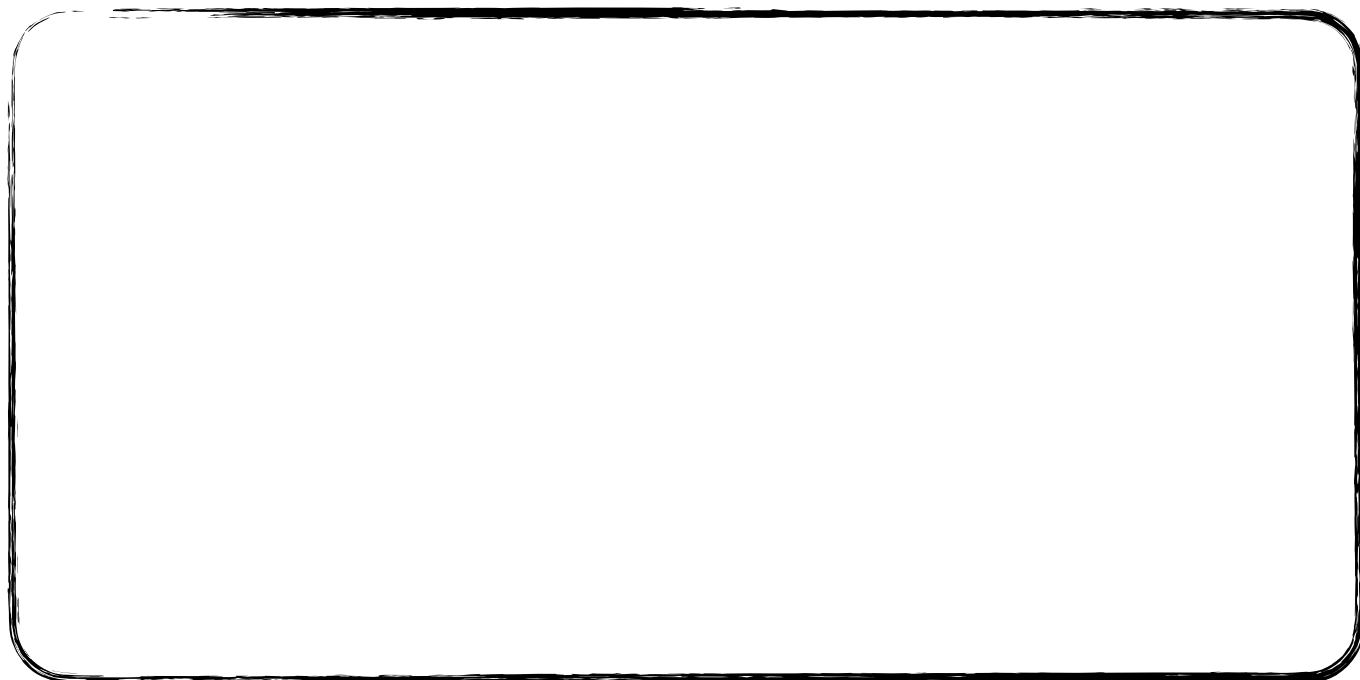


I. Listen to the audio document and write down some key elements :



Source : Would more North Sea drilling lower UK energy bills? The Conversation, March 2026.

II. Read the following article and answer the questions :

**Thom Yorke, Romy and Brian Eno among 200 musicians urging PM
to reject new North Sea drilling**

Lauren Almeida, *The Guardian*, Mon 17 Aug 2026.

More than 200 musicians including Massive Attack and Brian Eno have written to Andy Burnham **urging** him to reject plans for more **oil and gas drilling** in the North Sea. The letter, signed by 211 artists such as Bobby Gillespie, Olly Alexander and Paris Paloma, called on the prime minister to reject the Rosebank oilfield, warning that the project would fail to **lower** energy bills or provide energy security as most of the oil was **likely to** be exported.

Other **performers** who put their name to the missive include Radiohead's Thom Yorke, Ed O'Brien and Philip Selway; the Cure's Robert Smith; Bobby Gillespie of Primal Scream; Alexis Taylor of Hot Chip; Anoushka Shankar, Kevin Rowland, Anna Calvi, Jacob Collier, David Gray, the electronic duo Bicep and the xx singer Romy.

The government's consultation on the project, which lies about 80 miles north-west of the Shetland Islands, closed on Monday. Ministers will now decide on its future as well as that of the Jackdaw gasfield off Aberdeen, whose consultation concluded a week ago.

Adura, the company behind both projects, has said the projects would result in £10.8bn in investment and **support 3,500** jobs at the peak of construction, with 880 employees over its production lifetime.

However, environmental activists argue that extracting fossil fuels from the UK's largest remaining **untapped** oilfield will accelerate climate chaos. Estimates suggest Rosebank could produce more than 250m tonnes of CO₂ over its lifetime, equivalent to 70% of the UK's annual emissions.

The artists wrote in their letter: "The climate crisis is no longer something we **fear** for future generations; it is **shaping** our lives today. Heatwaves are **disrupting** schools, workplaces, hospitals, transport networks, festivals and live events."

Eno, who is a co-founder of the campaign group EarthPercent, said Burnham had previously stood with artists and campaigners calling for an end to fossil fuel expansion. "So he has a choice to make," Eno said. "He can **stand with** the fossil fuel industry and approve Rosebank, or he can stand with the people who will live with the consequences of that decision.

"We are already seeing what a hotter world looks like, with record **heat** and devastating wildfires across Britain and Europe. At this point, continuing to expand fossil fuel production isn't pragmatism, it's a failure to face reality."

The Met Office has said this summer in the UK is **on course to be** the hottest since records began, with 2026 likely to be the first year in which the country has recorded four separate days with temperatures of 36C or above.

Extreme heat has driven a **surge in attendance** at hospital emergency departments over the summer, with more than 2.4 million patients attending each month in May, June and July – the three highest monthly totals ever recorded.

Production at Rosebank and Jackdaw was initially approved by the previous Conservative government. However, those decisions were **quashed** after a legal challenge from the campaign group Greenpeace, pending more detailed climate assessments. These were put out for consultation last month, leaving Labour ministers to decide whether drilling should go ahead.

A Department for Energy Security and Net Zero spokesperson said: "The North Sea remains a vital national **asset**, supporting jobs, growth and the UK's energy security. We are clear that oil and gas will continue to play an important role in our energy system **for decades to come**, alongside transitioning to clean power to protect jobs and tackle the climate crisis." (598 words)

STUDENT WORKSHEET

1. Both the Jackdaw Gasfield and the Rosebank projects have been given the green light by the government.

☐ True ☐ False

2. The musicians' letter suggests that developing the Rosebank oilfield would improve the UK's energy situation because much of the oil produced would be used in Britain.

☐ True ☐ False

3. Adura and the government support the projects as economically and environmentally sensible.

☐ True ☐ False

4. Both the Jackdaw and the Rosebank projects were successfully challenged in court by environmentalists.

☐ True ☐ False

5. The musicians fail to link the controversy over new North Sea drilling to the wider effects of increasingly extreme temperatures in the UK.

☐ True ☐ False

6. According to Brian Eno, PM Andy Burnham needs to choose between business interests and sustainability.

☐ True ☐ False

II. Answer the following questions.

a. Preparatory work

What type of paper is the Guardian? What can you infer from the title? (Check the grammatical tense of the title)

b. Understanding the article

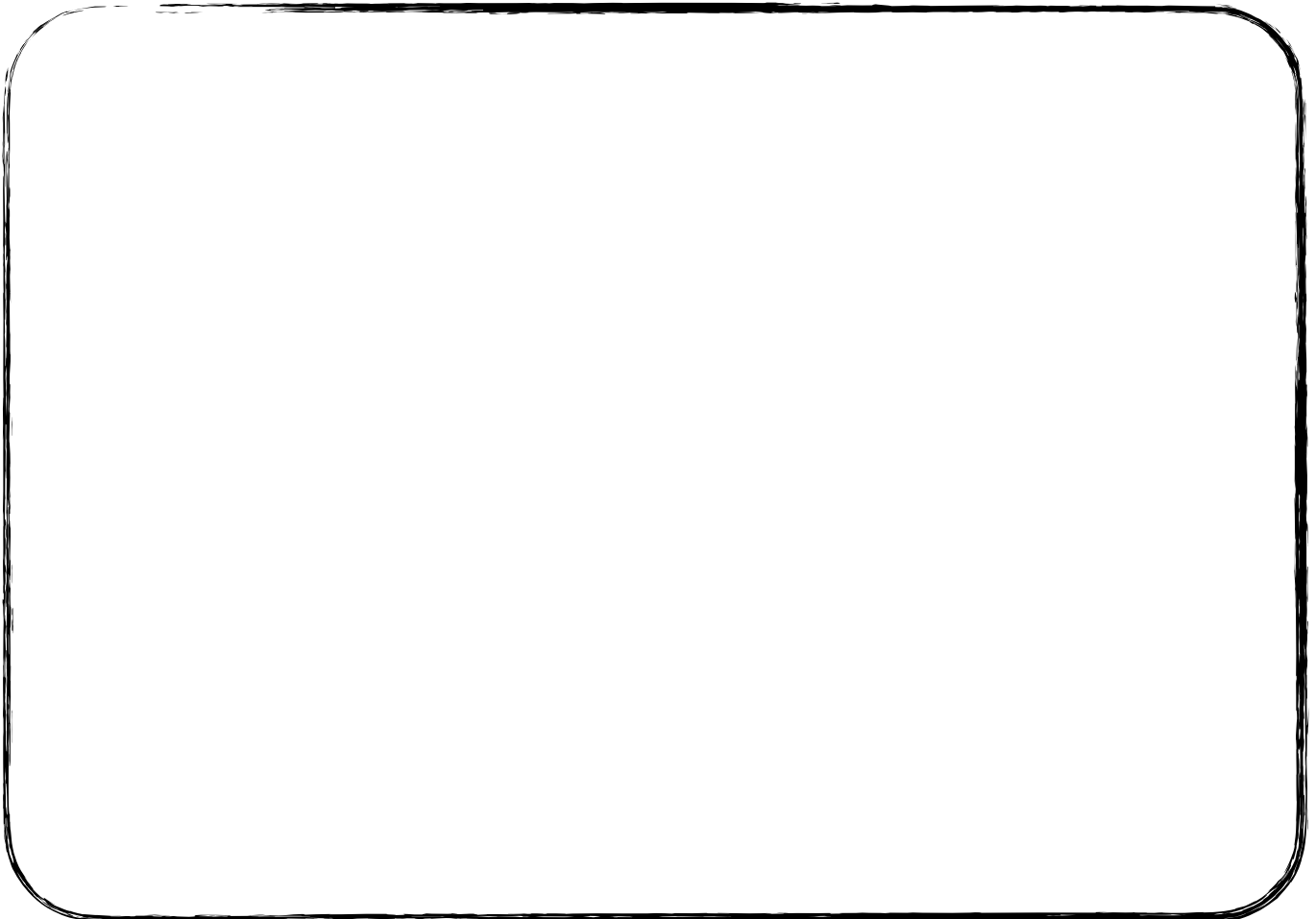
What's new? How recent is the piece of news? Is it about something specific or a larger debate/ analysis? What type of article is this? Is the article neutral or biased?

c. Skimming/Scanning the article

- *Skimming* => Read the first paragraph and last paragraph in full //Read the opening words and closing words of the paragraphs in between => this is usually where you can get most information in press articles
- *Scanning* => Focus on the key words that are repeated time and again/ Check whether the proper names/ locations are significant.

III. Check the meaning of the words in bold letters in the article and try and find synonyms to practice rephrasing techniques.

IV. Now write down **5 sentences to summarize** the article. Remember to **rephrase** as much as possible.



**Thom Yorke, Romy and Brian Eno among 200 musicians urging PM
to reject new North Sea drilling**

Lauren Almeida, *The Guardian*, Mon 17 Aug 2026.

Proposition de corrigé

With their fame and influence, artists or athletes have a unique platform to voice social concerns or call out for reforms. Leonardo DiCaprio's long-standing support for environmental causes and Marcus Rashford's commitment to free school meals in the UK are just two examples showing how some celebrities or athletes have come to embody particular social causes/ Have become the public faces of social causes.

In this 2026 report from *The Guardian*// In this report from *The Guardian* dated August 2026 , British music icons are calling on new prime Minister Andy Burnham to halt oil and gas drilling projects located in the North Sea. They claim that such projects are a step backward when it comes to sustainability and lowering emissions and rest on questionable premises.

Firstly, the article presents the various drilling projects along with the underlying political and economic motivations behind them (I). Then, the artists's open letters question these premises and call for an end to such projects in the context of a record heatwave afflicting the UK (II) .

I. a. The Rosebank and Jackdaw projects consists in drilling oil and gas into existing oil and gas fields that are in the North Sea. . The consultations led by former Labour PM Keir Starmer are closed and it is up to Burnham's new cabinet government to approve them (or not).

b. Actually those projects date back to the previous Conservative governments and had been approved by them until a legal challenge by Greenpeace stalled them.

c. The company behind the projects argues that it will prove beneficial for the country both in terms of revenue and job creation. The government claims that such projects will boost Britain's energy sovereignty (making energy cheaper fro Britons actually) and is an essential aspect of transitioning towards net zero emissions.

II. a. The open letter is signed by famed artists including Brian Eno who has founded a green foundation. In their open letter, British artists argue that the projects are based on questionable premises. Indeed, there is no actual guarantee that energy propose will decrease for Britons since it will be exported. Additionally, the CO₂ emissions generated by the drilling will amount to 250m tonnes of CO₂ significantly worsening the UK's carbon footprint.

b. Moreover, as the UK is experiencing its hottest summer on record with a surge in A&E attendance and other disruptions to the workplace, oil drilling seems a U-turn in the fight against climate change. Politicians in general, and new PM Andy Burnham in particular, have a

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ECG1

key role to play to enforce sustainable policies. Brian Eno calls out Burnham to side with the people and not business interests so as to build a sustainable future for the UK.

Possible key questions for a commentary

=> Who should lead the fight against climate change : citizens, politicians or scientists?

=> To what extent are celebrities instrumental in bringing about social change?

=> How can economic growth be reconciled with sustainable development/green policies?