



# Air pollution affects health in UK

## INSTRUCTIONS

Write down the numbers 1-10. Then match the words below with the blanks in the article.

smoking

spokesman

treating

buses

cities

air

transport

fumes

eight

European

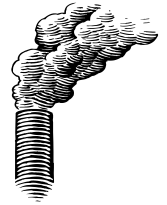
Air pollution in the UK is cutting the life span of the average person by up to 1)\_\_\_\_\_ months. This is the finding of a new report from a committee of MPs.

The report claims air pollution is so bad it may be causing more deaths than passive 2)\_\_\_\_\_ or road accidents. 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 affects the National Health Service which spends millions of pounds each year on 4)\_\_\_\_\_ illnesses caused by air pollution.

The MPs' report also warns the government could face heavy fines if it fails to meet targets on air quality set by the 5)\_\_\_\_\_ Union.

Critics say the government does not do enough about 6)\_\_\_\_\_ pollution. However, a government 7)\_\_\_\_\_ claims this is not true. He said air quality has improved because the government has spent billions of pounds on better public 8)\_\_\_\_\_ such as new trains and 9)\_\_\_\_\_. It and has also cut exhaust 10)\_\_\_\_\_ by nearly half since 1997.



## 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) Why might government face heavy fines?
- 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 E\_\_\_\_\_ announced the Budget on Wednesday 24th March. Complete.
5. Which President signed an important new law on health care in the USA?
6. The process of selling tickets for the 2012 L\_\_\_\_\_ O\_\_\_\_\_ began this week. Complete.



7. Google is at odds with which large country over censorship of its website: The USA or China?
8. A new PATSM featuring Mary Queen of Scots has been issued by the Royal LAIM. Unscramble.
9. Scotland's First Minister is leader of the SNP. SNP stands for Scottish Na\_\_\_\_\_l Party.
10. The UK launched a new CEAPS agency 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?

