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Level 6

Turkey takes over biggest newspaper

7th March, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1603/160307-newspapers.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160307-newspapers.html>

Turkish police have used tear gas, rubber bullets and water cannon against protestors outside the offices of a national newspaper in Istanbul. The demonstrators were protesting against the takeover of a private newspaper by the Turkish government. Turkish authorities seized control of the company that owns Turkey's best-selling newspaper Zaman. The paper was once a supporter of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, but then became one of his fiercest critics. Authorities say Zaman has links to the US-based Muslim cleric Fethullah Gulen, who the government says plotted a coup to oust President Erdogan. Commentators say it is another blow for freedom in Turkey.

The takeover of Zaman by the Turkish government has sparked concerns in Europe about Turkey's readiness to join the European Union. European Enlargement Commissioner Johannes Hahn said the latest developments jeopardised recent progress made by Turkey. The chairman of Germany's foreign affairs committee said, "the violent action against a critical newspaper" and "the fact that the government takes over the whole paper is a severe blow...against the freedom of press". The editor-in-chief of Zaman's English newspaper lamented: "Our [final] headline is about us again, and that should give an idea about the kind of democracy in the country. There's no rule of law left in Turkey."

Sources: <http://news.sky.com/story/1654121/paper-takeover-protesters-tear-gassed-in-turkey>
<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/ct-turkey-zaman-newspaper-takeover-20160305-story.html>
<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/police-disperse-supporters-of-zaman-media-group.aspx?pageID=238&nid=96076>

WARM-UPS

1. FREEDOM: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about freedom. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

police / tear gas / rubber bullets / newspaper / protesting / supporter / critic / freedom / concerns / progress / committee / headline / democracy / editor / rule of law

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. PROTESTS: What would make you demonstrate in the streets? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What would make you protest?	Why?
Food prices		
Corrupt government		
No freedom of press		
Immigration policy		
Declaration of war		
Rise in taxes		

4. GOVERNMENT: Students A **strongly** believe a government should never own a newspaper; Students B **strongly** believe it should. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. NEWSPAPERS: Rank these with your partner. Put the best sections at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Politics
- Weather
- Fashion
- Business
- TV
- Sport
- World news
- Local news

6. EDITOR: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "editor". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160307-newspapers.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- | | |
|--|-------|
| a. Police used rubber bullets against protestors in Istanbul. | T / F |
| b. Protestors were angry about the sale of a government newspaper. | T / F |
| c. The Zaman newspaper once supported Turkey's president. | T / F |
| d. Authorities said the paper was linked to someone who plotted a coup. | T / F |
| e. Europe is wondering if Turkey is ready to join the EU. | T / F |
| f. An EU commissioner said the situation did not jeopardise anything. | T / F |
| g. Germany's foreign affairs committee welcomed the paper's takeover. | T / F |
| h. The paper's editor-in-chief said Turkey still had a strong rule of law. | T / F |

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| 1. protestors | a. shock |
| 2. seized | b. backer |
| 3. supporter | c. worries |
| 4. fiercest | d. grabbed |
| 5. oust | e. complained |
| 6. concerns | f. demonstrators |
| 7. readiness | g. remaining |
| 8. blow | h. drive out |
| 9. lamented | i. strongest |
| 10. left | j. preparedness |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. tear | a. of law left |
| 2. rubber | b. oust President Erdogan |
| 3. became one of his fiercest | c. blow |
| 4. plotted a coup to | d. bullets |
| 5. another blow for | e. gas |
| 6. sparked | f. made by Turkey |
| 7. jeopardised recent progress | g. freedom in Turkey |
| 8. foreign | h. concerns in Europe |
| 9. a severe | i. critics |
| 10. There's no rule | j. affairs |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160307-newspapers.html>

Turkish police have used (1) _____ gas, rubber bullets and (2) _____ cannon against protestors outside the offices of a national newspaper in Istanbul. The demonstrators were protesting against the (3) _____ of a private newspaper by the Turkish government. Turkish authorities (4) _____ control of the company that owns Turkey's best-selling newspaper Zaman. The paper was once a (5) _____ of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, but then became one of his fiercest (6) _____. Authorities say Zaman has links to the US-based Muslim cleric Fethullah Gulen, who the government says (7) _____ a coup to oust President Erdogan. Commentators say it is another (8) _____ for freedom in Turkey.

water
supporter
tear
plotted
seized
blow
takeover
critics

The takeover of Zaman by the Turkish government has (9) _____ concerns in Europe about Turkey's (10) _____ to join the European Union. European Enlargement Commissioner Johannes Hahn said the latest developments jeopardised recent (11) _____ made by Turkey. The chairman of Germany's foreign affairs committee said, "the violent action against a (12) _____ newspaper" and "the fact that the government takes over the (13) _____ paper is a severe blow...against the freedom of press". The (14) _____ -in-chief of Zaman's English newspaper (15) _____: "Our [final] headline is about us again, and that should give an idea about the kind of democracy in the country. There's no rule of (16) _____ left in Turkey."

progress
whole
lamented
sparked
law
readiness
editor
critical

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160307-newspapers.html>

- 1) Turkish police have used tear gas, rubber bullets and water _____ protestors
 - a. cannons against
 - b. pistols against
 - c. cannon against
 - d. pistol against
- 2) authorities seized control of the company that owns Turkey's _____ Zaman
 - a. best-sales newspaper
 - b. best-sell-in newspaper
 - c. best-selling newspaper
 - d. beast-selling newspaper
- 3) once a supporter of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, but then became _____ critics
 - a. one of his fierce is
 - b. one for his fiercest
 - c. one of this fiercest
 - d. one of his fiercest
- 4) Muslim cleric Fethullah Gulen, who the government says plotted _____ President Erdogan
 - a. a coup to oust
 - b. a coup to east
 - c. a coup to west
 - d. a coup to arrest
- 5) Commentators say it is another blow _____ Turkey
 - a. of freedom in
 - b. for freedom in
 - c. from freedom in
 - d. four freedom in
- 6) The takeover of Zaman by the Turkish government has _____ Europe
 - a. sparked concerns in
 - b. sparked concerns in
 - c. specked concerns in
 - d. speckled concerns in
- 7) the latest developments jeopardised recent _____ Turkey
 - a. progress made at
 - b. progress made in
 - c. progress made by
 - d. progress made of
- 8) the fact that the government takes over the whole paper _____
 - a. is a severe bow
 - b. is a severe blow
 - c. is a severe blew
 - d. is a severe blown
- 9) The editor-in-chief of Zaman's English newspaper lamented: "Our final _____ us again"
 - a. headlines is about
 - b. headline this about
 - c. headline was about
 - d. headline is about
- 10) that should give an idea about the kind of democracy in the country. There's _____ left
 - a. no rules of laws
 - b. no rule of laws
 - c. no rules of law
 - d. no rule of law

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160307-newspapers.html>

Turkish police (1) _____, rubber bullets and water cannon against protestors outside the offices of a national newspaper in Istanbul. The demonstrators were protesting against (2) _____ a private newspaper by the Turkish government. Turkish authorities seized control (3) _____ owns Turkey's best-selling newspaper Zaman. The paper was once a supporter of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, but then became (4) _____ critics. Authorities say Zaman (5) _____ US-based Muslim cleric Fethullah Gulen, who the government says plotted a coup to oust President Erdogan. Commentators say it (6) _____ for freedom in Turkey.

The takeover of Zaman by the Turkish government (7) _____ in Europe about Turkey's readiness to join the European Union. European Enlargement Commissioner Johannes Hahn said the latest developments jeopardised recent (8) _____ Turkey. The chairman of Germany's (9) _____ committee said, "the violent action against a critical newspaper" and "the fact that the government takes over the whole paper (10) _____...against the freedom of press". The editor-in-chief of Zaman's English newspaper lamented: "Our [final] headline (11) _____, and that should give an idea about the kind of democracy in the country. There's (12) _____ left in Turkey."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160307-newspapers.html>

1. What kind of bullets did police use?

2. In what city did the protests take place?

3. What was once a supporter of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan?

4. Where do authorities say the cleric Fethullah Gulen is based?

5. What did commentators say the takeover is a blow for?

6. Where has the takeover of the newspaper sparked concerns?

7. What did Johannes Hahn say the latest developments jeopardised?

8. Which member of Germany's foreign affairs committee was quoted?

9. What was the final headline of Zaman's English newspaper about?

10. What did an editor-in-chief say there was no more of in Turkey?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160307-newspapers.html>

1. What kind of bullets did police use?
 - a) rubber bullets
 - b) live bullets
 - c) plastic bullets
 - d) hollowed-out bullets
2. In what city did the protests take place?
 - a) Trabzon
 - b) Ankara
 - c) Istanbul
 - d) Izmir
3. What was once a supporter of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan?
 - a) the government
 - b) the Zaman newspaper
 - c) the press
 - d) authorities
4. Where do authorities say the cleric Fethullah Gulen is based?
 - a) Australia
 - b) Iran
 - c) Ankara
 - d) the USA
5. What did commentators say the takeover is a blow for?
 - a) freedom
 - b) literature
 - c) journalism
 - d) bubbles
6. Where has the takeover of the newspaper sparked concerns?
 - a) Syria
 - b) the USA
 - c) Ankara
 - d) Europe
7. What did Johannes Hahn say the latest developments jeopardised?
 - a) foreign affairs
 - b) progress
 - c) Ankara
 - d) the police
8. Which member of Germany's foreign affairs committee was quoted?
 - a) the speaker
 - b) the vice-president
 - c) the CEO
 - d) the chairman
9. What was the final headline of Zaman's English newspaper about?
 - a) freedom
 - b) Ankara
 - c) the newspaper
 - d) a football match
10. What did an editor-in-chief say there was no more of in Turkey?
 - a) newspapers
 - b) rule of law
 - c) freedom
 - d) democracy

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160307-newspapers.html>

Role A – Politics

You think politics is the best section of a newspaper. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their sections aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): fashion, sport or local news.

Role B – Fashion

You think fashion is the best section of a newspaper. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their sections aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): politics, sport or local news.

Role C – Sport

You think sport is the best section of a newspaper. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their sections aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): fashion, politics or local news.

Role D – Local news

You think local news is the best section of a newspaper. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their sections aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): fashion, sport or politics.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160307-newspapers.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'press' and 'freedom'.

press	freedom
--------------	----------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• tear• private• best• once• links• another	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• sparked• join• recent• action• editor• left
--	--

NEWSPAPERS SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160307-newspapers.html>

Write five GOOD questions about newspapers in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

NEWSPAPERS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- 1) What did you think when you read the headline?
- 2) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'newspaper'?
- 3) How important are newspapers?
- 4) What do you think about what you read?
- 5) Should newspapers be in government control?
- 6) What is your favourite newspaper, and why?
- 7) What role do newspapers have in society?
- 8) Would you protest to protect freedom of the press?
- 9) What does Turkey's government hope to achieve?
- 10) How good are your country's newspapers?

Turkey takes over biggest newspaper – 7th March, 2016
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NEWSPAPERS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- 11) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- 12) What is freedom of the press and how important is it?
- 13) What is the link between freedom of the press and democracy?
- 14) Why would this action jeopardise Turkey's EU membership?
- 15) Should governments own any newspapers?
- 16) Will the government takeover mean people will go to the Internet more?
- 17) How important are journalists?
- 18) Which is better to get news – newspapers or the Internet?
- 19) Do you believe what you read in newspapers?
- 20) What questions would you like to ask the newspaper's editor?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160307-newspapers.html>

Turkish police have used (1) _____ gas, rubber bullets and water cannon against protestors outside the offices of a national newspaper in Istanbul. The demonstrators were protesting against the (2) _____ of a private newspaper by the Turkish government. Turkish authorities (3) _____ control of the company that owns Turkey's best-selling newspaper Zaman. The paper was (4) _____ a supporter of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, but then became one of his fiercest (5) _____. Authorities say Zaman has links to the US-based Muslim cleric Fethullah Gulen, who the government says plotted a (6) _____ to oust President Erdogan. Commentators say it is another blow for freedom in Turkey.

The takeover of Zaman by the Turkish government has sparked concerns in Europe about Turkey's (7) _____ to join the European Union. European Enlargement Commissioner Johannes Hahn said the latest developments jeopardised recent progress (8) _____ by Turkey. The chairman of Germany's foreign (9) _____ committee said, "the violent action against a critical newspaper" and "the fact that the government takes over the (10) _____ paper is a severe blow...against the freedom of press". The editor-(11) _____-chief of Zaman's English newspaper lamented: "Our [final] headline is about us again, and that should give an idea about the (12) _____ of democracy in the country. There's no rule of law left in Turkey."

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) tear | (b) fear | (c) wear | (d) bear |
| 2. | (a) overtake | (b) takeaway | (c) takeover | (d) undertake |
| 3. | (a) razed | (b) fazed | (c) seized | (d) lazed |
| 4. | (a) owner | (b) own | (c) one | (d) once |
| 5. | (a) critical | (b) critiques | (c) critics | (d) critic |
| 6. | (a) soup | (b) coup | (c) coop | (d) loop |
| 7. | (a) readied | (b) readiness | (c) readily | (d) readies |
| 8. | (a) had | (b) made | (c) been | (d) done |
| 9. | (a) fears | (b) offers | (c) affairs | (d) afar |
| 10. | (a) holy | (b) wholly | (c) hole | (d) whole |
| 11. | (a) to | (b) at | (c) on | (d) in |
| 12. | (a) kindling | (b) kindly | (c) kindred | (d) kind |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160307-newspapers.html>

Paragraph 1

1. rubber lsulteb
2. trrotopsse outside the offices
3. Turkish itrioahuets
4. zdesie control of the company
5. one of his ricestfe critics
6. plotted a coup to suto President Erdogan

Paragraph 2

7. sparked esoncnc in Europe
8. eisojapredd (UK) / dajoidpezer (USA) recent progress
9. foreign affairs tocmemtei
10. toevlin action
11. a ervsee blow
12. the kind of ocmcryade in the country

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160307-newspapers.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

()	idea about the kind of democracy in the country. There's no rule of law left in Turkey."
()	against the takeover of a private newspaper by the Turkish government. Turkish authorities seized
()	developments jeopardised recent progress made by Turkey. The chairman of Germany's foreign
()	readiness to join the European Union. European Enlargement Commissioner Johannes Hahn said the latest
()	chief of Zaman's English newspaper lamented: "Our [final] headline is about us again, and that should give an
()	to the US-based Muslim cleric Fethullah Gulen, who the government says plotted a coup to
()	supporter of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, but then became one of his fiercest critics. Authorities say Zaman has links
(1)	Turkish police have used tear gas, rubber bullets and water cannon against
()	over the whole paper is a severe blow...against the freedom of press". The editor-in-
()	oust President Erdogan. Commentators say it is another blow for freedom in Turkey.
()	protestors outside the offices of a national newspaper in Istanbul. The demonstrators were protesting
()	affairs committee said, "the violent action against a critical newspaper" and "the fact that the government takes
()	The takeover of Zaman by the Turkish government has sparked concerns in Europe about Turkey's
()	control of the company that owns Turkey's best-selling newspaper Zaman. The paper was once a

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160307-newspapers.html>

1. protestors cannon and Rubber against water bullets .

2. against private the newspaper takeover of Protesting a .

3. newspaper company Turkey's selling The owns - that best .

4. coup a Plotted Erdogan President oust to .

5. blow for freedom in Turkey Commentators say it is another .

6. about to Sparked Europe readiness in Turkey's join concerns .

7. progress The developments recent latest jeopardised .

8. whole paper The fact that the government takes over the .

9. democracy of kind the about idea an Give country the in .

10. of law There's left no in rule Turkey .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160307-newspapers.html>

Turkish police have used *tear / fear* gas, rubber bullets and *watery / water* cannon against protestors outside the offices of a *nationally / national* newspaper in Istanbul. The demonstrators were protesting against the *takeover / overtake* of a private newspaper by the Turkish government. Turkish authorities seized *controller / control* of the company that owns Turkey's best-selling newspaper Zaman. The paper was once a *supportive / supporter* of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, but then became one of his fiercest *critiques / critics*. Authorities say Zaman has *links / link* to the US-based Muslim cleric Fethullah Gulen, who the government says *plotted / blotted* a coup to oust President Erdogan. Commentators say it is another *puff / blow* for freedom in Turkey.

The takeover of Zaman by the Turkish government has *fired / sparked* concerns in Europe about Turkey's *readiness / ready* to join the European Union. European Enlargement Commissioner Johannes Hahn said the *lately / latest* developments jeopardised recent *digress / progress* made by Turkey. The chairman of Germany's foreign *affairs / affair* committee said, "the *violent / violence* action against a critical newspaper" and "the *factual / fact* that the government takes over the *holed / whole* paper is a severe blow...against the freedom of press". The editor-in-chief of Zaman's English newspaper lamented: "Our [final] headline is about us *against / again*, and that should give an idea about the kind of democracy in the country. There's no rule of law *left / remain* in Turkey."

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160307-newspapers.html>

T_rk_sh p_l_c_ h_v_ _s_d t__r g_s, r_bb_r b_ll_ts _nd
w_t_r c_nn_n _g__nst pr_t_st_rs __ts_d_ th_ _ff_c_s
f _n_t__n_l_ n_wsp_p_r _n _st_nb_l. Th_
d_m_nstr_t_rs w_r_ pr_t_st_ng _g__nst th_ t_k__v_r
f _pr_v_t_ n_wsp_p_r by th_ T_rk_sh g_v_rnm_nt.
T_rk_sh __th_r_t__s s__z_d c_ntr_l _f th_ c_mp_ny
th_t _wns T_rk_y's b_st-s_ll_ng n_wsp_p_r Z_m_n. Th_
p_p_r w_s _nc_ _s_pp_r_t_r _f Pr_s_d_nt R_c_p T_yy_p
_rd_g_n, b_t th_n b_c_m_ _n_ _f h_s f__rc_st cr_t_cs.
__th_r_t__s s_y Z_m_n h_s l_nks t_ th_ _S-b_s_d
M_sl_m cl_r_c F_th_ll_h G_l_n, wh_ th_ g_v_rnm_nt
s_ys pl_tt_d _c__p_t_ __st Pr_s_d_nt _rd_g_n.
C_mm_nt_t_rs s_y _t_s _n_th_r bl_w_f_r fr__d_m_n
T_rk_y.

Th_ t_k__v_r _f Z_m_n by th_ T_rk_sh g_v_rnm_nt h_s
sp_rk_d c_nc_rns _n __r_p_ _b__t T_rk_y's r__d_n_ss
t_ j__n th_ __r_p__n _n__n. __r_p__n _nl_rg_m_nt
C_mm_ss__n_r J_h_nn_s H_hn s__d th_ l_t_st
d_v_l_pm_nts j__p_rd_s_d r_c_nt pr_gr_ss m_d_ by
T_rk_y. Th_ ch__rm_n _f G_rm_ny's f_r__gn _ff__rs
c_mm_tt__ s__d, "th_ v__l_nt _ct__n _g__nst _
cr_t_c_l_n_wsp_p_r" _nd "th_ f_ct th_t th_ g_v_rnm_nt
t_k_s _v_r th_ wh_l_ p_p_r _s _s_v_r bl_w... _g__nst
th_ fr__d_m _f pr_ss". Th_ _d_t_r-_n-ch__f _f Z_m_n's
_ngl_sh n_wsp_p_r l_m_nt_d: "__r [f_n_l] h__dl_n_ _s
_b__t s_g__n, _nd th_t sh__ld g_v_ _n_d__ _b__t
th_ k_nd _f d_m_cr_cy _n th_ c__ntry. Th_r_'s n_r_l_
_f l_w l_ft _n T_rk_y."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160307-newspapers.html>

turkish police have used tear gas rubber bullets and water cannon against protestors outside the offices of a national newspaper in istanbul the demonstrators were protesting against the takeover of a private newspaper by the turkish government turkish authorities seized control of the company that owns turkey's best-selling newspaper zaman the paper was once a supporter of president recep tayyip erdogan but then became one of his fiercest critics authorities say zaman has links to the us-based muslim cleric fethullah gulen who the government says plotted a coup to oust president erdogan commentators say it is another blow for freedom in turkey

the takeover of zaman by the turkish government has sparked concerns in europe about turkey's readiness to join the european union european enlargement commissioner johannes hahn said the latest developments jeopardised recent progress made by turkey the chairman of germany's foreign affairs committee said "the violent action against a critical newspaper" and "the fact that the government takes over the whole paper is a severe blow...against the freedom of press" the editor-in-chief of zaman's english newspaper lamented "our [final] headline is about us again and that should give an idea about the kind of democracy in the country there's no rule of law left in turkey"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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Turkish police have used tear gas, rubber bullets and water cannon against protesters outside the offices of a national newspaper in Istanbul. The demonstrators were protesting against the takeover of a private newspaper by the Turkish government. Turkish authorities seized control of the company that owns Turkey's best-selling newspaper Zaman. The paper was once a supporter of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, but then became one of his fiercest critics. Authorities say Zaman has links to the US-based Muslim cleric Fethullah Gulen, who the government says plotted a coup to oust President Erdogan. Commentators say it is another blow for freedom in Turkey. The takeover of Zaman by the Turkish government has sparked concerns in Europe about Turkey's readiness to join the European Union. European Enlargement Commissioner Johannes Hahn said the latest developments jeopardised recent progress made by Turkey. The chairman of Germany's foreign affairs committee said, "the violent action against a critical newspaper" and "the fact that the government takes over the whole paper is a severe blow... against the freedom of press". The editor-in-chief of Zaman's English newspaper lamented: "Our [final] headline is about us again, and that should give an idea about the kind of democracy in the country. There's no rule of law left in Turkey."

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about freedom of the press. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. NEWSPAPERS: Make a poster about newspapers in your country. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. FREEDOM OF THE PRESS: Write a magazine article about freedom of the press. Include imaginary interviews with people who think it exists and with people who think it doesn't.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on press freedom. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three reasons why it is so important. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a T b F c T d T e T f F g F h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| 1. protesters | a. demonstrators |
| 2. seized | b. grabbed |
| 3. supporter | c. backer |
| 4. fiercest | d. strongest |
| 5. oust | e. drive out |
| 6. concerns | f. worries |
| 7. readiness | g. preparedness |
| 8. blow | h. shock |
| 9. lamented | i. complained |
| 10. left | j. remaining |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Rubber bullets
2. Istanbul
3. The newspaper Zaman
4. The USA
5. Freedom
6. Europe
7. Progress (made by Turkey)
8. The chairman
9. About the newspaper
10. Rule of law

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. a 2. c 3. b 4. d 5. a 6. d 7. b 8. d 9. c 10. b

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)