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Level 2

Christmas cards show nativity in Syria war zone

1st December, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1612/161201-christmas-cards-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1612/161201-christmas-cards-2.html>

The Doctors of the World charity has released some Christmas cards with a difference. The non-profit organization is selling four cards showing traditional Christmas scenes from the Holy Land with images of the war in Syria. The charity wants to make people aware of the suffering going on in the world, especially in Syria. One card shows Mary and Joseph on a donkey in the rubble of war-torn Syria. Another shows the baby Jesus asleep as a missile is fired in the distance behind him. The next card shows the three wise men looking up at a warplane flying overhead.

The charity's website explained that: "Rather than making a religious statement, these images seek to remind the public that this year war has forced millions from their homes....By purchasing our cards, you are helping us to provide healthcare to the most vulnerable, and together we will [put back] a little of the most festive feeling of all – hope." The money from the cards will buy medicine and medical equipment for people in Syria and other areas of conflict. The United Nations estimates that 65 million people have fled their homes because of violence and war.

Sources: <http://gizmodo.com/indias-prime-minister-plans-for-cashless-society-1789403344>
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/asia/india-cashless-society-banknotes-narendra-modi-ban-currency-a7442316.html>
<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/mann-ki-baat-live-updates-narendra-modi-demonetisation-4397510/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1612/161201-christmas-cards-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. The Doctors of the World | a. organization |
| 2. Christmas cards with | b. flying overhead |
| 3. The non-profit | c. going on in the world |
| 4. One card shows Mary and Joseph | d. a difference |
| 5. make people aware of the suffering | e. distance behind him |
| 6. in the rubble | f. charity |
| 7. a missile is fired in the | g. on a donkey |
| 8. men looking up at a warplane | h. of war-torn Syria |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. making a religious | a. fled their homes |
| 2. these images seek to | b. the most vulnerable |
| 3. war has forced millions | c. and war |
| 4. provide healthcare to | d. statement |
| 5. medicine and medical | e. of conflict |
| 6. Syria and other areas | f. from their homes |
| 7. 65 million people have | g. equipment |
| 8. because of violence | h. remind the public |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1612/161201-christmas-cards-2.html>

The Doctors of the World charity (1) _____ Christmas cards with a difference. The non-profit organization is selling (2) _____ traditional Christmas scenes from the Holy Land (3) _____ war in Syria. The charity wants to make people (4) _____ suffering going on in the world, especially in Syria. One card shows Mary and Joseph on a donkey (5) _____ of war-torn Syria. Another shows the baby Jesus asleep as a missile is fired in the distance behind him. The next card shows the three wise men looking up at a warplane (6) _____.

The charity's (7) _____ that: "Rather than making a religious statement, these (8) _____ remind the public that this year war has forced millions from their homes....By purchasing our cards, you are helping (9) _____ healthcare to the most vulnerable, and together we will [put back] a (10) _____ festive feeling of all – hope." The money from the cards will buy medicine and medical equipment for people in Syria and other (11) _____. The United Nations estimates that 65 million people (12) _____ homes because of violence and war.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1612/161201-christmas-cards-2.html>

The Doctor of the World charity has released some Christmas cards with a difference. The non-profit organization is selling four cards showing traditional Christmas scenes from the Holy Land with images of the war in Syria. The charity wants to make people aware of the suffering going on in the world, especially in Syria. One card shows Mary and Joseph on a donkey in the rubble of war-torn Syria. Another shows the baby Jesus asleep as a missile is fired in the distance behind him. The next card shows the three wise men looking up at a war plane flying overhead. The charity's website explained that: "Rather than making a religious statement, these images seek to remind the public that this year war has forced millions from their homes.... By purchasing our cards, you are helping us to provide healthcare to the most vulnerable, and together we will [put back] a little of the most festive feeling of fall – hope." The money from the cards will buy medicine and medical equipment for people in Syria and other areas of conflict. The United Nations estimate that 65 million people have fled their homes because of violence and war.

CHRISTMAS CARDS SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1612/161201-christmas-cards-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Christmas cards 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) _____

