschild's adventure -_____ for us all. The world's oceans are becoming huge garbage dumps. Plastic waste regularly -_____ almost every beach on the planet. Rothschild sailed near the Great Pacific Garbage Patch - a -_____ non-biodegradable waste that seriously damages bird and marine life. We -_____ carefully about -_____ plastic we throw away. Few of us realize that we are polluting our rivers and oceans. The problem seems to be getting worse. Hopefully, the Plastiki will -_____ our environment.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1007/100727-plastic_waste.html

A 20-metre-long boat (1) _____ from 12,500 recycled plastic bottles has arrived in Sydney after crossing the Pacific Ocean. The sailboat, called Plastiki, crossed the Pacific to (2) _____ awareness of the dangers of plastic waste. It left San Francisco on March 20 and arrived in Australia (3) _____ over four months later. Captain David de Rothschild, 31, said he wanted to (4) _____ people know that plastic trash and other rubbish is threatening the world's oceans. He built his craft (5) _____ recycling thousands of plastic bottles and sticking them together with a glue made from cashew nuts and sugar cane.

Mr Rothschild's adventure is an important lesson for us all. The world's oceans are becoming huge garbage dumps. Plastic waste (6) _____ gets washed (7) _____ on almost every beach on the planet. Rothschild sailed near the Great Pacific Garbage Patch – a floating island of (8) _____ biodegradable waste that seriously damages bird and marine life. We must all think very carefully about what happens (9) _____ the plastic we throw away. Few of us realize that we are polluting our rivers and oceans. The problem seems to be getting worse. Hopefully, the Plastiki will (10) _____ us to protect our environment.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. | (a) build | (b) builds | (c) built |
| 2. | (a) raise | (b) rise | (c) rising |
| 3. | (a) justice | (b) just | (c) justly |
| 4. | (a) let | (b) get | (c) met |
| 5. | (a) to | (b) by | (c) in |
| 6. | (a) regular | (b) regularly | (c) regulars |
| 7. | (a) up | (b) down | (c) under |
| 8. | (a) not | (b) no | (c) non- |
| 9. | (a) of | (b) so | (c) to |
| 10. | (a) reminder | (b) remind | (c) reminds |

SPELLING

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1007/100727-plastic_waste.html

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. erecdlyc plastic bottles
2. issrocng the Pacific Ocean
3. ieasr awareness
4. eidavrr in Australia
5. plastic atsrh
6. uarsg cane

Paragraph 2

7. an important slsoen
8. every beach on the petlna
9. a floating adnils
10. bird and niemar life
11. we are ltipgnolu our rivers
12. otcertp our environment

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1007/100727-plastic_waste.html

Number these lines in the correct order.

- (**1**) A 20-metre-long boat built from 12,500 recycled plastic bottles has arrived in Sydney after crossing the
- () dumps. Plastic rubbish regularly gets washed up on almost every beach on the planet. Rothschild sailed
- () to let people know that plastic trash is threatening the world's oceans. He built his craft by recycling
- () thousands of plastic bottles and sticking them together with a glue made from cashew nuts and sugar cane.
- () marine life. We must all think very carefully about what happens to the plastic we throw away. Few of us realize that we are
- () near the Great Pacific Garbage Patch – a floating island of non-biodegradable waste that seriously damages bird and
- () Pacific Ocean. The sailboat, called Plastiki, crossed the Pacific to raise awareness of the dangers of plastic waste. It left
- () San Francisco on March 20 and arrived in Australia just over four months later. Captain David de Rothschild, 31, said he wanted
- () polluting our rivers and oceans. The problem seems to be getting worse. Hopefully, the Plastiki will remind us to protect our environment.
- () Mr Rothschild's adventure is an important lesson for us all. The world's oceans are becoming huge garbage

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

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With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. long - metre - 20 A boat.

2. awareness plastic of waste the dangers Raise of.

3. 20 March on Francisco San left It.

4. trash Plastic oceans world's the threatening is.

5. them with glue Sticking together a.

6. An lesson us important for all.

7. becoming The huge world's garbage oceans dumps are.

8. Plastic regularly washed rubbish gets up.

9. waste of non A - floating biodegradable island.

10. our rivers Few of us realize that we are polluting.

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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. PLASTIC WASTE: Search the Internet and find more information about plastic waste. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about plastic waste. Include imaginary an interview with David de Rothschild. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

4. 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.

5. LETTER: Write a letter to David de Rothschild. Ask him/her three questions about plastic waste. Give him/her three of your opinions on it. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.