

# www.Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-use ESL/EFL Lessons by Sean Banville

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

**The Breaking News English.com Resource Book**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html>

## U.S. vows justice for slain ambassador

**13th September, 2012**

[http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1209/120913-us\\_ambassador.html](http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1209/120913-us_ambassador.html)

### Contents

The Article	2
Warm-ups	3
Before Reading / Listening	4
While Reading / Listening	5
Listening Gap Fill	6
After Reading / Listening	7
Student Survey	8
Discussion	9
Language Work	10
Writing	11
Homework	12
Answers	13

### Follow Sean Banville on

**Twitter**



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

**Facebook**



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

**Google +**



[plus.google.com/110990608764591804698/posts](https://plus.google.com/110990608764591804698/posts)

# THE ARTICLE

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1209/120913-us\\_ambassador.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1209/120913-us_ambassador.html)

U.S. President Barack Obama has promised to bring to justice to those who killed American ambassador Christopher Stevens in Libya on Tuesday night. Mr Stevens was killed in an attack on the U.S. consulate in the eastern Libyan city of Benghazi. Three other consulate staff died in the attack and five were wounded. Mr Obama said: "There is absolutely no justification for this type of senseless violence." U.S. Secretary of State Hilary Clinton asked: "How could this happen in a country we helped liberate; in a city we helped save from destruction?" Libya's interim president Mohammed el-Megarif apologised for what he called the "cowardly" attack, saying: "We extend our apology to America."

There is speculation over what caused the assault on the consulate. Initial reports said a YouTube video trailer for a low-budget film that gives an insulting portrayal of the Prophet Muhammad sparked the protests. Any depiction of the Prophet is prohibited in Islam and greatly offends Muslims. The makers of the film are as yet unknown, but reports say Egyptian Coptic Christians and an American-Israeli are behind it. However, media reports now say the attack was pre-planned to coincide with the 9/11 anniversary. Libya's UN representative Ibrahim Dabbashi said: "This attack...cannot be considered as a defence of Islam. [It] gravely damages the image of Islam."

# WARM-UPS

**1. AMBASSADORS:** Walk around the class and talk to other students about ambassadors. Change partners often. Share your findings with your first partner.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

*Barack Obama / justice / consulates / wounded / senseless / violence / cowardly / speculation / video trailer / insulting / prohibited / pre-planned / coincide / image*

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. SENSELESS:** Rate these things: 1 = no problem, 10 = totally senseless. Complete the table with your partner(s). Change partners and share what you wrote.

Rate these things:	1 - 10	Why?
Attacking a consulate		
Portraying the Prophet Mohammed		
Sending U.S. warships to Libya		
Burning another country's flag		
Occupying foreign lands		
Fighting in the name of religion		

**4. PEACE:** Students A **strongly** believe there will be peace between Christians and Muslims one day; Students B **strongly** believe not. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. JUSTICE:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word 'justice'. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1209/120913-us\\_ambassador.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1209/120913-us_ambassador.html)

## 1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| a. The article says Obama wants the killers tried in the USA.                | T / F |
| b. The US ambassador to Libya was killed in the U.S. embassy.                | T / F |
| c. Five others died and three were wounded.                                  | T / F |
| d. Hilary Clinton questioned the actions of a nation the US helped liberate. | T / F |
| e. A blockbuster film that insulted Islam probably sparked the protests.     | T / F |
| f. No one really knows yet who made the film.                                | T / F |
| g. Some believe the attack was planned for the 9/11 anniversary.             | T / F |
| h. Libya's UN representative said the attack damaged the image of Islam.     | T / F |

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- |                  |                         |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. promised      | a. started              |
| 2. wounded       | b. reason               |
| 3. senseless     | c. free                 |
| 4. justification | d. first                |
| 5. liberate      | e. injured              |
| 6. assault       | f. occur simultaneously |
| 7. initial       | g. vowed                |
| 8. sparked       | h. seriously            |
| 9. coincide      | i. attack               |
| 10. gravely      | j. pointless            |

## 3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |                               |                          |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. killed in an attack        | a. apology to America    |
| 2. There is absolutely        | b. low-budget film       |
| 3. senseless                  | c. planned               |
| 4. a country we helped        | d. on the U.S. consulate |
| 5. We extend our              | e. 9/11 anniversary      |
| 6. video trailer for a        | f. liberate              |
| 7. The makers of the film are | g. the image of Islam    |
| 8. the attack was pre-        | h. no justification      |
| 9. coincide with the          | i. as yet unknown        |
| 10. It gravely damages        | j. violence              |

# WHILE READING / LISTENING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1209/120913-us\\_ambassador.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1209/120913-us_ambassador.html)

**GAP FILL:** Put the words into the gaps in the text.

U.S. President Barack Obama has promised to (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to justice to those who killed American ambassador Christopher Stevens in Libya on Tuesday night. Mr Stevens was killed in an attack on the U.S. (2) \_\_\_\_\_ in the eastern Libyan city of Benghazi. Three other consulate staff died in the attack and five were (3) \_\_\_\_\_. Mr Obama said: "There is (4) \_\_\_\_\_ no justification for this type of (5) \_\_\_\_\_ violence." U.S. Secretary of State Hilary Clinton asked: "How could this happen in a country we helped (6) \_\_\_\_\_; in a city we helped save from destruction?" Libya's (7) \_\_\_\_\_ president Mohammed el-Megarif apologised for what he called the "cowardly" attack, saying: "We (8) \_\_\_\_\_ our apology to America."

*absolutely*

*interim*

*consulate*

*extend*

*bring*

*senseless*

*wounded*

*liberate*

There is speculation over what caused the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ on the consulate. Initial reports said a YouTube video (10) \_\_\_\_\_ for a low-budget film that gives an (11) \_\_\_\_\_ portrayal of the Prophet Muhammad sparked the protests. Any depiction of the Prophet is (12) \_\_\_\_\_ in Islam and greatly offends Muslims. The makers of the film are as yet (13) \_\_\_\_\_, but reports say Egyptian Coptic Christians and an American-Israeli are (14) \_\_\_\_\_ it. However, media reports now say the attack was pre-planned to (15) \_\_\_\_\_ with the 9/11 anniversary. Libya's UN representative Ibrahim Dabbashi said: "This attack...cannot be considered as a defence of Islam. [It] (16) \_\_\_\_\_ damages the image of Islam."

*unknown*

*coincide*

*trailer*

*prohibited*

*assault*

*gravely*

*behind*

*insulting*

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1209/120913-us\\_ambassador.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1209/120913-us_ambassador.html)

U.S. President Barack Obama has promised (1) \_\_\_\_\_ those who killed American ambassador Christopher Stevens in Libya on Tuesday night. Mr Stevens was killed (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the U.S. consulate in the eastern Libyan city of Benghazi. Three other consulate staff died in the (3) \_\_\_\_\_ wounded. Mr Obama said: "There is absolutely no justification for (4) \_\_\_\_\_ violence." U.S. Secretary of State Hilary Clinton asked: "How could this happen in a country we helped liberate; in a city (5) \_\_\_\_\_ destruction?" Libya's interim president Mohammed el-Megarif apologised for what he called (6) \_\_\_\_\_, saying: "We extend our apology to America."

There is speculation over what (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the consulate. Initial reports said a YouTube video trailer (8) \_\_\_\_\_ film that gives (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of the Prophet Muhammad sparked the protests. Any depiction of the Prophet is prohibited in Islam and greatly offends Muslims. The makers of the film (10) \_\_\_\_\_, but reports say Egyptian Coptic Christians and an American-Israeli are behind it. However, media reports now say the attack was (11) \_\_\_\_\_ with the 9/11 anniversary. Libya's UN representative Ibrahim Dabbashi said: "This attack...cannot be considered as a defence of Islam. [It] (12) \_\_\_\_\_ image of Islam."

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1209/120913-us\\_ambassador.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1209/120913-us_ambassador.html)

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'bring' and 'justice'.

<b>bring</b>	<b>justice</b>

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• promised</li><li>• eastern</li><li>• five</li><li>• type</li><li>• helped</li><li>• extend</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• caused</li><li>• sparked</li><li>• greatly</li><li>• behind</li><li>• coincide</li><li>• image</li></ul>
--	--

# LIBYA ATTACK SURVEY

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1209/120913-us\\_ambassador.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1209/120913-us_ambassador.html)

Write five GOOD questions about the attack in Libya 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.



# LIBYA ATTACK DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'Libya'?
- c) What were you doing when you heard about the attacks?
- d) What can the U.S do to bring about justice?
- e) What is the answer to Hilary Clinton's question?
- f) What do you think will happen in Libya from now?
- g) Do you think Americans are questioning why they got involved in Libya?
- h) Should there have been more security at the U.S. consulate?
- i) Should the U.S. withdraw all its diplomatic staff from Libya?
- j) How "cowardly" was the attack?

*U.S. vows justice for slain ambassador – 13th September, 2012*  
More free lessons at [www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com)

---

# LIBYA ATTACK DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) What three adjectives best describe the news in this article?
- b) Many in the USA say the video falls under free speech. Should the rules of free speech be changed to prevent provocative acts?
- c) Should countries do more to stop obvious insults to Islam?
- d) Should anything happen to the filmmakers once their identities are known?
- e) Do you think the filmmakers are in any danger?
- f) What damage has this film and the attack on the consulate done?
- g) How can leaders on all sides keep their people calm?
- h) Should the consulate have been better prepared on the anniversary of 9/11?
- i) To what degree does the attack "gravely" damage the image of Islam?
- j) What questions would you like to ask the filmmakers?

# LANGUAGE – MULTIPLE CHOICE

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1209/120913-us\\_ambassador.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1209/120913-us_ambassador.html)

U.S. President Barack Obama has promised to (1) \_\_\_\_ to justice to those who killed American ambassador Christopher Stevens in Libya on Tuesday night. Mr Stevens was killed in an attack on the U.S. consulate in the eastern Libyan city (2) \_\_\_\_ Benghazi. Three other (3) \_\_\_\_ staff died in the attack and five were wounded. Mr Obama said: "There is absolutely no justification for this type of (4) \_\_\_\_ violence." U.S. Secretary of State Hilary Clinton asked: "How could this happen in a country we helped (5) \_\_\_\_; in a city we helped save from destruction?" Libya's interim president Mohammed el-Megarif apologised for (6) \_\_\_\_ he called the "cowardly" attack, saying: "We extend our apology to America."

There is speculation (7) \_\_\_\_ what caused the assault on the consulate. (8) \_\_\_\_ reports said a YouTube video trailer for a low-budget film that gives an insulting portrayal of the Prophet Muhammad (9) \_\_\_\_ the protests. Any depiction of the Prophet is prohibited in Islam and greatly offends Muslims. The makers of the film are (10) \_\_\_\_ yet unknown, but reports say Egyptian Coptic Christians and an American-Israeli are behind it. However, media reports now say the attack was pre-planned to coincide (11) \_\_\_\_ the 9/11 anniversary. Libya's UN representative Ibrahim Dabbashi said: "This attack...cannot be considered as a defence of Islam. [It] (12) \_\_\_\_ damages the image of Islam."

**Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.**

- |                    |                 |               |                |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. (a) bring       | (b) drag        | (c) put       | (d) stick      |
| 2. (a) for         | (b) of          | (c) as        | (d) on         |
| 3. (a) console     | (b) consolation | (c) consulate | (d) consulting |
| 4. (a) strangeness | (b) seamless    | (c) softness  | (d) senseless  |
| 5. (a) reprobate   | (b) berate      | (c) translate | (d) liberate   |
| 6. (a) which       | (b) that        | (c) what      | (d) this       |
| 7. (a) over        | (b) around      | (c) under     | (d) through    |
| 8. (a) Sign        | (b) Initial     | (c) Address   | (d) Stamp      |
| 9. (a) flaked      | (b) spanked     | (c) sparked   | (d) freaked    |
| 10. (a) as         | (b) be          | (c) of        | (d) be         |
| 11. (a) on         | (b) up          | (c) by        | (d) with       |
| 12. (a) gravity    | (b) gravely     | (c) graveness | (d) grave      |

## WRITING

From [http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1209/120913-us\\_ambassador.html](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1209/120913-us_ambassador.html)

Write about the attack in Libya for 10 minutes. Correct your partner's paper.

[illegible]

# **HOMEWORK**

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about the attack on the U.S. ambassador to Libya. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. LIBYA ATTACK:** Make a poster about the attack in Libya. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. SECURITY:** Write a magazine article about the attack in Libya. Include imaginary interviews with people who were there.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. LETTER:** Write a letter to U.S. Secretary of State Hilary Clinton. Ask her three questions about the attack in Libya. Give her three ideas on how to improve things. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE:

- a. F      b. F      c. F      d. T      e. F      f. T      g. T      h. T

## SYNONYM MATCH:

- |                       |                              |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1.      promised      | a.      vowed                |
| 2.      wounded       | b.      injured              |
| 3.      senseless     | c.      pointless            |
| 4.      justification | d.      reason               |
| 5.      liberate      | e.      free                 |
| 6.      assault       | f.      attack               |
| 7.      initial       | g.      first                |
| 8.      sparked       | h.      started              |
| 9.      coincide      | i.      occur simultaneously |
| 10.      gravely      | j.      seriously            |

## PHRASE MATCH:

- |                                    |                               |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1.      killed in an attack        | a.      on the U.S. consulate |
| 2.      There is absolutely        | b.      no justification      |
| 3.      senseless                  | c.      violence              |
| 4.      a country we helped        | d.      liberate              |
| 5.      We extend our              | e.      apology to America    |
| 6.      video trailer for a        | f.      low-budget film       |
| 7.      The makers of the film are | g.      as yet unknown        |
| 8.      the attack was pre-        | h.      planned               |
| 9.      coincide with the          | i.      9/11 anniversary      |
| 10.      It gravely damages        | j.      the image of Islam    |

## GAP FILL:

### U.S. vows justice for slain ambassador

U.S. President Barack Obama has promised to (1) **bring** to justice to those who killed American ambassador Christopher Stevens in Libya on Tuesday night. Mr Stevens was killed in an attack on the U.S. (2) **consulate** in the eastern Libyan city of Benghazi. Three other consulate staff died in the attack and five were (3) **wounded**. Mr Obama said: "There is (4) **absolutely** no justification for this type of (5) **senseless** violence." U.S. Secretary of State Hilary Clinton asked: "How could this happen in a country we helped (6) **liberate**; in a city we helped save from destruction?" Libya's (7) **interim** president Mohammed el-Megarif apologised for what he called the "cowardly" attack, saying: "We (8) **extend** our apology to America."

There is speculation over what caused the (9) **assault** on the consulate. Initial reports said a YouTube video (10) **trailer** for a low-budget film that gives an (11) **insulting** portrayal of the Prophet Muhammad sparked the protests. Any depiction of the Prophet is (12) **prohibited** in Islam and greatly offends Muslims. The makers of the film are as yet (13) **unknown**, but reports say Egyptian Coptic Christians and an American-Israeli are (14) **behind** it. However, media reports now say the attack was pre-planned to (15) **coincide** with the 9/11 anniversary. Libya's UN representative Ibrahim Dabbashi said: "This attack...cannot be considered as a defence of Islam. [It] (16) **gravely** damages the image of Islam."

## LANGUAGE WORK

- 1 - a      2 - b      3 - c      4 - d      5 - d      6 - c      7 - a      8 - b      9 - c      10 - a      11 - d      12 - b