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Level 6

Japan recession may hurt global economy

19th November, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1411/141119-recession.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/1411/141119-recession.html>

Japan has slipped back into recession, leaving financial analysts to ponder over the implications for the global economy. Japan's economy unexpectedly shrank for the second consecutive quarter. Two successive negative quarters officially puts a country in recession. The slide in the last quarter has taken economists by surprise. Figures indicated that Japan's economy would grow by 2.1 per cent in the last quarter. Instead, gross domestic product (GDP) fell by 1.6 per cent between July and September. Many economists attribute the fall to April's increase in sales tax from five to eight per cent. Many Japanese consumers have tightened their purse strings and are simply not spending.

World leaders are worried that Japan's slide back into recession could be ominous for the global economy. British leader David Cameron said the world was on the brink of a second economic disaster. He told reporters he saw "red warning lights" for the global economy because of international "instability and uncertainty" and a slowing of growth in emerging markets, especially Brazil and China. Mr Cameron said the problems were "plain to see". He added: "The Eurozone is teetering on the brink of a possible third recession, with high unemployment, falling growth and the real risk of falling prices. Emerging markets, which were the driver of growth in the early stages of the recovery, are now slowing down."

Sources: <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/david-cameron-warns-of-new-global-economic-crisis-9864307.html>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-30077122>
<http://the-japan-news.com/news/article/0001724963>

WARM-UPS

1. RECESSION: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about recession. 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?

recession / analysts / implications / negative quarters / GDP / consumers / spending / world leaders / ominous / global economy / economic disaster / growth / recovery

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

3. ECONOMY: What can we do to these things to help the economy? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What to do?	Why / How it would help
Tax		
Inflation		
Public spending		
Interest rates		
Jobs		
Growth		

4. BOOM: Students A **strongly** believe boom times for the global economy are over forever; Students B **strongly** believe not. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. SPENDING: Rank these with your partner. Put the things you would cut back on most at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- mobile phone
- eating out
- buying clothes
- electricity
- shopping
- hobbies
- going to cafes
- haircuts

6. GLOBAL: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "global". 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/1411/141119-recession.html>

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

- | | |
|--|-------|
| a. Financial analysts are pondering over the effects of Japans recession. | T / F |
| b. Japan's economy has shrunk for two quarters in a row. | T / F |
| c. Economists are not particularly surprised that Japan is in recession. | T / F |
| d. Japanese consumers are putting strings around their purses. | T / F |
| e. World leaders are not particularly concerned about news from Japan. | T / F |
| f. Britain's leader said the world's second economic disaster had arrived. | T / F |
| g. Britain's leader said the Eurozone was close to recession. | T / F |
| h. Emerging markets are not growing as fast as they used to be. | T / F |

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

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| 1. ponder | a. financial resources |
| 2. consecutive | b. phases |
| 3. indicated | c. credit |
| 4. attribute | d. showed |
| 5. purse strings | e. close to |
| 6. ominous | f. think about |
| 7. on the brink of | g. up-and-coming |
| 8. emerging | h. see-sawing |
| 9. teetering | i. successive |
| 10. stages | j. unpromising |

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

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1. Japan has slipped | a. shrank |
| 2. ponder over | b. the brink |
| 3. Japan's economy unexpectedly | c. strings |
| 4. gross domestic | d. in the early stages |
| 5. tightened their purse | e. back into recession |
| 6. could be ominous | f. and uncertainty |
| 7. the world was on | g. to see |
| 8. because of international instability | h. the implications |
| 9. the problems were plain | i. product |
| 10. the driver of growth | j. for the global economy |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141119-recession.html>

Japan has (1) _____ back into recession, leaving financial analysts to ponder over the (2) _____ for the global economy. Japan's economy unexpectedly (3) _____ for the second consecutive quarter. Two successive negative quarters officially puts a country in recession. The (4) _____ in the last quarter has taken economists by surprise. Figures indicated that Japan's economy would grow by 2.1 per cent in the last quarter. Instead, (5) _____ domestic product (GDP) fell by 1.6 per cent between July and September. Many economists (6) _____ the fall to April's increase in sales tax from five to eight per cent. Many Japanese consumers have (7) _____ their purse (8) _____ and are simply not spending.

shrank
slipped
tightened
implications
gross
strings
attribute
slide

World leaders are worried that Japan's slide back into recession could be (9) _____ for the global economy. British leader David Cameron said the world was on the (10) _____ of a second economic disaster. He told reporters he saw "red warning (11) _____ " for the global economy because of international "instability and uncertainty" and a slowing of (12) _____ in emerging markets, especially Brazil and China. Mr Cameron said the problems were "(13) _____ to see". He added: "The Eurozone is teetering on the brink of a possible third recession, with (14) _____ unemployment, falling growth and the real risk of falling prices. Emerging markets, which were the (15) _____ of growth in the early stages of the (16) _____, are now slowing down."

lights
ominous
driver
plain
recovery
brink
growth
high

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141119-recession.html>

- 1) ...leaving financial analysts to ponder _____
 - a. under the implications
 - b. around the implications
 - c. through the implications
 - d. over the implications
- 2) Japan's economy unexpectedly shrank for the second _____
 - a. consecutively quarter
 - b. consecutive quarters
 - c. consecutive quarter
 - d. consecutively quarters
- 3) The slide in the last quarter has taken _____
 - a. economists with surprise
 - b. economists for surprise
 - c. economists at surprise
 - d. economists by surprise
- 4) Figures indicated that Japan's economy would grow by 2.1 per cent _____
 - a. in the past quarter
 - b. in the last quarter
 - c. in the fast quarter
 - d. in the first quarter
- 5) Many Japanese consumers have tightened _____
 - a. their purse strings
 - b. their purse string
 - c. their purse stringent
 - d. their purse slings
- 6) worried that Japan's slide back into recession could be ominous for the global economy
 - a. be ominously for the
 - b. be oh my nuts for the
 - c. be omnibus for the
 - d. be ominous for the
- 7) the world was on the brink of a second economic disaster
 - a. the drink of a
 - b. the bring of a
 - c. the brink of a
 - d. the brick of a
- 8) international "instability and uncertainty" and a slowing of growth _____
 - a. in emerge in markets
 - b. in emergency markets
 - c. in the merging markets
 - d. in emerging markets
- 9) Mr Cameron said the problems _____
 - a. were "plane to see"
 - b. were "plate to see"
 - c. were "plain to see"
 - d. were "plying to see"
- 10) Emerging markets, which were the driver of growth _____
 - a. in the earlier stages
 - b. in the earlyish stages
 - c. in the earliest stages
 - d. in the early stages

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141119-recession.html>

Japan has (1) _____ recession, leaving financial analysts to ponder over the implications for the global economy. Japan's economy unexpectedly shrank for (2) _____ quarter. Two successive negative quarters officially puts a country in recession. The slide in the last quarter has taken (3) _____. Figures indicated that Japan's economy would grow by 2.1 per cent (4) _____. Instead, gross domestic product (GDP) fell by 1.6 per cent between July and September. Many economists (5) _____ April's increase in sales tax from five to eight per cent. Many Japanese consumers have tightened (6) _____ and are simply not spending.

World leaders are worried that Japan's (7) _____ recession could be ominous for the global economy. British leader David Cameron said the world (8) _____ a second economic disaster. He told reporters he saw "red warning lights" for the global economy because of international "(9) _____" and a slowing of growth in emerging markets, especially Brazil and China. Mr Cameron said the problems were "plain to see". He added: "(10) _____ on the brink of a possible third recession, with high unemployment, falling growth and (11) _____ prices. Emerging markets, which were the driver of growth in the early (12) _____, are now slowing down."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141119-recession.html>

1. Who is thinking about implications for the global economy?

2. How many quarters in a row has Japan's economy shrunk?

3. By how much was Japan's economy expected to grow?

4. What do economists blame for Japan's fall in GDP?

5. What are Japanese consumers tightening?

6. Who is worried that Japan's recession could be ominous?

7. What did David Cameron say the world was on the brink of?

8. In which two emerging countries was growth slowing?

9. What is teetering on the brink of a third possible recession?

10. What did the article say was the driver of growth?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141119-recession.html>

1. Who is thinking about implications for the global economy?
 - a) everyone
 - b) financial analysts
 - c) people with stocks
 - d) Japanese consumers
2. How many quarters in a row has Japan's economy shrunk?
 - a) 5
 - b) 4
 - c) 3
 - d) 2
3. By how much was Japan's economy expected to grow?
 - a) 1.2%
 - b) 1.6%
 - c) 2.1%
 - d) 2.6%
4. What do economists blame for Japan's fall in GDP?
 - a) a rise in sales tax
 - b) the global economy
 - c) inflation
 - d) a lack of investment
5. What are Japanese consumers tightening?
 - a) nuts and bolts
 - b) their purse strings
 - c) regulations
 - d) their belts
6. Who is worried that Japan's recession could be ominous?
 - a) world leaders
 - b) Japan's prime minister
 - c) consumers
 - d) tax authorities
7. What did David Cameron say the world was on the brink of?
 - a) a recovery and boom
 - b) a new age
 - c) a second economic disaster
 - d) financial collapse
8. In which two emerging countries was growth slowing?
 - a) China and Brazil
 - b) India and Russia
 - c) China and Russia
 - d) Brazil and India
9. What is teetering on the brink of a third possible recession?
 - a) the USA
 - b) South America
 - c) Asia
 - d) the Eurozone
10. What did the article say was the driver of growth?
 - a) the European Union
 - b) the World Bank
 - c) emerging markets
 - d) investment

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141119-recession.html>

Role A – Investment

You think investment would be best to bring a country out of recession. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things might not work. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): lower taxes, lower interest rates or more jobs.

Role B – Lower taxes

You think lower taxes would be best to bring a country out of recession. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things might not work. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): investment, lower interest rates or more jobs.

Role C – Lower interest rates

You think lower interest rates would be best to bring a country out of recession. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things might not work. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): lower taxes, investment or more jobs.

Role D – More jobs

You think more jobs would be best to bring a country out of recession. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things might not work. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): lower taxes, lower interest rates or investment.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141119-recession.html>

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

global	economy

- 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">• slipped• two• grow• 1.6• sales• spending	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• worried• red• especially• plain• risk• early
---	---

RECESSION SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141119-recession.html>

Write five GOOD questions about recession 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.

RECESSION 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 'recession'?
- 3) Why or how does a country enter recession?
- 4) Are you worried about the global economy?
- 5) What are economic conditions like in your country?
- 6) Why can't economists keep the global economy stable?
- 7) What has your government done for its economy?
- 8) How does a country come out of recession?
- 9) What do you think of sales tax?
- 10) Are there times when you have stopped spending?

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RECESSION DISCUSSION

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

- 11) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- 12) What can world leaders do to stop another recession?
- 13) How did the last global recession affect you?
- 14) What "warning lights" are there for a global recession?
- 15) Why do you think emerging markets are slowing down?
- 16) What's the best way to protect yourself against recession?
- 17) Who wins and who loses in a recession?
- 18) What would you do to create growth?
- 19) How do you feel about economics?
- 20) What questions would you like to ask Japan's leader?

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/1411/141119-recession.html>

Japan has slipped back into recession, (1) _____ financial analysts to ponder over the implications for the global economy. Japan's economy (2) _____ shrank for the second consecutive quarter. Two successive negative quarters officially puts a country in recession. The (3) _____ in the last quarter has taken economists by surprise. Figures indicated that Japan's economy would grow (4) _____ 2.1 per cent in the last quarter. Instead, gross domestic product (GDP) fell by 1.6 per cent between July and September. Many economists (5) _____ the fall to April's increase in sales tax from five to eight per cent. Many Japanese consumers have tightened their purse strings and are (6) _____ not spending.

World leaders are worried that Japan's slide back into recession could be (7) _____ for the global economy. British leader David Cameron said the world was on the (8) _____ of a second economic disaster. He told reporters he saw "red warning lights" for the global economy because of international "(9) _____ and uncertainty" and a slowing of growth in emerging markets, especially Brazil and China. Mr Cameron said the problems were "(10) _____ to see". He added: "The Eurozone is teetering on the brink of a possible third recession, (11) _____ high unemployment, falling growth and the real risk of falling prices. Emerging markets, which were the driver of growth in the early (12) _____ of the recovery, are now slowing down."

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. | (a) left | (b) leaves | (c) leaving | (d) leave |
| 2. | (a) unexpectedly | (b) unexpected | (c) expectant | (d) expectations |
| 3. | (a) slide | (b) swing | (c) see-saw | (d) frame |
| 4. | (a) by | (b) for | (c) up | (d) in |
| 5. | (a) contribute | (b) attribute | (c) retribution | (d) combustion |
| 6. | (a) simpletons | (b) simpleton | (c) simple | (d) simply |
| 7. | (a) omnivorous | (b) omnipresent | (c) ominous | (d) omnibus |
| 8. | (a) drink | (b) dink | (c) clink | (d) brink |
| 9. | (a) instability | (b) unstable | (c) stability | (d) stable |
| 10. | (a) plain | (b) candid | (c) lucid | (d) ordinary |
| 11. | (a) of | (b) with | (c) for | (d) by |
| 12. | (a) areas | (b) districts | (c) stages | (d) platforms |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141119-recession.html>

Paragraph 1

1. financial nalsasyt
2. the itpscinaiolm for the global economy
3. for the second eevtnsccuio quarter
4. taken omtecinssso by surprise
5. urtitebat the fall to April's increase
6. tightened their espru strings

Paragraph 2

7. ounimos for the global economy
8. on the brink of a second economic eidtsrsa
9. instability and rtuneynatci
10. growth in regnemgi markets
11. girtetnee on the brink
12. the early stages of the oeevyrrc

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141119-recession.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

()	prices. Emerging markets, which were the driver of growth in the early stages of the recovery, are now slowing down."
()	for the global economy. British leader David Cameron said the world was on the brink of a second economic
()	and uncertainty" and a slowing of growth in emerging markets, especially
()	by 2.1 per cent in the last quarter. Instead, gross domestic product (GDP) fell by 1.6 per cent between
()	July and September. Many economists attribute the fall to April's increase in sales tax from five
()	disaster. He told reporters he saw "red warning lights" for the global economy because of international "instability
()	on the brink of a possible third recession, with high unemployment, falling growth and the real risk of falling
()	Brazil and China. Mr Cameron said the problems were "plain to see". He added: "The Eurozone is teetering
()	in the last quarter has taken economists by surprise. Figures indicated that Japan's economy would grow
()	to eight per cent. Many Japanese consumers have tightened their purse strings and are simply not spending.
()	World leaders are worried that Japan's slide back into recession could be ominous
()	quarter. Two successive negative quarters officially puts a country in recession. The slide
(1)	Japan has slipped back into recession, leaving financial analysts to ponder over the implications
()	for the global economy. Japan's economy unexpectedly shrank for the second consecutive

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141119-recession.html>

1. the analysts implications to ponder Leaving over financial.

2. Unexpectedly quarter consecutive second the for shrank.

3. gross by Instead, cent 1.6 domestic fell (GDP) per product.

4. eight to five from tax sales in increase April's cent per.

5. their tightened have consumers Japanese strings purse.

6. back ominous into recession Japan's could slide be.

7. on was world The disaster economic second a of brink the.

8. in growth of slowing A markets emerging.

9. the a recession on of third Teetering brink possible.

10. of stages early the in growth of driver The recovery the.

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141119-recession.html>

Japan has *slipped / sloped* back into recession, leaving financial analysts to ponder over the *imperfections / implications* for the global economy. Japan's economy unexpectedly *shrank / shrunk* for the second *consecutively / consecutive* quarter. Two successive negative quarters *officialdom / officially* puts a country in recession. The slide in the *last / least* quarter has taken economists by *surprise / surprising*. Figures indicated that Japan's economy would *growth / grow* by 2.1 per cent in the last quarter. Instead, gross domestic product (GDP) fell by 1.6 per cent between July and September. Many economists *attribute / contribute* the fall to April's increase in sales tax from five to eight per cent. Many Japanese consumers have tightened their purse strings and are *simple / simply* not spending.

World leaders are worried that Japan's *slid / slide* back into recession could be *ominous / omnivorous* for the global economy. British leader David Cameron said the world was on the *blink / brink* of a second economic disaster. He told reporters he saw "red *warned / warning* lights" for the global economy because of international "instability and *uncannily / uncertainty*" and a slowing of growth in emerging markets, especially Brazil and China. Mr Cameron said the problems were "*plain / plane* to see". He added: "The Eurozone is *teetotalling / teetering* on the brink of a possible third recession, with high unemployment, falling growth and the *reality / real* risk of falling prices. Emerging markets, which were the *driver / pilot* of growth in the early stages of the *recovered / recovery*, are now slowing down."

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/1411/141119-recession.html>

J_p_n h_s sl_pp_d b_ck _nt_ r_c_ss__n, l__v_ng
f_n_nc__l _n_lysts t_p_nd_r _v_r th__mpl_c_t__ns
f_r th_gl_b_l _c_n_my. J_p_n's _c_n_my _n_xp_ct_dly
shr_nk f_r th_s_c_nd c_ns_c_t_v_ q__rt_r. Tw__
s_cc_ss_v_ n_g_t_v_ q__rt_rs _ff_c__lly p_ts _
c__ntry _n_r_c_ss__n. Th_sl_d_ _n th_l_st q__rt_r
h_s t_k_n _c_n_m_sts by s_rpr_s_. F_g_r_s _nd_c_t_d
th_t J_p_n's _c_n_my w__ld gr_w by 2.1 p_r_c_nt _n
th_l_st q__rt_r. _nst__d, gr_ss d_m_st_c pr_d_ct
(GDP) f_ll by 1.6 p_r_c_nt b_tw__n J_ly _nd S_pt_mb_r.
M_ny _c_n_m_sts _ttr_b_t th_f_ll_t _pr_l's _ncr__s__
_n_s_l_s t_x fr_m f_v_ t__ght p_r_c_nt. M_ny
J_p_n_s c_ns_m_rs h_v_ t_ght_n_d th__r p_rs__
str_ngs _nd _r_s_mply n_t sp_nd_ng.

W_rld l__d_rs _r_w_rr__d th_t J_p_n's sl_d_ b_ck
nt r_c_ss__n c__ld b__m_n_s f_r th_gl_b_l
_c_n_my. Br_t_sh l__d_r D_v_d C_m_r_n s__d th__
w_rld w_s _n th_brnk _f__s_c_nd _c_n_m_c
d_s_st_r. H__t_ld r_p_rts h_s_w "r_d_w_rn_ng
l_ghts" f_r th_gl_b_l _c_n_my b_c_s__ _f
_nt_rn_t__n_l "_nst_b_l_t_y _nd _nc_r_t__nty" _nd _
sl_w_ng _f gr_wth _n _m_rg_ng m_rk_ts, _sp_c__lly
Br_z_l _nd Ch_n_. Mr C_m_r_n s__d th_pr_b_l_ms w_r__
"pl__n_t_s__". H__dd_d: "Th__r_z_n__s_t__t_r_ng
_n th_brnk _f__p_ss_b_l th_r_d r_c_ss__n, w_th h_g_h
_n_mpl_y_m_nt, f_ll_ng gr_wth _nd th_r__l_r_sk _f
f_ll_ng pr_c_s. _m_rg_ng m_rk_ts, wh_ch w_r__th__
dr_v_r _f gr_wth _n th__rly st_g_s _f th_r_c_v_ry,
_r_n_w sl_w_ng d_wn."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1411/141119-recession.html>

japan has slipped back into recession leaving financial analysts to ponder over the implications for the global economy japan's economy unexpectedly shrank for the second consecutive quarter two successive negative quarters officially puts a country in recession the slide in the last quarter has taken economists by surprise figures indicated that japan's economy would grow by 2.1 per cent in the last quarter instead gross domestic product (gdp) fell by 1.6 per cent between july and september many economists attribute the fall to april's increase in sales tax from five to eight per cent many japanese consumers have tightened their purse strings and are simply not spending world leaders are worried that japan's slide back into recession could be ominous for the global economy british leader david cameron said the world was on the brink of a second economic disaster he told reporters he saw "red warning lights" for the global economy because of international "instability and uncertainty" and a slowing of growth in emerging markets especially brazil and china mr cameron said the problems were "plain to see" he added "the eurozone is teetering on the brink of a possible third recession with high unemployment falling growth and the real risk of falling prices emerging markets which were the driver of growth in the early stages of the recovery are now slowing down"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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Japan has slipped back into recession, leaving financial analysts to ponder over the implications for the global economy. Japan's economy unexpectedly shrank for the second consecutive quarter. Two successive negative quarters officially put a country in recession. The slide in the last quarter has taken economists by surprise. Figures indicated that Japan's economy would grow by 2.1 percent in the last quarter. Instead, gross domestic product (GDP) fell by 1.6 percent between July and September. Many economists attribute the fall to April's increase in sales tax from five to eight percent. Many Japanese consumers have tightened their purse strings and are simply not spending. World leaders are worried that Japan's slide back into recession could be ominous for the global economy. British leader David Cameron said the world was on the brink of a second economic disaster. He told reporters he saw "red warning lights" for the global economy because of international "instability and uncertainty" and a slowing of growth in emerging markets, especially Brazil and China. Mr Cameron said the problems were "plain to see". Headed: "The Eurozone is teetering on the brink of a possible third recession, with high unemployment, falling growth and the real risk of falling prices. Emerging markets, which were the driver of growth in the early stages of the recovery, are now slowing down."

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 recessions. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. RECESSION: Make a poster about the previous global recession. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. GLOBAL ECONOMY: Write a magazine article about the global economy. Include imaginary interviews with people who are optimistic about it and with those who are pessimistic about it.

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 economist. Ask him/her three questions about recessions. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to avoid them. 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 T c F d F e F f F g T h T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| 1. ponder | a. think about |
| 2. consecutive | b. successive |
| 3. indicated | c. showed |
| 4. attribute | d. credit |
| 5. purse strings | e. financial resources |
| 6. ominous | f. unpromising |
| 7. on the brink of | g. close to |
| 8. emerging | h. up-and-coming |
| 9. teetering | i. see-sawing |
| 10. stages | j. phases |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Financial analysts
2. Two
3. 2.1%
4. A rise in sales tax
5. Their purse strings
6. World leaders
7. A second economic disaster
8. Brazil and China
9. The Eurozone
10. Emerging markets

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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