
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

6 Minute English worksheet

Have you ever seen a whale?



Listen to the full episode here: <https://bbc.in/487xq9E>

1. Look at the cover image and title of the episode. What do you think this episode is about? What do you know about this topic already? What vocabulary do you associate with this topic?

2. Now listen to the first two minutes of the episode.

- What do the presenters say the episode is about?
- What is this week's question? What do you think the answer is?

3. Now listen to the whole episode. As you listen, write down the six items of vocabulary. What do they mean?

a) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

b) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

c) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

d) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

e) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

f) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

6 Minute English worksheet

Have you ever seen a whale?



4. What did you learn that was surprising or new in this episode?

5. Answer the quiz questions. Listen again or use the transcript to help you.

1. Why have whales been hunted throughout history?
 - a) for sport
 - b) to protect fish supplies
 - c) for their oil, meat and bones
2. Which word means the 'temporary suspension of an activity'?
 - a) museum
 - b) moratorium
 - c) mausoleum
3. "Jenny's team had lost 10 matches in a row, when they unexpectedly beat the league champions! That was the _____ in their fortunes."
 - a) turning point
 - b) turning round
 - c) turning back
4. How fast can blue whales swim?
 - a) up to 30km/h
 - b) up to 40km/h
 - c) up to 50km/h
5. Which phrase means to 'publicly praise someone'?
 - a) give a shout-at
 - b) give a handout
 - c) give a shout-out
6. What is an informal way of saying 'man'?
 - a) kid
 - b) chap
 - c) dear

BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

6 Minute English worksheet

Have you ever seen a whale?



6. Write your own sentences using the vocabulary.

7. Answer the following questions.

- What are three things you have learnt from this episode?
- How does this topic make you feel?
- Give three examples relevant to your life using the vocabulary.

BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

6 Minute English worksheet

Have you ever seen a whale?



Answers

3.

- a. moratorium – temporary suspension of an activity
- b. chap – (informal) man
- c. turning point – time when a situation starts to change, especially in a positive way
- d. (not) stand a chance – (not) have a chance of success
- e. give a shout-out – publicly praise someone or something
- f. good at media – skilful at using media outlets, like TV and newspapers, to convey a message to the public

5. 1c, 2b, 3a, 4a, 5c, 6b

BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

6 Minute English worksheet

Have you ever seen a whale?



Teacher's notes

This worksheet is standardised so that you can amend and use it as appropriate with your classes.

Some topics may be difficult for learners, especially those which could be upsetting or cause offence. Please be mindful of this when using this worksheet, and adapt it as necessary.

Extension activities

- Role-play an interview with an 'interviewer' and an 'expert' on this topic.
- Write a short story or article using the vocabulary from this episode.
- Read original articles on this topic.
- For homework: If it is available in your country, download and listen to the original podcast these extracts were taken from.