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Level 5 – 31st March, 2021

Suez Canal reopens after stranded ship is freed

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210331-suez-canal-5.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 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210331-suez-canal-5.html>

The Suez Canal is open again after the giant ship that had blocked it for a week is free. The 220,000-ton Ever Given container ship got wedged between the sides of the canal last week. A blockage followed that disrupted global trade and international markets. Analysts say it has cost Egypt \$100 million in lost revenue. The jam means there is a backlog of 450 ships waiting to go through the canal. They are anchored in the Red Sea and Mediterranean near the ends of the canal. Authorities will try and double the daily average of 50 ships to pass through the channel.

There has been a huge effort over the past week to free the 400-metre-long ship. Dredgers cleared sand underneath it in an attempt to refloat it. Around 30 tug boats worked to pull it away from the canal's banks. They were helped by a high tide during the salvage operation. Egypt's president thanked everyone in the effort to refloat the ship. He said the refloating was a "massive technical complexity". He added: "The world can now rest assured about the passage of goods through this pivotal shipping route. Egyptians today proved that they are always up to the challenge."

Sources: <https://www.thenationalnews.com/mena/egypt/suez-canal-cleared-as-ever-given-gets-underway-1.1192868>
<https://www.voanews.com/middle-east/massive-ship-blocking-suez-canal-freed>
<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/3/29/ever-given-turned-80-percent-in-right-direction-live-news>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210331-suez-canal-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. the ship that blocked it | a. average |
| 2. The blockage disrupted | b. of 450 ships |
| 3. \$100 million in lost | c. global trade |
| 4. There is now a backlog | d. channel |
| 5. They are anchored | e. revenue |
| 6. near the ends | f. is free |
| 7. double the daily | g. of the canal |
| 8. go through the | h. in the Red Sea |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. big efforts to free the | a. challenge |
| 2. Dredgers cleared sand | b. assured |
| 3. tug | c. the canal's banks |
| 4. pull it away from | d. underneath it |
| 5. high | e. operation |
| 6. the salvage | f. 400-metre-long ship |
| 7. rest | g. boats |
| 8. up to the | h. tide |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210331-suez-canal-5.html>

The Suez Canal (1) _____ after the giant ship that had blocked it for a week is free. The 220,000-ton Ever Given container ship (2) _____ the sides of the canal last week. A (3) _____ disrupted global trade and international markets. Analysts say it has cost Egypt \$100 million in lost revenue. The jam means there (4) _____ of 450 ships waiting to go through the canal. They are anchored in the Red Sea and Mediterranean (5) _____ of the canal. Authorities will try and double the (6) _____ 50 ships to pass through the channel.

There has been a (7) _____ the past week to free the 400-metre-long ship. Dredgers cleared sand underneath it in an (8) _____ it. Around 30 tug boats worked to pull it away from the canal's banks. They were helped by (9) _____ during the salvage operation. Egypt's president thanked everyone (10) _____ to refloat the ship. He said the refloating was a "massive technical complexity". He added: "The world can (11) _____ about the passage of goods through this pivotal shipping route. Egyptians today proved that they are always up (12) _____."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210331-suez-canal-5.html>

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THE SUEZ CANAL SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210331-suez-canal-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about the Suez Canal 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

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210331-suez-canal-5.html>

Write about **the Suez Canal** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.
