



# Air pollution affects health in UK

## INSTRUCTIONS

Write down the numbers 1-12. Then match the words below with the blanks in the article.

smoking

spokesman

NHS

buses

Liberal

cities

transport

air

half

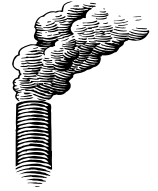
eight

parties

European

Air pollution in the UK is cutting the life span of the average person by up to 1)\_\_\_\_\_ months. This is the finding of a new report from a committee of MPs.

The report claims air pollution is so bad it is probably responsible for more deaths than passive 2)\_\_\_\_\_, road accidents or obesity. In fact, poor air quality may be a factor in up to 50,000 deaths a year in Britain's towns and 3)\_\_\_\_\_.



The problem also has a major impact on the 4)\_\_\_\_\_ which spends millions of pounds each year on illnesses related to air pollution. There may also be extra costs in the future because the MPs' report warns the government could face heavy fines if it fails to meet 5)\_\_\_\_\_ Union (EU) targets on air quality.

Critics claim the government does very little about the issue of 6)\_\_\_\_\_ pollution. However, a government 7)\_\_\_\_\_ has insisted this is not true. He said air quality has improved because the government has invested billions of pounds in better public 8)\_\_\_\_\_ such as new trains and 9)\_\_\_\_\_, and has also cut road transport emissions by nearly 10)\_\_\_\_\_ since 1997.



The committee which produced the report is made up of MPs from many parts of the UK, and from a range of 11)\_\_\_\_\_ including Labour, Conservatives and 12)\_\_\_\_\_ Democrats.

## QUESTIONS

- 1) What effect is air pollution in the UK having on the life span of the average person?
- 2) Who produced the new report on the effects of air pollution?
- 3) Why is poor air quality a problem for the National Health Service (NHS)?
- 4) Who might fine the British government, and why?
- 5) How did a spokesperson reply to critics of the government's policy on air pollution?

## NEWS CHALLENGE

1. Why has British Airways been in the news?

2. Did Sport Relief raise more than £10m, £20m or £30m for charity?



3. Policemen in which country have been told to lose weight and get fit for the next World Cup?

4. The Chancellor of the Exchequer announced the DUBGTE on Wednesday 24th March. Unscramble.

5. Did President Obama sign a major new law on health care or gun control?



6. The process of selling t\_\_\_\_\_s for the 2012 L\_\_\_\_\_ O\_\_\_\_\_ began this week. Complete.

7. Google is at odds with which large country over censorship of its website?



8. A new PATSM featuring Mary Queen of Scots has been issued by the YORLA LAIM. Unscramble.

9. Scotland's First Minister is leader of the SNP. What does SNP stand for?

10. The UK launched a new CEAPS GENYCA on Tuesday 23rd March. Unscramble.

11. The Conservative leader David Cameron has received good news which may help win votes at the general election. What is it?

