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Level 4

Fresh hopes as ceasefire is agreed in Syria

12th September, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160912-syria-truce-4.html>

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Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160912-syria-truce-4.html>

There is hope for an end to hostilities in Syria. The USA, Russia and Syria signed an agreement to target ISIS. There is mixed reaction around the world to this as previous attempts at halting the fighting have failed. The new 10-day truce is hours away, but bombs continue to fall in areas around the capital Damascus. Syrian air strikes on ISIS-held areas killed at least 82 people over the weekend. At least 45 people died in Aleppo.

Most of the major players in Syria welcomed the ceasefire. An American official said: "This remains...the most promising way...to try to get this terrible situation to a better place." Another official said: "It is an opportunity and not more than that until it becomes a reality." Russia said the US and Russia had agreed on joint "strikes against terrorists". Turkey and the European Union warned that more action was needed. Iran has made no official statement.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-37328945>
<http://www.npr.org/2016/09/10/493436461/new-syria-ceasefire-set-to-begin-monday>
<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/09/syria-scores-killed-air-strikes-truce-deal-160910135209691.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160912-syria-truce-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. an end | a. reaction |
| 2. mixed | b. weekend |
| 3. The new 10-day truce is hours | c. areas |
| 4. bombs continue to | d. died |
| 5. Syrian air | e. to hostilities |
| 6. ISIS-held | f. fall |
| 7. over the | g. strikes |
| 8. At least 45 people | h. away |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Most of the major | a. a better place |
| 2. An American | b. way |
| 3. This remains...the most promising | c. a reality |
| 4. get this terrible situation to | d. statement |
| 5. until it becomes | e. players |
| 6. agreed on joint strikes | f. was needed |
| 7. warned that more action | g. official |
| 8. Iran has made no official | h. against terrorists |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160912-syria-truce-4.html>

There is (1) _____ to hostilities in Syria. The USA, Russia and Syria signed (2) _____ target ISIS. There is mixed reaction around the world (3) _____ attempts at halting the fighting have failed. The new (4) _____ hours away, but bombs continue (5) _____ around the capital Damascus. Syrian air strikes on ISIS-held areas (6) _____ 82 people over the weekend. At least 45 people died in Aleppo.

Most of (7) _____ in Syria welcomed the ceasefire. An American official said: "This remains...the (8) _____...to try to get this (9) _____ to a better place." Another official said: "It is an opportunity and not more than that (10) _____ a reality." Russia said the US and Russia had (11) _____ "strikes against terrorists". Turkey and the European Union warned that more action was needed. Iran has (12) _____ statement.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160912-syria-truce-4.html>

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SYRIA SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160912-syria-truce-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Syria 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.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

