

New texts

1.

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/coronavirus-crisis-sickness-fear-and-now-isolation-for-boris-johnson-x0g3tn806>

2.

Global stocks rise as Chinese factory activity picks up

Equities on track for worst quarter since financial crisis due to coronavirus pandemic

Official data showed that manufacturing activity recovered in March as Chinese businesses returned to work following the coronavirus outbreak

Global stocks rose on signs that Chinese economic activity is starting to recover following the coronavirus outbreak, fuelling hopes of a similar rebound elsewhere once the crisis eases.

But analysts warned that there could be more pain ahead for the world's second-biggest economy with the effects of the pandemic setting equities on course for their worst quarterly performance since the global financial crisis.

"There is little doubt that strong headwinds are ahead with the virus spreading on a global level," said Hao Zhou, an economist at Commerzbank.

3.

CORONAVIRUS

Coronavirus: Lockdown 'is on course to reduce total death rate'

Britain is on course for an estimated 5,700 deaths from [coronavirus](#), far lower than originally predicted, experts believe.

The country will avoid the 260,000 fatalities once feared if it keeps on the same path seen in China, statisticians at Imperial College London have calculated.

4.

Times letters: Student cap, self-employed and safe walking

Sir, Michelle Donelan, the new universities minister, is to be congratulated for introducing a timely two-week moratorium on university undergraduate admissions. This has brought temporary stability to the higher education system.

Demand for higher education remains strong and our country still needs to increase both the level of skills and educational opportunity. Seven years ago the government ended its control of undergraduate numbers in England and we witnessed a significant redistribution of undergraduates across institutions, with all the associated instability that *The Times* has reported.

5.

Sir, I fail to understand the guidelines that I have to walk from home for my exercise. If I do so I will either pass the medical students' home, two doors away, the hospital itself (which is less than half a mile away) or the narrow pathway many NHS staff in use to walk to work.

Surely it is safer for me to pop the dog in the car and find an isolated part of the cliff path, less than two miles away, marvel at skylarks, see the sunlight sparkling on the sea, feel the cold air on my face and return mentally and physically healthier, as well as having been totally distanced from all potential carriers of the virus. I need the evidence to adopt this practice.

6.

I look at the daily deaths above, and the total deaths, and wonder how many are really due to Coronavirus. How does anyone know that the death is not due to another cause, unless the patient has been tested? In a nutshell, are all the recorded deaths backed up by a test for Coronavirus?