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Level 2 – 9th November, 2019

Typhoon-damaged bullet trains scrapped in Japan

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Contents

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

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THE READING

Ten of Japan's bullet trains will broken up. They were flooded when Typhoon Hagibis hit Japan in October. The typhoon caused a lot of damage. There were many photos of the 10 shiny bullet trains lined up next to each other on tracks near the city of Nagano. They were deep in water after a nearby river burst its banks. The trains used to run between Tokyo and a city on the Sea of Japan coast. The line is now running just 80 per cent of its normal services. The bullet train company said it hopes to run a full service again by the end of March 2020.

Bullet trains are called Shinkansen in Japan. They started in 1964 for the Tokyo Olympics. They became a symbol of Japan and were the world's fastest trains. They reach speeds of 320kph. The bullet train rail network covers 2,764km. People take around 350 million rides a year on the trains. A Shinkansen president spoke about the flooded trains. He said the floodwater seriously damaged motors and brakes. The total cost of the damage is around $135 million. He said: "For stability and safety, we [will] replace the trains with newly built ones instead of repairing them."

PHRASE MATCHING

PARAGRAPH ONE:

1.	bullet trains will be	a.	of Japan coast
2.	The typhoon caused a	b.	of March 2020
3.	trains lined up next to each	c.	lot of damage
4.	a nearby river burst	d.	broken up
5.	on the Sea	e.	service
6.	running just 80 per cent of	f.	its banks
7.	it hopes to run a full	g.	other on tracks
8.	by the end	h.	its normal services

PARAGRAPH TWO:

1.	They became a symbol	a.	rides a year
2.	The bullet train rail	b.	newly built ones
3.	350 million	c.	the damage
4.	the floodwater seriously	d.	of repairing them
5.	The total cost of	e.	network
6.	For stability	f.	damaged motors
7.	replace the trains with	g.	of Japan
8.	built ones instead	h.	and safety

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

Ten of Japan's bullet trains will (1) _____. They were flooded when Typhoon Hagibis hit Japan in October. The typhoon caused a (2) _____. There were many photos of the 10 shiny bullet trains (3) _____ to each other on tracks near the city of Nagano. They were deep in water after a nearby river (4) _____. The trains used to run between Tokyo and a city on the Sea of Japan coast. The line is (5) _____ 80 per cent of its normal services. The bullet train company said it hopes to run a full service again (6) _____ of March 2020.

Bullet trains are called Shinkansen in Japan. They started in 1964 for the Tokyo Olympics. They (7) _____ of Japan and were the world's fastest trains. They (8) _____ 320kph. The bullet train rail network covers 2,764km. People take around 350 million (9) _____ on the trains. A Shinkansen president spoke (10) _____ trains. He said the floodwater seriously damaged motors and brakes. The (11) _____ the damage is around $135 million. He said: "For stability and safety, we [will] replace the trains with newly built (12) _____ repairing them."

PUT A SLASH (/)WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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BULLET TRAINS SURVEY

Write five GOOD questions about bullet trains 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) _____

WRITING

Write about **bullet trains** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

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