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## Level 3 – 7th September 2023

### Store staff get body cameras to protect themselves

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2309/230907-supermarket-workers.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2309/230907-supermarket-workers.html>

Workers in supermarkets in the U.K. can now wear body cameras to protect themselves from attacks by customers. More and more staff are being punched or threatened with knives by angry people. Many sales assistants and checkout staff are afraid to go to work. They are stressed, and they are worried about their safety. The UK's largest supermarket chain Tesco is offering its staff body cameras. A spokesperson said the number of physical assaults on its workers has risen by a third in a year. He added that 200 Tesco employees are victims of serious physical assaults each month. Thousands more are shouted at and verbally abused every day. He asked the UK government to "put an end to this".

Many people say attacks on supermarket staff are a sign that Britain is "broken". There has been a huge rise in anti-social behaviour on Britain's streets. A survey published in the Daily Mail newspaper showed that 72 per cent of voters think Britain is broken. Tesco's CEO Ken Murphy said his company has spent £44 million (\$55 million) on trying to keep staff safe. Despite this, there has also been a big rise in shoplifting. These two problems have led to higher prices. Mr Murphy wants stricter laws for people who verbally or physically attack staff. He said: "Crime is a scourge on society, and an insult to shoppers and [shop] workers." He said attacks on staff were "unacceptable" and "heart-breaking".

Sources: <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/tesco-staff-body-cameras-violence-b2403998.html>  
<https://www.nationalworld.com/news/tesco-workers-to-be-offered-body-cameras-after-huge-increase-in-violent-attacks-on-staff-4279396>  
<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-12474103/Tesco-workers-offered-body-cameras-following-shocking-increase-number-violent-attacks-employees-200-staff-fall-victim-physical-assaults-month.html>

# WARM-UPS

**1. SUPERMARKETS:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about supermarkets. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

workers / supermarkets / body cameras / punched / angry people / victims / abused / Britain / anti-social behaviour / streets / shoplifting / shoppers / laws / crime / society

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. PRISON:** Students A **strongly** believe anyone who attacks supermarket staff should go to prison for more than 10 years; Students B **strongly** believe not. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. STORES:** What are the good and bad things about working in these stores? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Good Things	Bad Things
Supermarkets		
Book shops		
Bakeries		
Electronics stores		
Clothes shops		
Pet shops		

**5. PUNCH:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "punch". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

**6. BEST STORES:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best stores at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Supermarkets
- Book shops
- Toy shops
- Clothes shops
- Bakeries
- Electronics stores
- Furniture stores
- Pharmacies

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 1. protect    | a. Treated very badly or violently, especially regularly or repeatedly.                            |
| 2. threatened | b. Feeling fear or anxiety; frightened.  |
| 3. afraid     | c. Everything about the body (not the mind).   |
| 4. offering   | d. Keep safe from harm or injury.  |
| 5. physical   | e. A person harmed, injured, or killed as a result of a crime, accident, or other event or action. |
| 6. victim     | f. Told someone they would do something bad against them.  |
| 7. abused     | g. Saying you would do something (to help) someone.  |

## Paragraph 2

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 8. huge         | h. Increase.   |
| 9. anti-social  | i. The action of stealing from stores.                                     |
| 10. survey      | j. A person or thing that causes a lot of trouble or suffering.            |
| 11. rise        | k. Behaviour that is bad and upsets people around you.                     |
| 12. shoplifting | l. An action that is against the law.                                      |
| 13. crime       | m. A questionnaire to find out people's feelings, opinions or experiences. |
| 14. scourge     | n. Extremely large; enormous.  |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2309/230907-supermarket-workers.html>

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

1. All UK shop workers have to wear body cameras. **T / F**
2. Some customers punch store staff or pull a knife on them. **T / F**
3. Many checkout counter staff are afraid to go to work. **T / F**
4. One UK supermarket chain sees 200 of its staff attacked every month. **T / F**
5. Most voters who took part in a survey think Britain is broken. **T / F**
6. A supermarket chain spent over £55 million on better security. **T / F**
7. Shoplifting is one factor that leads to higher prices. **T / F**
8. A CEO said many staff have had heart attacks after being assaulted. **T / F**

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                         |                     |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. <b>workers</b>       | a. very big         |
| 2. <b>angry</b>         | b. attacks          |
| 3. <b>assaults</b>      | c. caused           |
| 4. <b>risen</b>         | d. furious          |
| 5. <b>end</b>           | e. slap in the face |
| 6. <b>huge</b>          | f. employees        |
| 7. <b>broken</b>        | g. increased        |
| 8. <b>led to</b>        | h. unsatisfactory   |
| 9. <b>insult</b>        | i. finish           |
| 10. <b>unacceptable</b> | j. damaged          |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. protect themselves from attacks         | a. that Britain is "broken" |
| 2. threatened                              | b. at and verbally abused   |
| 3. employees are victims of serious        | c. physically attack staff  |
| 4. Thousands more are shouted              | d. social behaviour         |
| 5. asked the UK government to put          | e. physical assaults        |
| 6. attacks on supermarket staff are a sign | f. by customers             |
| 7. a huge rise in anti-                    | g. on society               |
| 8. These two problems have led             | h. an end to this           |
| 9. people who verbally or                  | i. to higher prices         |
| 10. Crime is a scourge                     | j. with knives              |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2309/230907-supermarket-workers.html>

Workers in supermarkets in the U.K. can now wear body cameras to protect themselves from (1) \_\_\_\_\_ by customers. More and more staff are being punched or threatened with knives by (2) \_\_\_\_\_ people. Many sales assistants and checkout staff are (3) \_\_\_\_\_ to go to work. They are stressed, and they are worried about their (4) \_\_\_\_\_. The UK's largest supermarket chain Tesco is offering its staff body cameras. A spokesperson said the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of physical assaults on its workers has risen by a (6) \_\_\_\_\_ in a year. He added that 200 Tesco employees are victims of (7) \_\_\_\_\_ physical assaults each month. Thousands more are shouted at and verbally abused every day. He asked the UK government to "put an (8) \_\_\_\_\_ to this".

*third*  
*afraid*  
*attacks*  
*end*  
*number*  
*serious*  
*angry*  
*safety*

Many people say attacks on supermarket staff are a (9) \_\_\_\_\_ that Britain is "broken". There has been a (10) \_\_\_\_\_ rise in anti-social behaviour on Britain's streets. A survey published in the Daily Mail newspaper showed that 72 per cent of (11) \_\_\_\_\_ think Britain is broken. Tesco's CEO Ken Murphy said his company has spent £44 million (\$55 million) on trying to keep staff (12) \_\_\_\_\_. Despite this, there has also been a big rise in (13) \_\_\_\_\_. These two problems have led to higher prices. Mr Murphy wants stricter (14) \_\_\_\_\_ for people who verbally or physically attack staff. He said: "Crime is a scourge on society, and an (15) \_\_\_\_\_ to shoppers and [shop] workers." He said attacks on staff were "unacceptable" and "heart-(16) \_\_\_\_\_".

*insult*  
*huge*  
*breaking*  
*laws*  
*safe*  
*sign*  
*shoplifting*  
*voters*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2309/230907-supermarket-workers.html>

- 1) More and more staff are being punched or threatened with knives \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. by hungry people
  - b. by angrily people
  - c. by angry people
  - d. by angered people
- 2) A spokesperson said the number of physical assaults on its workers has risen \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. by a three
  - b. by a third
  - c. by a thirds
  - d. by a thirdly
- 3) 200 Tesco employees are victims of serious physical \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. assaults each month
  - b. assaults each month
  - c. assaults each month
  - d. assaults each month
- 4) Thousands more are shouted at and verbally \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. abused entire day
  - b. abused whole day
  - c. abused ever day
  - d. abused every day
- 5) He asked the UK government to "put an \_\_\_\_\_"
  - a. ends to this
  - b. end to this
  - c. enter this
  - d. end at this
- 6) Many people say attacks on supermarket staff are a sign that \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. Britain are "broken"
  - b. Britain is "broke"
  - c. Britain is "broken"
  - d. Britain is "bracken"
- 7) There has been a huge rise in anti-social behaviour \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. on Britain's streets
  - b. on Britain's street
  - c. on Britain's sheets
  - d. on Britain's tweets
- 8) his company has spent £44 million (\$55 million) on trying to \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. keep staff safely
  - b. keep staff safe
  - c. keep staff safes
  - d. keep staff safety
- 9) Mr Murphy wants stricter laws for people who verbally or \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. physical attack staff
  - b. physically attacks stuff
  - c. physically attack staff
  - d. physically attack stuff
- 10) He said attacks on staff were "unacceptable" \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. and "heart-breaking"
  - b. and "heart-break king"
  - c. and "heart-break in"
  - d. and "heart-broken"

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2309/230907-supermarket-workers.html>

Workers in supermarkets in the U.K. (1) \_\_\_\_\_ body cameras to protect themselves from attacks by customers. More and more staff (2) \_\_\_\_\_ or threatened with knives by angry people. Many sales assistants and checkout (3) \_\_\_\_\_ to go to work. They are stressed, and they are worried about their safety. The UK's (4) \_\_\_\_\_ Tesco is offering its staff body cameras. A spokesperson said the number of physical assaults on its workers has risen (5) \_\_\_\_\_ in a year. He added that 200 Tesco employees are victims of serious physical assaults each month. Thousands more are shouted at and verbally (6) \_\_\_\_\_. He asked the UK government to "put an end to this".

Many people say attacks on supermarket staff (7) \_\_\_\_\_ that Britain is "broken". There has been a (8) \_\_\_\_\_ anti-social behaviour on Britain's streets. A survey published in the Daily Mail newspaper showed that 72 per cent (9) \_\_\_\_\_ Britain is broken. Tesco's CEO Ken Murphy said his company has spent £44 million (\$55 million) (10) \_\_\_\_\_ keep staff safe. Despite this, there has also been a big rise in shoplifting. These two problems have led to higher prices. Mr Murphy (11) \_\_\_\_\_ for people who verbally or physically attack staff. He said: "Crime is a scourge on society, and an (12) \_\_\_\_\_ and [shop] workers." He said attacks on staff were "unacceptable" and "heart-breaking".



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2309/230907-supermarket-workers.html>

1. What do customers threaten supermarket staff with?
2. What are supermarket staff worried about?
3. What's the name of the UK's largest supermarket chain?
4. By how much have assaults on a supermarkets chain's staff increased?
5. What kind of abuse do supermarket staff get every day?
6. What do many people say Britain is?
7. What has a supermarket spent £44 million on?
8. What does shoplifting lead to?
9. What does Ken Murphy want to be stricter?
10. Who did Ken Murphy say crime was an insult to?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2309/230907-supermarket-workers.html>

- 1) What do customers threaten supermarket staff with?
  - a) baseball bats
  - b) knives
  - c) clubs
  - d) guns
- 2) What are supermarket staff worried about?
  - a) higher prices
  - b) keeping their jobs
  - c) their safety
  - d) their company
- 3) What's the name of the UK's largest supermarket chain?
  - a) BestCo
  - b) FreshCo
  - c) Fresco
  - d) Tesco
- 4) By how much have assaults on a supermarkets chain's staff increased?
  - a) a quarter
  - b) a third
  - c) three-quarters
  - d) three-fifths
- 5) What kind of abuse do supermarket staff get every day?
  - a) verbal abuse
  - b) mental abuse
  - c) shocking abuse
  - d) domestic abuse
- 6) What do many people say Britain is?
  - a) broken
  - b) great
  - c) dangerous
  - d) safe
- 7) What has a supermarket spent £44 million on?
  - a) new employees
  - b) advertising
  - c) new stores
  - d) keeping staff safe
- 8) What does shoplifting lead to?
  - a) prison
  - b) bigger crimes
  - c) higher prices
  - d) burglaries
- 9) What does Ken Murphy want to be stricter?
  - a) teachers
  - b) schools
  - c) the police
  - d) laws
- 10) Who did Ken Murphy say crime was an insult to?
  - a) police officers
  - b) shoppers and shop workers
  - c) the UK
  - d) supermarket CEOs

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2309/230907-supermarket-workers.html>

## **Role A – Supermarkets**

You think supermarkets are the best stores. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their stores. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): toy shops, book stores or bakeries.

## **Role B – Toy Shops**

You think toy shops the best stores. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their stores. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): supermarkets, book stores or bakeries.

## **Role C – Book Stores**

You think book stores the best stores. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their stores. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): toy shops, supermarkets or bakeries.

## **Role D – Bakeries**

You think bakeries the best stores. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their stores. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): toy shops, book stores or supermarkets.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2309/230907-supermarket-workers.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'supermarket' and 'body camera'.

<b>supermarket</b>	<b>body camera</b>
--------------------	--------------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• now</li><li>• knives</li><li>• worried</li><li>• number</li><li>• 200</li><li>• day</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• sign</li><li>• survey</li><li>• company</li><li>• safe</li><li>• problems</li><li>• insult</li></ul>
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# SUPERMARKETS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2309/230907-supermarket-workers.html>

Write five GOOD questions about supermarkets in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

# SUPERMARKETS DISCUSSION

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

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'supermarket'?
3. What do you think of supermarket staff?
4. Would you like to work in a supermarket?
5. What do you think of supermarket staff wearing body cameras?
6. What do you think of people attacking supermarket staff?
7. What's your favourite supermarket, and why?
8. What should happen to people who attack supermarket staff?
9. Why do you think people are attacking supermarket staff?
10. What advice do you have for supermarket staff?

*Store staff get body cameras to protect themselves – 7th September 2023*  
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# SUPERMARKETS DISCUSSION

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

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'body camera'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What are the challenges of working in a supermarket?
15. What kinds of anti-social behaviour do you see in your country?
16. In what ways is your country 'broken'?
17. What do you think of shoplifting?
18. How bad is the problem of crime in your country?
19. What would you do if you saw someone attacking a store worker?
20. What questions would you like to ask the supermarket boss?

# 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. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2309/230907-supermarket-workers.html>

Workers (1) \_\_\_\_\_ supermarkets in the U.K. can now wear body cameras to protect (2) \_\_\_\_\_ from attacks by customers. More and more staff are being punched or threatened with knives by angry people. Many sales assistants and (3) \_\_\_\_\_ staff are afraid to go to work. They are stressed, and they are worried about their safety. The UK's largest supermarket chain Tesco is (4) \_\_\_\_\_ its staff body cameras. A spokesperson said the number of physical assaults on its workers has (5) \_\_\_\_\_ by a third in a year. He added that 200 Tesco employees are victims of serious physical assaults each month. Thousands more are shouted at and verbally abused every day. He asked the UK government to "put an (6) \_\_\_\_\_ to this".

Many people say attacks on supermarket staff are a sign that Britain is "broken". There has been a (7) \_\_\_\_\_ rise in anti-social behaviour on Britain's streets. A survey published in the Daily Mail newspaper (8) \_\_\_\_\_ that 72 per cent of voters think Britain is broken. Tesco's CEO Ken Murphy said his company has spent £44 million (\$55 million) on trying to keep staff (9) \_\_\_\_\_. Despite this, there has also been a big rise in shoplifting. These two problems have led to higher prices. Mr Murphy wants (10) \_\_\_\_\_ laws for people who verbally or physically attack staff. He said: "Crime is a (11) \_\_\_\_\_ on society, and an insult to shoppers and [shop] workers." He said attacks on staff were "unacceptable" and "heart-(12) \_\_\_\_\_".

**Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.**

- |     |                |              |              |               |
|-----|----------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1.  | (a) as         | (b) by       | (c) in       | (d) on        |
| 2.  | (a) themselves | (b) myself   | (c) self     | (d) selves    |
| 3.  | (a) checkout   | (b) check-up | (c) check-in | (d) check off |
| 4.  | (a) offering   | (b) offers   | (c) offered  | (d) offer     |
| 5.  | (a) rise       | (b) risen    | (c) rising   | (d) arisen    |
| 6.  | (a) act        | (b) finish   | (c) stop     | (d) end       |
| 7.  | (a) hugs       | (b) hug      | (c) huge     | (d) hugest    |
| 8.  | (a) show       | (b) showing  | (c) shown    | (d) showed    |
| 9.  | (a) safe       | (b) safety   | (c) safes    | (d) safely    |
| 10. | (a) stricter   | (b) slicker  | (c) stalker  | (d) sticker   |
| 11. | (a) blessing   | (b) scourge  | (c) thing    | (d) pass      |
| 12. | (a) broken     | (b) breaks   | (c) breaking | (d) breaker   |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2309/230907-supermarket-workers.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. protect themselves from asttack
2. eeterndtha with knives
3. ygnar people
4. sales stittassnsa
5. the number of hlayspci assaults
6. shouted at and verbally aubdes

## Paragraph 2

7. a huge rise in anti-social biuhoaver
8. 72 per cent of ertosv
9. there has also been a big rise in fnsilgtopih
10. Mr Murphy wants irsrtect laws
11. an usnlti to shoppers
12. attacks on staff were lncbueaeatp

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2309/230907-supermarket-workers.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) and [shop] workers." He said attacks on staff were "unacceptable" and "heart-breaking".
- ( ) a big rise in shoplifting. These two problems have led to higher prices. Mr Murphy wants stricter laws for people
- ( ) staff body cameras. A spokesperson said the number of physical assaults on its workers has risen by a
- ( ) company has spent £44 million (\$55 million) on trying to keep staff safe. Despite this, there has also been
- ( ) more are shouted at and verbally abused every day. He asked the UK government to "put an end to this".
- ( ) who verbally or physically attack staff. He said: "Crime is a scourge on society, and an insult to shoppers
- ( ) by angry people. Many sales assistants and checkout staff are afraid to go to
- ( **1** ) Workers in supermarkets in the U.K. can now wear body cameras to protect themselves from attacks by
- ( ) rise in anti-social behaviour on Britain's streets. A survey published
- ( ) third in a year. He added that 200 Tesco employees are victims of serious physical assaults each month. Thousands
- ( ) customers. More and more staff are being punched or threatened with knives
- ( ) in the Daily Mail newspaper showed that 72 per cent of voters think Britain is broken. Tesco's CEO Ken Murphy said his
- ( ) Many people say attacks on supermarket staff are a sign that Britain is "broken". There has been a huge
- ( ) work. They are stressed, and they are worried about their safety. The UK's largest supermarket chain Tesco is offering its

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2309/230907-supermarket-workers.html>

1. themselves Wear attacks . cameras to protect body from
2. staff Checkout go work . to are to afraid
3. its The assaults physical workers . number of on
4. are serious assaults . victims of Employees physical
5. every and day . Shouted verbally abused at
6. is Britain a sign are Attacks that broken .
7. been There behaviour . has in a rise anti-social
8. in has rise a also been There shoplifting .
9. on He crime is said scourge society . a
10. He the attacks said unacceptable . staff were on

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2309/230907-supermarket-workers.html>

Workers in supermarkets in the U.K. can now *wear / wearing* body cameras to protect themselves from attacks *at / by* customers. More and more staff are being punched or threatened with *knife / knives* by angry people. Many sales assistants and checkout staff are *frighten / afraid* to go to work. They are *stressed / stressful*, and they are worried about their safety. The UK's largest supermarket chain Tesco is *offering / offers* its staff body cameras. A spokesperson said the number of physical assaults *on / in* its workers has risen by a *third / three* in a year. He added that 200 Tesco employees are victims of serious physical assaults *whole / each* month. Thousands more are shouted at and verbally abused every day. He asked the UK government to "put *the / an* end to this".

Many people say attacks on supermarket staff are a sign *what / that* Britain is "broken". There has been a huge rise *in / on* anti-social behaviour on Britain's streets. *A / The* survey published in the Daily Mail newspaper showed that 72 per cent of voters think Britain is *broken / break*. Tesco's CEO Ken Murphy said his company has spent £44 million (\$55 million) on trying *to / for* keep staff safe. Despite this, there has also been a big rise in *shopping / shoplifting*. These two problems have led to *height / higher* prices. Mr Murphy wants stricter laws for people who *grammatically / verbally* or physically attack staff. He said: "Crime is a *scourge / blessing* on society, and an insult to shoppers and [shop] workers." He said attacks on staff were "unacceptable" and "*breaking heart / heart-breaking*".

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2309/230907-supermarket-workers.html>

W\_rk\_rs \_n s\_p\_rm\_rk\_ts \_n th\_ \_K. c\_n n\_w w\_\_r  
b\_dy c\_m\_r\_s t\_ pr\_t\_ct th\_ms\_lv\_s fr\_m \_tt\_cks by  
c\_st\_m\_rs. M\_r\_ \_nd m\_r\_ st\_ff \_r\_ b\_\_ng p\_nch\_d \_r  
thr\_\_t\_n\_d w\_th kn\_v\_s by \_ngry p\_\_pl\_. M\_ny s\_l\_s  
\_ss\_st\_nts \_nd ch\_ck\_\_t st\_ff \_r\_ \_fr\_\_d t\_ g\_ t\_  
w\_rk. Th\_y \_r\_ str\_ss\_d, \_nd th\_y \_r\_ w\_rr\_\_d \_b\_\_t  
th\_\_r s\_f\_ty. Th\_ \_K's l\_rg\_st s\_p\_rm\_rk\_t ch\_\_n T\_sc\_  
\_s \_ff\_r\_ng \_ts st\_ff b\_dy c\_m\_r\_s. \_ sp\_k\_sp\_rs\_n  
s\_\_d th\_ n\_mb\_r \_f phys\_c\_l \_ss\_\_lts \_n \_ts w\_rk\_rs  
h\_s r\_s\_n by \_ th\_rd \_n \_ y\_\_r. H\_ \_dd\_d th\_t 200  
T\_sc\_ \_mpl\_y\_\_s \_r\_ v\_ct\_ms \_f s\_r\_\_s phys\_c\_l  
\_ss\_\_lts \_\_ch m\_nth. Th\_\_s\_nds m\_r\_ \_r\_ sh\_\_t\_d \_t  
\_nd v\_rb\_lly \_b\_s\_d \_v\_ry d\_y. H\_ \_sk\_d th\_ \_K  
g\_v\_rnm\_nt t\_ "p\_t \_n \_nd t\_ th\_s".

M\_ny p\_\_pl\_ s\_y \_tt\_cks \_n s\_p\_rm\_rk\_t st\_ff \_r\_ \_  
s\_gn th\_t Br\_t\_\_n \_s "br\_k\_n". Th\_r\_ h\_s b\_\_n \_ h\_g\_  
r\_s\_ \_n \_nt\_-s\_c\_\_l b\_h\_v\_\_r \_n Br\_t\_\_n's str\_\_ts. \_  
s\_rv\_y p\_b\_l\_sh\_d \_n th\_ D\_\_ly M\_\_l n\_wsp\_p\_r sh\_w\_d  
th\_t 72 p\_r c\_nt \_f v\_t\_rs th\_nk Br\_t\_\_n \_s br\_k\_n.  
T\_sc\_'s C\_\_ K\_n M\_rphy s\_\_d h\_s c\_m\_p\_ny h\_s sp\_nt  
£44 m\_ll\_\_n (\$55 m\_ll\_\_n) \_n try\_ng t\_ k\_\_p st\_ff  
s\_f\_. D\_sp\_t\_ th\_s, th\_r\_ h\_s \_ls\_ b\_\_n \_ b\_g r\_s\_  
\_n sh\_pl\_ft\_ng. Th\_s\_ tw\_ pr\_bl\_ms h\_v\_ l\_d t\_  
h\_gh\_r pr\_c\_s. Mr M\_rphy w\_nts str\_ct\_r l\_ws fr  
p\_\_pl\_ wh\_ v\_rb\_lly \_r phys\_c\_lly \_tt\_ck st\_ff. H\_  
s\_\_d: "Cr\_m\_ \_s \_ sc\_\_rg\_ \_n s\_c\_\_ty, \_nd \_n \_ns\_l\_t  
t\_ sh\_pp\_rs \_nd [sh\_p] w\_rk\_rs." H\_ s\_\_d \_tt\_cks \_n  
st\_ff w\_r\_ "\_n\_cc\_pt\_bl\_" \_nd "h\_\_rt-br\_\_k\_ng".

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2309/230907-supermarket-workers.html>

workers in supermarkets in the uk can now wear body cameras to protect themselves from attacks by customers more and more staff are being punched or threatened with knives by angry people many sales assistants and checkout staff are afraid to go to work they are stressed and they are worried about their safety the uks largest supermarket chain tesco is offering its staff body cameras a spokesperson said the number of physical assaults on its workers has risen by a third in a year he added that 200 tesco employees are victims of serious physical assaults each month thousands more are shouted at and verbally abused every day he asked the uk government to put an end to this

many people say attacks on supermarket staff are a sign that britain is broken there has been a huge rise in antisocial behaviour on britains streets a survey published in the daily mail newspaper showed that 72 per cent of voters think britain is broken tescos ceo ken murphy said his company has spent 44 million 55 million on trying to keep staff safe despite this there has also been a big rise in shoplifting these two problems have led to higher prices mr murphy wants stricter laws for people who verbally or physically attack staff he said crime is a scourge on society and an insult to shoppers and shop workers he said attacks on staff were unacceptable and heartbreaking

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2309/230907-supermarket-workers.html>

Workers in supermarkets in the U.K. cannot wear body cameras to protect themselves from attacks by customers. More and more staff are being punched or threatened with knives by angry people. Many sales assistants and checkout staff are afraid to go to work. They are stressed, and they are worried about their safety. The UK's largest supermarket chain Tesco is offering its staff body cameras. A spokesperson said the number of physical assaults on its workers has risen by a third in a year. He added that 200 Tesco employees are victims of serious physical assault each month. Thousands more are shouted at and verbally abused every day. He asked the UK government to "put an end to this". Many people say attacks on supermarket staff are a sign that Britain is "broken". There has been a huge rise in anti-social behaviour on Britain's streets. A survey published in the Daily Mail newspaper showed that 72 percent of voters think Britain is broken. Tesco's CEO Ken Murphy said his company has spent £44 million (\$55 million) on trying to keep staff safe. Despite this, there has also been a big rise in shoplifting. These two problems have led to higher prices. Mr Murphy wants stricter laws for people who verbally or physically attack staff. He said: "Crime is a scourge on society, and an insult to shoppers and [shop] workers." He said attacks on staff were "unacceptable" and "heart-breaking".







# 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. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. SUPERMARKETS:** Make a poster about supermarkets. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR:** Write a magazine article about making anti-social behaviour a crime. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. 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.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on supermarkets. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to keep staff safe. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. d    2. f    3. b    4. g    5. c    6. e    7. a  
8. n    9. k    10. m    11. h    12. i    13. l    14. j

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F    2 T    3 T    4 T    5 T    6 F    7 T    8 F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. f	2. d	3. b	4. g	5. i
6. a	7. j	8. c	9. e	10. h

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Knives
- Their safety
- Tesco
- A third
- Verbal abuse
- Broken
- Keeping staff safe
- Higher prices
- Laws
- Shoppers and shop workers

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- Wear body cameras to protect themselves from attacks.
- Checkout staff are afraid to go to work.
- The number of physical assaults on its workers.
- Employees are victims of serious physical assaults.
- Shouted at and verbally abused every day.
- Attacks are a sign that Britain is broken.
- There has been a rise in anti-social behaviour.
- There has also been a rise in shoplifting.
- He said crime is a scourge on society.
- He said the attacks on staff were unacceptable.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. b    2. c    3. d    4. b    5. a    6. a    7. d    8. c    9. d    10. b

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)