

Title:	The country town that's run out of water
First Broadcast:	September, 2019
Source:	ABC's 7.30 Report
Minutes:	8:09
Video & Script:	<a href="https://www.abc.net.au/7.30/the-country-town-thats-run-out-of-water/11561944">https://www.abc.net.au/7.30/the-country-town-thats-run-out-of-water/11561944</a>
Summary:	Residents of the country town of Murrurundi in NSW have been surviving on Level 6 water restrictions as its normal water supply has run dry.

### KEY WORDS

*Below is a list of words which appear in the report - can you match the words with their correct definition? Use a dictionary to help you if you aren't sure.*

change or adjust, acclimatize, get used to	
distribute for a particular purpose	
earn just enough money to live on	
effectively	
emergency, worrying time, difficult situation that needs serious attention	
in most cases, normally, usually	
into operation or existence	
provide what is needed to exist, continue	
remainder, remaining part, part leftover	
result, things that will happen	
terrible, alarming	
very strong, forceful	

<b>sustain</b> itself (v)
<b>adapt</b> (v)
<b>dire</b> consequences (adj)
<b>typically</b> (adv)
<b>essentially</b> (adv)
water <b>crisis</b> (n)
<b>residue</b> (n)
<b>intense</b> dryness (adj)
come <b>online</b> (adv)
<b>allocate</b> (v)
<b>make ends meet</b>
<b>fate</b> (n)

## SUMMARY

Residents of the country town of Murrurundi in NSW have been surviving on Level 6 water restrictions as its normal water supply has run dry.

## FOCUS QUESTIONS

- Why are some towns in Australia running out of water?
- What happens when a town water supply runs dry? How would this affect residents and farmers? How would they have to adapt?
- What are some solutions to the problem?



## LISTENING

*First watch the report and answer the questions*

- What is it called when a town runs dry and a population no longer has the water to sustain itself?
- Where does Murrurundi now get its daily supply of water from?
- Next year, what does the town of Murrurundi hope will be a longer-term solution to their water problems?

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

*After watching the report, try to answer the following questions*

1. How long ago did Murrurundi reach Day Zero?
2. How many trucks a day are normally needed to supply it with water?
3. What are some things Murrurundi resident Stacey Hussain has to do as part of Level 6 water restrictions?
4. What has she thought about doing if the water restrictions continue?
5. Why doesn't her family drink the water that is trucked in?
6. What does Justine Cooper do to help local farmers who are struggling to make ends meet?

## CLOZE

Use the words to complete the sentences

**The form of the word may need to be changed**

sustain	adapt	dire	typically
essentially	crisis	residue	intense
online	allocate	make ends meet	fate

1. After devastating floods left millions of people homeless and without safe drinking water, the Prime Minister said the country was facing a humanitarian ..... and called on international leaders for assistance.
2. Because of the prolonged drought, many farmers were struggling to ..... and called on the government for more assistance.
3. For many farmers, the situation had become ..... after years of drought.
4. It's a good idea to wash most fruit and vegetables due to pesticide .....
5. Residents of the tiny country town ..... drove into the larger town 100 km away at least once a week to do their grocery shopping.
6. The company released a new product model which looked slightly different from the previous one. But in terms of performance, they were ..... the same.
7. The government promised to ..... more emergency funding to farmers in drought affected areas.
8. The ..... of the fire prevented people from entering the building and rescuing the people trapped inside.
9. The state's new nuclear power station was due to go ..... next month.
10. To ..... fish populations at healthy levels, the government introduced strict limits on the size of commercial and recreational fishing catches around the country.
11. When the German woman went to live and work in a small village in India, it took her a long time to ..... to the local culture, food and lifestyle.
12. With no sign of rain to come, the ..... of farmers in the drought stricken region would be largely dependent on how much financial assistance the government was willing to provide.

## ANSWER KEY

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Day Zero</li> <li>• must be trucked in</li> <li>• a 38 kilometre long, \$14 million pipeline</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. nine months ago</li> <li>2. five or six</li> <li>3. three minute showers, one full load of washing a week, no watering of plants and lawns, no washing of cars</li> <li>4. moving her family elsewhere</li> <li>5. because of the strong chlorine smell of it</li> <li>6. operates a volunteer-run free food and water pantry</li> </ol>
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distribute for a particular purpose	allocate
earn just enough money to live on	make ends meet
effectively	essentially
emergency, worrying time, difficult situation that needs serious attention	crisis
in most cases, normally, usually	typically
into operation or existence	online
provide what is needed to exist, continue	sustain
remainder, remaining part, part leftover	residue
result, things that will happen	fate
terrible, alarming	dire
very strong, forceful	intense

1. After devastating floods left millions of people homeless and without safe drinking water, the Prime Minister said the country was facing a humanitarian **crisis** and called on international leaders for assistance.
2. Because of the prolonged drought, many farmers were struggling to **make ends meet** and called on the government for more assistance.
3. For many farmers, the situation had become **dire** after years of drought.
4. It's a good idea to wash most fruit and vegetables due to pesticide **residues**.
5. Residents of the tiny country town **typically** drove into the larger town 100 km away at least once a week to do their grocery shopping.
6. The company released a new product model which looked slightly different from the previous one. But in terms of performance, they were **essentially** the same.
7. The government promised to **allocate** more emergency funding to farmers in drought affected areas.
8. The **intensity** of the fire prevented people from entering the building and rescuing the people trapped inside.
9. The state's new nuclear power station was due to go **online** next month.
10. To **sustain** fish populations at healthy levels, the government introduced strict limits on the size of commercial and recreational fishing catches around the country.
11. When the German woman went to live and work in a small village in India, it took her a long time to **adapt** to the local culture, food and lifestyle.
12. With no sign of rain to come, the **fate** of farmers in the drought stricken region would be largely dependent on how much financial assistance the government was willing to provide.