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# BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

## Words in the News

### Paris 'love locks' removed



*NB: This is not a word-for-word transcript*

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#### Transcript

It's the end of the affair.

Attaching a 'love lock' to the Pont des Arts before throwing the key into the River Seine in Paris has become a tourist **tradition**.

But the romantic gesture has turned into an **eyesore** and also a **hazard**. The bridge is **weighed down** with nearly 50 tonnes of metal.

Last year, one section of the railings **gave way**.

The bridge has been closed as workers remove the locks.

#### Vocabulary

##### **tradition**

(here) a way of acting and behaving which continues for a long time

##### **eyesore**

ugly sight in a public place

##### **hazard**

dangerous thing

##### **weighed down**

(here) carried too much weight, felt heavy

##### **gave way**

collapsed

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**Watch this video online: Paris 'love locks' removed**

<http://bbc.in/1FsF7yC>

## Exercise

Use one of the words or phrases below to complete each of these sentences from news reports.

Note that you may have to change the form of a word to complete the sentence correctly.

**tradition / eyesore / hazard / weighed down / gave way**

1. "We have two reservoirs which are deep and cold and at night they would represent a \_\_\_\_\_ to people messing about."

2. At least eight people have died after a cement factory partially collapsed in Bangladesh, police say.

About 70 people were in the building in the port town of Mongla, 200km (125 miles) south-west of the capital Dhaka, when the roof \_\_\_\_\_. The factory had been under construction.

3. Her kitchen roof consists of sheets of corrugated iron \_\_\_\_\_ with stones.

Her family is especially hard-hit by rising costs and on some days they don't get to eat a full meal.

4. Mr Reeks said a "minimal" amount of fish were caught using the technique and stocks had "not deteriorated much" in the last few years.

Another fisherman, Malcolm Cameron, said: "It's a huge \_\_\_\_\_ that's been going on for hundreds of years for generations."

5. "Anyone passing by might think these buildings are \_\_\_\_\_ but it's about familiarity," says Thomas Lane, editor of Building Design magazine, which gives out the annual Carbuncle Cup to the ugliest building in the UK.

## Answers

1. "We have two reservoirs which are deep and cold and at night they would represent a **hazard** to people messing about."

**Source:** Warning over youths using Londonderry's Creggan reservoir

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-foyle-west-32895418>

2. At least eight people have died after a cement factory partially collapsed in Bangladesh, police say.

About 70 people were in the building in the port town of Mongla, 200km (125 miles) south-west of the capital Dhaka, when the roof **gave way**. The factory had been under construction.

**Source:** Bangladesh Mongla cement factory collapse kills eight

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-31849576>

3. Her kitchen roof consists of sheets of corrugated iron **weighed down** with stones.

Her family is especially hard-hit by rising costs and on some days they don't get to eat a full meal.

**Source:** Sri Lanka's tea workers fear for their future

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-17674937>

4. Mr Reeks said a "minimal" amount of fish were caught using the technique and stocks had "not deteriorated much" in the last few years.

Another fisherman, Malcolm Cameron, said: "It's a huge **tradition** that's been going on for hundreds of years for generations."

**Source:** One-fish rule 'threatens' River Severn tradition

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-gloucestershire-32807833>

5. "Anyone passing by might think these buildings are **eyesores** but it's about familiarity," says Thomas Lane, editor of Building Design magazine, which gives out the annual Carbuncle Cup to the ugliest building in the UK.

**Source:** The industrial 'eyesores' we just can't part with

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-31707643>