

# www.**Breaking News English**.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

**"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES  
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"**

[www.breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html](http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html)

**Thousands more free lessons  
from Sean's other websites**

[www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean\\_banville\\_lessons.html](http://www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html)

## **Level 2**

### **Putin warns of 'global catastrophe' over N Korea**

**7th September, 2017**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1709/170907-global-catastrophe-2.html>

## **Contents**

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

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

**Twitter**



[twitter.com/SeanBanville](https://twitter.com/SeanBanville)

**Facebook**



[www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176](https://www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176)

**Google +**



<https://plus.google.com/+SeanBanville>

# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1709/170907-global-catastrophe-2.html>

Russia's Vladimir Putin warned that the North Korean crisis could cause a "planetary catastrophe". He said war on the Korean Peninsular would cause a huge loss of life. He told reporters in China that "peaceful dialogue" was the only way to end the crisis. He warned the USA and North Korea that talking about military action was very dangerous and "senseless". Mr Putin said North Korea would never stop its nuclear programme. He said: "They will eat grass instead of stopping their nuclear programme, as long as they do not feel safe."

Tensions in Korea are at dangerous levels. On Sunday, North Korea carried out its biggest ever nuclear test. The United Nations met to tell North Korea to stop its testing. Many countries want stronger sanctions against North Korea. Mr Putin said sanctions have never worked and would never work. He said they would be useless. The US ambassador to the UN said North Korea was "begging for war" because of its actions. She said: "War is never something the US wants. We don't want it now. But our country's patience is not unlimited. We will defend our allies and our territory."

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/sep/05/south-korea-minister-redeploying-us-nuclear-weapons-tensions-with-north>  
<http://www.nation.co.ke/news/world/Putin-global-catastrophe-North-Korea/1068-4083486-w4xj8cz/index.html>  
<https://www.rte.ie/news/2017/0905/902328-korea/>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1709/170907-global-catastrophe-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                           |                   |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. the North Korean       | a. programme      |
| 2. cause a huge loss      | b. dialogue       |
| 3. peaceful               | c. crisis         |
| 4. the only way to        | d. not feel safe  |
| 5. talking about military | e. instead        |
| 6. They will eat grass    | f. of life        |
| 7. stopping their nuclear | g. action         |
| 8. as long as they do     | h. end the crisis |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                       |                              |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Tensions in Korea are at dangerous | a. the US wants              |
| 2. carried out its                    | b. allies                    |
| 3. stop its                           | c. "begging for war"         |
| 4. stronger sanctions                 | d. unlimited                 |
| 5. North Korea was                    | e. levels                    |
| 6. War is never something             | f. against North Korea       |
| 7. our country's patience is not      | g. biggest ever nuclear test |
| 8. We will defend our                 | h. testing                   |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1709/170907-global-catastrophe-2.html>

Russia's Vladimir Putin (1) \_\_\_\_\_ North Korean crisis could cause a "(2) \_\_\_\_\_". He said war on the Korean Peninsular would (3) \_\_\_\_\_ loss of life. He told reporters in China that "peaceful dialogue" was the only way to (4) \_\_\_\_\_. He warned the USA and North Korea that talking about (5) \_\_\_\_\_ was very dangerous and "senseless". Mr Putin said North Korea would never stop its nuclear programme. He said: "They will (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of stopping their nuclear programme, as long as they do not feel safe."

Tensions in Korea are (7) \_\_\_\_\_. On Sunday, North Korea carried out (8) \_\_\_\_\_ nuclear test. The United Nations met to tell North Korea to stop its testing. Many countries want stronger (9) \_\_\_\_\_ North Korea. Mr Putin said sanctions have never worked and would never work. He said they (10) \_\_\_\_\_. The US ambassador to the UN said North Korea was "begging for war" because of its actions. She said: "(11) \_\_\_\_\_ something the US wants. We don't want it now. But our country's patience is not unlimited. We will defend (12) \_\_\_\_\_ our territory."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1709/170907-global-catastrophe-2.html>

Russia's Vladimir Putin warned that the North Korean crisis could cause a "planetary catastrophe". He said war on the Korean Peninsula would cause a huge loss of life. He told reporters in China that "peaceful dialogue" was the only way to end the crisis. He warned the USA and North Korea that talking about military action was very dangerous and "senseless". Mr Putin said North Korea would never stop its nuclear programme. He said: "They will eat grass instead of stopping their nuclear programme, as long as they do not feel safe." Tensions in Korea are at dangerous levels. On Sunday, North Korea carried out its biggest ever nuclear test. The United Nations met to tell North Korea to stop its testing. Many countries want stronger sanctions against North Korea. Mr Putin said sanctions have never worked and would never work. He said they would be useless. The US ambassador to the UN said North Korea was "begging for war" because of its actions. She said: "War is never something the US wants. We don't want it now. But our country's patience is not unlimited. We will defend our allies and our territory."

# GLOBAL CATASTROPHE SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1709/170907-global-catastrophe-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about global catastrophe 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*Putin warns of 'global catastrophe' over N Korea – 7th September, 2017*  
More free lessons at [www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com)

---

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

