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# BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

## News Review

### South African power outages continue

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#### The story

South Africans are facing a fourth day of severe power cuts. The troubled, state-run firm, Eskom has appealed to customers to turn off all non-essential lights and appliances. The power cuts have caused transport problems in Johannesburg with many traffic lights switched off. South Africa's ageing network has suffered from years of mismanagement.

#### Vocabulary

##### blackouts

periods of no light or electricity

- The earthquake destroyed the power station resulting in a city-wide blackout.
- The government ordered a blackout so enemy planes can't target the city at night.

##### double whammy

two bad things happening at the same time

- Catherine had the double whammy of forgetting both her keys and her bus pass!
- Rising taxes and low sales brought the business a double whammy of bad luck.

##### light at the end of the tunnel

sign that a difficult situation will improve or end

- I was wrong. Now I've studied a bit more, there's light at the end of the tunnel.
- After winning the lottery, I saw light at the end of the tunnel for my money troubles.

#### Language challenge

Complete this sentence: The company suffers from gross \_\_\_ management.

- a) mal
- b) dis
- c) mis

#### Answer

- c) mis