

**SUMMER REVIEW 2026** - What happened (or not!) in the English-speaking world over the summer? A) READ and find out by matching each picture with the corresponding paragraph – complete the missing words with the wordbank.



**Wordbank :** 1776 / 2010 / 17 / 74 / 3rd / airstrikes / smartphone / civilians / economic / Argentina / New York City / London / Hormuz / Italy / United Kingdom / extra / celestial / traditional / darkness / signing / eclipse / privacy / Semiquincentennial / return / temperatures / sun / evacuate / resigned / heatwaves / gathered / suitcases / conflict / smoke / Prince / Charles / King / Games / alternative / replacing / breathtaking

**1) July 1, 2026:** The Trump administration announced a new peace plan called the "Board of Peace," which proposed creating special "Hamas-Free Humanitarian Zones" to protect \_\_\_\_\_ in Gaza.

**2) July 3:** pop music icon Taylor Swift and American football star Travis Kelce were married. The private ceremony took place at the famous Madison Square Garden in \_\_\_\_\_ with around 1,000 guests in attendance.

**3) July 4:** The United States celebrated its \_\_\_\_\_ (250th anniversary), marking exactly 250 years since the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Declaration of Independence in \_\_\_\_\_.

**4) July 20:** Andy Burnham became the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, \_\_\_\_\_ Keir Starmer. He automatically became the new Prime Minister after meeting with \_\_\_\_\_ Charles III. Keir Starmer \_\_\_\_\_ as Prime Minister in June 2026 due to political pressure, low popularity, and a lack of \_\_\_\_\_ growth.

**5) Mid-to-Late July:** Heavy summer \_\_\_\_\_ triggered massive wildfires across parts of Europe and Canada, sending thick \_\_\_\_\_ across North America and threatening local infrastructure. Many people had to \_\_\_\_\_ their homes. Coastal waters experienced their highest recorded ocean surface \_\_\_\_\_ for July.

**6) July 27–30:** The ongoing military \_\_\_\_\_ between the U.S. and Iran saw temporary pauses in bombing, followed by heavy retaliatory U.S. \_\_\_\_\_ on Revolutionary Guard targets and new economic sanctions, amid rising blockades near the Red Sea and Strait of \_\_\_\_\_.

**7) July 31:** A leading tech company revealed its next \_\_\_\_\_ model will completely remove the front-facing "selfie" camera to address growing user anxiety over digital \_\_\_\_\_ and unauthorized face-scanning.

**8)** -The 2026 Commonwealth \_\_\_\_\_ took place from **July 23 to August 2, 2026**, in Glasgow, Scotland. This edition was much smaller than usual. It featured only 10 sports compared to \_\_\_\_\_ sports in past years. More than 3,000 athletes from \_\_\_\_\_ different nations and territories traveled to Scotland to compete. Australia won the most medals, finishing at the top of the table with 171 medals (70 gold). England finished second, and Canada finished \_\_\_\_\_.

**9) July 19 :** Spain defeated \_\_\_\_\_ 1–0 in \_\_\_\_\_ time to win the 2026 FIFA World Cup final. This is Spain's second men's World Cup title in their history, exactly 16 years after their first win in \_\_\_\_\_.

**10) August 1 :** The local government of Venice, \_\_\_\_\_, passed a law banning tourists from using traditional hard-shelled wheeled \_\_\_\_\_, forcing visitors to carry fabric bags or backpacks instead.

**11) August 5:** McDonald's announced it will permanently remove \_\_\_\_\_ white potato French fries from its global menu by the end of the year, replacing them entirely with a healthier sweet potato \_\_\_\_\_.

**12) August 12 :** Millions of spectators \_\_\_\_\_ across Europe to witness a \_\_\_\_\_ total solar eclipse, an extraordinary \_\_\_\_\_ event where the moon fully obscured the \_\_\_\_\_, plunging parts of Iceland and Spain into daytime \_\_\_\_\_ while the United Kingdom experienced a dramatic partial \_\_\_\_\_.

**13) August 21 :** Reports emerged that \_\_\_\_\_ Harry and Meghan Markle were planning a gradual \_\_\_\_\_ to live in the \_\_\_\_\_. The couple allegedly plans to reside in a private, non-royal home outside \_\_\_\_\_ to be closer to King \_\_\_\_\_ III.

**B - Vocabulary:** Find the English equivalents of the following words (mostly adjectives) in the stories, they are in the right order. Give their French translation.

- |                |                 |                     |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1. exclusive = | 5. severe =     | 9. more wholesome = |
| 2. moderate =  | 6. increasing = | 10. stunning =      |
| 3. enormous =  | 7. prominent =  | 11. completely =    |
| 4. dense =     | 8. expanding =  | 12. striking =      |

**C - Don't be fooled !** There are three pieces of fake news in this list. Talk with your neighbour to decide which ones cannot be true. Be ready to justify , take notes → **TOOL BOX ORAL - debate :**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><i>Useful starters :</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Story n°... may be true because...</li> <li>➤ n°... seems believable as...</li> <li>➤ It could have happened since...</li> </ul>                                                         | <p><i>To give reasons :</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ ...because I have never heard of...</li> <li>➤ ... because if this were true, people would +bv</li> <li>➤ ...because it would be too expensive / dangerous /unusual ...</li> </ul> |
| <p><i>To express doubt or disbelief :</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ I doubt paragraph 5 ... because...</li> <li>➤ It doesn't sound realistic that...</li> <li>➤ It is unlikely that...</li> <li>➤ It can't have happened because...</li> </ul> | <p><i>To agree or disagree :</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ I agree/disagree (=don't agree) with ... because...</li> <li>➤ I see your point, but...</li> </ul>                                                                            |

**D – 1) Classify these words** according to the pronunciation of <ou>:

announced, around, tourist, couple, outside. / **2) Find more words** (not in the texts)

| / aʊ/ as in house | / ʌ/ as in touch | / ʊ/ as in could |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                   |                  |                  |