LISTENING COMPREHENSION – Intoxicated river (1’45 min)

You are going to hear a recording about the New River at the border of the US and Mexico near the town of Calexico.

I) Before listening, read the list of vocabulary and make sure that you understand the statement below:

Vocabulary:

- highly polluted
- waterway
- to adversely impact
- Imperial Valley
- undocumented
- migrants
- prevent economic development
- agricultural runoff
- hazardous waste
- 1 gallon
- raw sewage
- ingestion
- dermal exposure
- to pose a threat
- scores of
- border patrol
- to spread contaminants
- brushy
- a noxious odor

Scores of undocumented migrants float north in the river to gain access to jobs in major cities like San Diego, Las Vegas and all over the United States.

II) Now listen to the recording twice; take notes while listening and then summarize the text, answering all the questions below IN YOUR SUMMARY:

1. What are the three negative effects of the polluted New River mentioned in the text?
2. Which are the three sources polluting the river?
3. Why is it so dangerous for illegal immigrants to swim through the river?
4. Why do these illegal immigrants also pose a threat to other people?
5. Do boarder patrol officers usually pick illegal immigrants out of the river?