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## **Level 4**

# **Iran and Saudi Arabia in war of words**

**6th January, 2016**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1601/160106-iran-saudi-arabia-4.html>

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**Please try the harder Level 5 and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1601/160106-iran-saudi-arabia-4.html>

There is a war of words between Iran and Saudi Arabia after the execution of a Shia Muslim cleric. He was among 47 men killed on terrorism charges. Saudi leaders said the cleric, Nimr al-Nimr, had led anti-government protests in 2011-2012. Mr Al-Nimr said he never carried weapons or called for violence. He had encouraged people to use "the roar of the word" instead. Iran said al-Nimr was killed for being a Shia Muslim. Saudi Arabia is largely Sunni Muslim.

There were protests against the execution in the Iranian capital Tehran. The Saudi Arabian embassy was set on fire. Iran said Saudi Arabia would pay a "heavy price" for the execution. Saudi Arabia said Iran should stay out of what was an internal Saudi matter. The foreign ministry said Mr al-Nimr was killed for breaking the law and not for being a Shia Muslim. It said: "There is no difference between what a person does regardless of his ethnic origin."

Sources: <http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/01/iran-saudi-arabia-wage-war-words-executions-160103104216327.html>  
<http://gulfnews.com/news/gulf/saudi-arabia/iranian-threats-should-not-be-accepted-1.1647793>  
[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/saudi-executions-nimr-iran\\_56893488e4b014efe0dab27d?5xjyk3xr&utm\\_hp\\_ref=world](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/saudi-executions-nimr-iran_56893488e4b014efe0dab27d?5xjyk3xr&utm_hp_ref=world)

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1601/160106-iran-saudi-arabia-4.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. a war of words between | a. government protests   |
| 2. a Shia                 | b. of the word           |
| 3. killed on terrorism    | c. Iran and Saudi Arabia |
| 4. led anti-              | d. largely Sunni Muslim  |
| 5. he never carried       | e. Muslim cleric         |
| 6. called for             | f. weapons               |
| 7. use the roar           | g. charges               |
| 8. Saudi Arabia is        | h. violence              |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                             |                          |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. There were protests      | a. embassy               |
| 2. the Iranian capital      | b. origin                |
| 3. The Saudi Arabian        | c. a "heavy price"       |
| 4. set                      | d. against the execution |
| 5. Saudi Arabia would pay   | e. difference            |
| 6. an internal Saudi        | f. Tehran                |
| 7. There is no              | g. matter                |
| 8. regardless of his ethnic | h. on fire               |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1601/160106-iran-saudi-arabia-4.html>

There is a war of words between Iran and Saudi Arabia

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ a Shia Muslim cleric. He was among 47 men

killed (2) \_\_\_\_\_. Saudi leaders said the cleric, Nimr al-

Nimr, had led anti-government protests in 2011-2012. Mr Al-Nimr

(3) \_\_\_\_\_ weapons or called for violence.

(4) \_\_\_\_\_ people to use "(5) \_\_\_\_\_"

instead. Iran said al-Nimr was (6) \_\_\_\_\_ Shia Muslim.

Saudi Arabia is largely Sunni Muslim.

There were (7) \_\_\_\_\_ execution in the Iranian capital

Tehran. The Saudi Arabian embassy (8) \_\_\_\_\_. Iran said

Saudi Arabia would pay (9) \_\_\_\_\_ for the execution. Saudi

Arabia said Iran should (10) \_\_\_\_\_ was an internal Saudi

matter. The foreign ministry said Mr al-Nimr was killed

(11) \_\_\_\_\_ law and not for being a Shia Muslim. It said:

"There is no difference between what a person does

(12) \_\_\_\_\_ ethnic origin."

# IRAN & SAUDI ARABIA SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1601/160106-iran-saudi-arabia-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Iran & Saudi Arabia 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)

g)

h)

*Iran and Saudi Arabia in war of words – 6th January, 2016*  
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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)

g)

h)

# FREE WRITING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1601/160106-iran-saudi-arabia-4.html>

Write about **Iran & Saudi Arabia** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

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