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Israel-Gaza conflict intensifies

19th November, 2012

http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1211/121119-israel_gaza_conflict.html

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THE ARTICLE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121119-israel_gaza_conflict.html

Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said his country is prepared to send troops into Gaza if Hamas does not stop firing rockets into Israel. Despite growing pressure for Israel to end its strikes, Mr Netanyahu made it clear to world leaders that Israel would consider all options to defend itself from attacks from Gaza. He also stated his hopes for a ceasefire to avoid an invasion of Gaza, which would likely lead to an escalated death toll. Netanyahu said any cessation of air strikes would depend on Hamas ending its bombardment of Israel's cities. Sources say as many as 100 rockets a day are fired across the border, some reaching Tel Aviv. Air raid sirens sounded in Jerusalem for the first time in decades.

Israel said it still has hundreds of targets to hit and is targeting those associated with Hamas. It already destroyed the Hamas prime minister's office. The death toll from the conflict has now claimed the lives of more than 50 Palestinians and three Israelis. Dozens more have been injured, many of them civilians. An Israeli military spokesperson said Israeli forces had targeted close to 1,000 sites in Gaza, while Hamas has launched more than 400 missiles into Israel. The Israeli government also approved the call-up of 75,000 reservists in preparation for a ground offensive. Diplomatic efforts are in full swing as regional leaders are meeting in Cairo in an attempt to stop the situation from spiralling further out of control.

Sources: <http://www.haaretz.com/news/diplomacy-defense/netanyahu-if-rockets-continue-we-ll-launch-ground-operation-in-gaza.premium-1.478633>
<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2012/11/2012111743731924984.html>
<http://www.voanews.com/content/israel-palestinians/1548281.html>

WARM-UPS

1. ISRAEL-GAZA CONFLICT: Walk around the class and talk to other students about the Israel-Gaza conflict. 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.

Israeli prime minister / troops / firing rockets / ceasefire / death toll / air raid sirens / targets / Hamas / civilians / conflict / ground offensive / spiralling out of control

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

3. ADVICE: What advice would you give to these people regarding the Israel-Gaza conflict? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners and share often.

	Advice	Why?
Israeli PM		
Hamas leader		
Gaza resident		
Tel Aviv resident		
Barack Obama		
Mohamed Morsi		

4. PEACE: Students A **strongly** believe peace between Israel and the Palestinians will happen within a decade; Students B **strongly** believe this is impossible. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. PEACE: What / Who can bring it to the region? Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the likeliest at the top. Change partners often.

- Barack Obama
- tanks and fighter planes
- an Israeli leader
- the United Nations
- the Arab countries
- Hamas
- Israeli and Gaza citizens
- a boycott

6. MISSILE: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word 'missile'. 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/1211/121119-israel_gaza_conflict.html

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

- | | |
|---|-------|
| a. Israel's prime minister is considering soldiers into Gaza. | T / F |
| b. Mr Netanyahu has so far refused to speak with other world leaders. | T / F |
| c. Netanyahu says a ceasefire could happen if Hamas stops firing rockets. | T / F |
| d. Almost 100 rockets have reached Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. | T / F |
| e. Israel said it still has around 100 more targets it wants to hit. | T / F |
| f. Israeli forces have so far hit around 1,000 sites in Gaza. | T / F |
| g. Israel has asked 7,500 reserve troops to prepare to enter Gaza. | T / F |
| h. Leaders from neighboring country are talking in Cairo about solutions. | T / F |

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

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1. prepared | a. related to |
| 2. troops | b. ending |
| 3. options | c. given the OK |
| 4. cessation | d. soldiers |
| 5. sounded | e. ordinary citizens |
| 6. associated with | f. ready |
| 7. claimed | g. escalating |
| 8. civilians | h. taken |
| 9. approved | i. blared out |
| 10. spiralling | j. alternatives |

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

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. his country is prepared to send | a. to defend itself |
| 2. Israel would consider all options | b. offensive |
| 3. hopes for a ceasefire to | c. sounded in Jerusalem |
| 4. lead to an escalated | d. full swing |
| 5. Air raid sirens | e. out of control |
| 6. targeting those associated | f. avoid an invasion |
| 7. The death | g. troops into Gaza |
| 8. in preparation for a ground | h. toll from the conflict |
| 9. Diplomatic efforts are in | i. death toll |
| 10. stop the situation from spiralling further | j. with Hamas |

WHILE READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121119-israel_gaza_conflict.html

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

Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said his country is (1) _____ to send troops into Gaza if Hamas does not stop (2) _____ rockets into Israel. Despite growing (3) _____ for Israel to end its strikes, Mr Netanyahu made it (4) _____ to world leaders that Israel would consider all options to defend itself from attacks from Gaza. He also stated his hopes for a ceasefire to (5) _____ an invasion of Gaza, which would likely lead to an escalated death toll. Netanyahu said any (6) _____ of air strikes would depend on Hamas ending its bombardment of Israel's cities. Sources say as many as 100 rockets a day are fired across the (7) _____, some reaching Tel Aviv. Air raid (8) _____ sounded in Jerusalem for the first time in decades.

Israel said it still has hundreds of targets to hit and is (9) _____ those associated with Hamas. It already destroyed the Hamas prime minister's office. The death (10) _____ from the conflict has now (11) _____ the lives of more than 50 Palestinians and three Israelis. Dozens more have been injured, many of them (12) _____. An Israeli military spokesperson said Israeli forces had targeted close to 1,000 sites in Gaza, while Hamas has (13) _____ more than 400 missiles into Israel. The Israeli government also approved the call-up of 75,000 reservists in preparation for a ground (14) _____. Diplomatic efforts are in full (15) _____ as regional leaders are meeting in Cairo in an attempt to stop the situation from spiralling further out of (16) _____.

cessation

firing

clear

sirens

prepared

border

pressure

avoid

offensive

civilians

toll

control

targeting

launched

claimed

swing

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121119-israel_gaza_conflict.html

- 1) Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said his country is ...
 - a. overseeing preparations to send troops into Gaza.
 - b. not prepared to send troops into Gaza.
 - c. prepared to send troops into Gaza.
 - d. thinking about preparing to send troops into Gaza.
- 2) Mr Netanyahu made it clear to world leaders that Israel would consider all options
 - a. would consider all opinions
 - b. would consider all options
 - c. would not consider all options
 - d. would opt for all considerations
- 3) He also stated his hopes for _____ an invasion
 - a. an avoidance of a ceasefire for
 - b. a cessation of fire to avoid
 - c. a ceasefire to avoid
 - d. a ceasing of fire to avoid
- 4) ... would likely lead to an _____ death toll.
 - a. escalator
 - b. escalating
 - c. escalates
 - d. escalated
- 5) Air raid sirens _____ in Jerusalem for the first time in decades.
 - a. founded
 - b. rounded
 - c. pounded
 - d. sounded
- 6) Israel said it still has _____
 - a. hundreds of targets to hit
 - b. to hit hundreds of targets
 - c. hit targets to hundreds of
 - d. targets to hit hundreds of
- 7) Israeli forces had targeted _____ in Gaza
 - a. sites close to 1,000
 - b. 1,000 closed sites
 - c. close to 1,000 sites
 - d. close to 10,000 sites
- 8) The Israeli government also approved the call-up of _____ reservists
 - a. 75,000
 - b. 7,500
 - c. 17,500
 - d. 17,000
- 9) Diplomatic efforts are ...
 - a. swinging fully in
 - b. fully in swing
 - c. in full swing
 - d. in swings fully
- 10) ... an attempt to stop the situation from _____.
 - a. spiralling further out of control
 - b. further spiraling out of control
 - c. spiralling out of control further
 - d. control out of spiralling

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121119-israel_gaza_conflict.html

Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said his country is prepared (1) _____ Gaza if Hamas does not stop firing rockets into Israel. Despite growing pressure for Israel (2) _____, Mr Netanyahu made it clear to world leaders that Israel would consider all (3) _____ from attacks from Gaza. He also stated his hopes for a ceasefire to avoid an invasion of Gaza, which would likely lead to (4) _____. Netanyahu said any cessation of air strikes would depend on Hamas (5) _____ of Israel's cities. Sources say as many as 100 rockets a day are fired across the border, some reaching Tel Aviv. Air (6) _____ Jerusalem for the first time in decades.

Israel said it still has hundreds of targets to hit (7) _____ associated with Hamas. It already destroyed the Hamas prime minister's office. The death (8) _____ has now claimed the lives of more than 50 Palestinians and three Israelis. Dozens more have been injured, (9) _____. An Israeli military spokesperson said Israeli forces had targeted close to 1,000 sites in Gaza, while Hamas has launched more than 400 missiles into Israel. The Israeli government also (10) _____ of 75,000 reservists in preparation for a ground offensive. Diplomatic efforts (11) _____ regional leaders are meeting in Cairo in an attempt to stop the situation from (12) _____ control.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121119-israel_gaza_conflict.html

1. What is Israel's prime minister prepared to send into Gaza?

2. To whom did Benjamin Netanyahu make his intention clear?

3. What would Mr Netanyahu consider?

4. What would an invasion of Gaza lead to a rise in?

5. Where did air raid sirens sound for the first time in decades?

6. How many more targets does Israel want to hit?

7. How many sites has Israel already targeted?

8. How many reserve troops has Israel called up?

9. What is / are in full swing?

10. Why are regional leaders meeting in Cairo?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121119-israel_gaza_conflict.html

1. What is Israel's leader prepared to send into Gaza?
 - a) Peace negotiators
 - b) Troops
 - c) Aid
 - d) Medical supplies
2. What is growing for Israel?
 - a) Anger among opposition politicians
 - b) Confidence
 - c) Pressure to end its air strikes
 - d) Fear among its citizens
3. What would an invasion lead to?
 - a) A regional conflict
 - b) Peace
 - c) A fall in the number of casualties
 - d) An escalated death toll
4. How many rockets a day are fired from Gaza into Israel?
 - a) Countless rockets every day
 - b) Around 100 a day
 - c) Up to 50 a day
 - d) Hundreds a day
5. When was the last time air raid sirens were heard in Jerusalem?
 - a) Decades ago
 - b) Years ago
 - c) Months ago
 - d) Days ago
6. How many more targets does Israel have to hit?
 - a) Hundreds
 - b) Scores
 - c) Dozens
 - d) Numerous
7. What stands at more than 50?
 - a) The number of negotiators in Cairo
 - b) The number of missiles to reach Jerusalem
 - c) The number of tanks positioned on Gaza's border
 - d) The death toll
8. How many missiles has Hamas launched into Israel?
 - a) More than 40
 - b) More than 140
 - c) More than 400
 - d) More than 1,400
9. How many reservists has Israel called up?
 - a) 7,500
 - b) 17,500
 - c) 70,000
 - d) 75,000
10. What / who are leaders trying to stop spiralling out of control?
 - a) Hamas
 - b) The situation
 - c) A peace conference
 - d) Benjamin Netanyahu

ROLE PLAY

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121119-israel_gaza_conflict.html

Role A – Benjamin Netanyahu

You will take any steps necessary to stop rockets landing on Israeli cities. Think of three reasons why. You will never stop attacking Hamas if they do not stop launching rockets. You will not talk to Hamas' leader – you want actions, not talk. You know what's best for Israel – citizens and soldiers don't.

Role B – Hamas' leader

You will do whatever is necessary to get Israel to return Palestinian land. You will never stop firing rockets into Israel unless Israel returns land. You want talks with Netanyahu at the UN in New York. Think of three reasons why. You don't think civilians and soldiers know what they are talking about.

Role C – A civilian

You are totally fed up with the fighting and the daily rockets and missiles. Think of three reasons why. It is only the leaders that bring war. The people want peace. Arabs and Jews can live side-by-side as neighbours. Tell the two leaders to start an immediate ceasefire and serious peace talks.

Role D – A soldier

You have seen decades of fighting that only results in three things – death, destruction and mutual hate. Armies can kill 100,000 people and the situation will be the same. You have zero faith in your leaders. Think of three reasons why. Call for peace talks and a demilitarized zone in the region.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121119-israel_gaza_conflict.html

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

air	raid

- 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">• prepared• pressure• options• likely• sources• decades	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• associated• claimed• dozens• close• 75,000• control
--	--

ISRAEL-GAZA CONFLICT SURVEY

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121119-israel_gaza_conflict.html

Write five GOOD questions about Israel-Gaza conflict 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.

ISRAEL-GAZA CONFLICT 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 'Gaza'?
- c) What do you know about what started this conflict?
- d) Do you think Israel should send troops into Gaza?
- e) Why is Hamas firing rockets into Israel?
- f) Is Hamas achieving anything by firing rockets into Israel?
- g) What will it take for there to be a ceasefire?
- h) What would happen if Israel launched a ground offensive in Gaza?
- i) What do you think world leaders think about the situation?
- j) Where is Hamas getting all its rockets?

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ISRAEL-GAZA CONFLICT DISCUSSION

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

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) What do you know about the history of Gaza and Israel relations?
- c) What do you think Gaza residents think of the conflict?
- d) What do you think Tel Aviv residents think of the conflict?
- e) Would peace come to Gaza if Hamas disappeared?
- f) What would bring peace between Palestinians and Israelis?
- g) Which side is more responsible for the conflict?
- h) Will diplomatic efforts do any good?
- i) What questions would you like to ask Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu?
- j) What do you think his answers might be?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

MULTIPLE CHOICE - LANGUAGE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121119-israel_gaza_conflict.html

Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said his country is (1) _____ to send troops into Gaza if Hamas does not stop firing rockets into Israel. Despite growing pressure for Israel to end its (2) _____, Mr Netanyahu made it clear to world leaders that Israel would (3) _____ all options to defend itself from attacks from Gaza. He also stated his hopes for a ceasefire to avoid an invasion of Gaza, which would likely lead to an (4) _____ death toll. Netanyahu said any cessation of air strikes would depend (5) _____ Hamas ending its bombardment of Israel's cities. Sources say as many as 100 rockets a day are fired across the border, some reaching Tel Aviv. Air raid sirens (6) _____ in Jerusalem for the first time in decades.

Israel said it still has hundreds of targets to hit and is targeting (7) _____ associated with Hamas. It already destroyed the Hamas prime minister's office. The death toll from the conflict has (8) _____ claimed the lives of more than 50 Palestinians and three Israelis. Dozens more have been injured, many of them (9) _____. An Israeli military spokesperson said Israeli forces had targeted (10) _____ to 1,000 sites in Gaza, while Hamas has launched more than 400 missiles into Israel. The Israeli government also approved the (11) _____-up of 75,000 reservists in preparation for a ground offensive. Diplomatic efforts are in full (12) _____ as regional leaders are meeting in Cairo in an attempt to stop the situation from spiralling further out of control.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | (a) preparation | (b) prepared | (c) preparedness | (d) preparatory |
| 2. | (a) strips | (b) strikes | (c) stricken | (d) strides |
| 3. | (a) ignite | (b) prove | (c) believe | (d) consider |
| 4. | (a) elevator | (b) escalated | (c) lifting | (d) heighten |
| 5. | (a) in | (b) on | (c) to | (d) at |
| 6. | (a) heard | (b) raided | (c) sounded | (d) whispered |
| 7. | (a) them | (b) these | (c) those | (d) they |
| 8. | (a) immediately | (b) imminently | (c) now | (d) current |
| 9. | (a) civilities | (b) civilizations | (c) civil | (d) civilians |
| 10. | (a) close | (b) around | (c) over | (d) nearly |
| 11. | (a) call | (b) shout | (c) phone | (d) mail |
| 12. | (a) sway | (b) oscillation | (c) swing | (d) waver |

SPELLING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121119-israel_gaza_conflict.html

Paragraph 1

1. Despite growing eursprse for Israel to end its strikes
2. hopes for a iesarefec
3. avoid an noiivasn of Gaza
4. nasestoic of air strikes
5. Air raid sirens ddnouse in Jerusalem
6. for the first time in sddeeac

Paragraph 2

7. netiragt those associated with Hamas
8. mailedc the lives of more than 50
9. Hamas has daechnlu more than 400 missiles
10. in preparation for a ground efvesson
11. pdmailotci efforts are in full swing
12. stop the tiisnouta from spiralling further out of control

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121119-israel_gaza_conflict.html

Number these lines in the correct order.

- (**1**) Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said his country is prepared to send
- () of Gaza, which would likely lead to an escalated death toll. Netanyahu said any cessation of air strikes would depend
- () and three Israelis. Dozens more have been injured, many of them civilians. An Israeli military spokesperson said Israeli
- () on Hamas ending its bombardment of Israel's cities. Sources say as many as 100 rockets
- () a day are fired across the border, some reaching Tel Aviv. Air raid sirens sounded in Jerusalem for the first time in decades.
- () Israel said it still has hundreds of targets to hit and is targeting those associated with Hamas. It already destroyed the Hamas
- () prime minister's office. The death toll from the conflict has now claimed the lives of more than 50 Palestinians
- () missiles into Israel. The Israeli government also approved the call-up of 75,000
- () options to defend itself from attacks from Gaza. He also stated his hopes for a ceasefire to avoid an invasion
- () swing as regional leaders are meeting in Cairo in an attempt to stop the situation from spiralling further out of control.
- () forces had targeted close to 1,000 sites in Gaza, while Hamas has launched more than 400
- () reservists in preparation for a ground offensive. Diplomatic efforts are in full
- () end its strikes, Mr Netanyahu made it clear to world leaders that Israel would consider all
- () troops into Gaza if Hamas does not stop firing rockets into Israel. Despite growing pressure for Israel to

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121119-israel_gaza_conflict.html

1. troops is send Gaza country to into His prepared.

2. all options Israel to would defend consider itself.

3. to invasion hopes ceasefire an His a avoid for.

4. are rockets many border fired a as across day 100 As the.

5. time Air raid sirens sounded in Jerusalem for the first.

6. it still has hundreds of targets to hit Israel said.

7. 1,000 sites Israeli forces had targeted close to.

8. into Hamas more missiles launched 400 Israel has than.

9. swing efforts in Diplomatic are full.

10. situation further control the spiralling of Stop from out.

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121119-israel_gaza_conflict.html

Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said his country is *preparations* / *prepared* to send troops into Gaza if Hamas does not stop *firing* / *fire* rockets into Israel. *Despite* / *In spite* growing pressure for Israel to end its strikes, Mr Netanyahu made it *clear* / *clearly* to world leaders that Israel would consider *all* / *every* options to defend itself from attacks from Gaza. He also stated his hopes for a ceasefire *for* / *to* avoid an invasion of Gaza, which would *likely* / *likelihood* lead to an escalated death toll. Netanyahu said any *stop* / *cessation* of air strikes would depend *on* / *of* Hamas ending its bombardment of Israel's cities. Sources say as many as 100 rockets a day are fired across the border, some reaching Tel Aviv. Air raid sirens *sounded* / *heard* in Jerusalem for the first time in decades.

Israel said it still has hundreds of targets *to* / *for* hit and is targeting those associated with Hamas. It already *destroys* / *destroyed* the Hamas prime minister's office. The death toll *of* / *from* the conflict has now claimed the lives of more than 50 Palestinians and three Israelis. *Dozens* / *Dozen* more have been injured, many of them *civil* / *civilians*. An Israeli military spokesperson said Israeli forces *had* / *has* targeted *closely* / *close* to 1,000 sites in Gaza, *while* / *which* Hamas has launched more than 400 missiles into Israel. The Israeli government also approved the *call-up* / *call-down* of 75,000 reservists in preparation for a ground offensive. Diplomatic efforts are in full swing as regional leaders are meeting in Cairo in an attempt to stop the situation from *spiraling* / *spirals* further out of control.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121119-israel_gaza_conflict.html

sr _l_ pr_m_ m_n_st_r B_nj_m_n N_t_ny_h_ h_s_s_ _d
h_s c__ntry _s pr_p_r_d t_s nd tr__ps _nt_ G_z_ _f
H_m_s d__s n_t st_p f_r_ng r_ck_ts _nt_ _sr_ _l_.
D_sp_t_ gr_w_ng pr_ss_r_ f_r _sr_ _l_ t_ _nd _ts
str_k_s, Mr N_t_ny_h_ m_d_ _t cl__r t_ w_rld l__d_rs
th_t _sr_ _l_ w__ld c_ns_d_r _ll _pt__ns t_ d_f_nd _ts_lf
fr_m _tt_cks fr_m G_z_. H_ _ls_ st_t_d h_s h_p_s f_r _
c__s_f_r_ t_ _v__d _n _nv_s__n _f G_z_, wh_ch w__ld
l_k_ly l__d t_ _n _sc_l_t_d d__th t_ll. N_t_ny_h_ s__d
_ny c_ss_t__n _f __r str_k_s w__ld d_p_nd _n H_m_s
_nd_ng _ts b_mb_rdm_nt _f _sr_ _l's c_t__s. S__rc_s
s_y _s m_ny _s 100 r_ck_ts _d_y _r_ f_r_d _cr_ss th_
b_rdr, s_m_ r__ch_ng T_l _v_v. __r r__d s_r_ns
s__nd_d _n J_r_s_l_m f_r th_ f_rst t_m_ _n d_c_d_s.

sr _l_ s__d _t st_ll h_s h_ndr_ds _f t_rg_ts t_ h_t _nd
_s t_rg_t_ng th_s_ _ss_c__t_d w_th H_m_s. _t _lr__dy
d_str_y_d th_ H_m_s pr_m_ m_n_st_r's _ff_c_. Th_
d__th t_ll fr_m th_ c_nfl_ct h_s n_w cl__m_d th_ l_v_s
_f m_r_ th_n 50 P_l_st_n__ns _nd thr__ _sr_ _l_s.
D_z_ns m_r_ h_v_ b__n _nj_r_d, m_ny _f th_m
c_v_l__ns. _n _sr_ _l_ m_l_t_ry sp_k_sp_rs_n s__d
sr _l_ f_rc_s h_d t_rg_t_d cl_s_ t_ 1,000 s_t_s _n
G_z_, wh_l_ H_m_s h_s l__nch_d m_r_ th_n 400
m_ss_l_s _nt_ _sr_ _l_. Th_ _sr_ _l_ g_v_rnm_nt _ls_
_ppr_v_d th_ c_ll-_p _f 75,000 r_s_rv_sts _n
pr_p_r_t__n f_r _ gr__nd _ff_ns_v_. D_pl_m_t_c
_ff_rts _r_ _n f_ll sw_ng _s r_g__n_l l__d_rs _r_
m__t_ng _n C__r_ _n _n _tt_mpt t_ st_p th_ s_t__t__n
fr_m sp_r_ll_ng f_rth_r __t _f c_ntr_l.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121119-israel_gaza_conflict.html

israeli prime minister benjamin netanyahu has said his country is prepared to send troops into gaza if hamas does not stop firing rockets into israel despite growing pressure for israel to end its strikes mr netanyahu made it clear to world leaders that israel would consider all options to defend itself from attacks from gaza he also stated his hopes for a ceasefire to avoid an invasion of gaza which would likely lead to an escalated death toll netanyahu said any cessation of air strikes would depend on hamas ending its bombardment of israel's cities sources say as many as 100 rockets a day are fired across the border some reaching tel aviv air raid sirens sounded in jerusalem for the first time in decades

israel said it still has hundreds of targets to hit and is targeting those associated with hamas it already destroyed the hamas prime minister's office the death toll from the conflict has now claimed the lives of more than 50 palestinians and three israelis dozens more have been injured many of them civilians an israeli military spokesperson said israeli forces had targeted close to 1000 sites in gaza while hamas has launched more than 400 missiles into israel the israeli government also approved the call-up of 75000 reservists in preparation for a ground offensive diplomatic efforts are in full swing as regional leaders are meeting in cairo in an attempt to stop the situation from spiralling further out of control

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121119-israel_gaza_conflict.html

IsraeliprimeministerBenjaminNetanyahuhassaidhiscountryispreparedtosend troopsintoGazaifHamadosnotstopfiringrocketsintoIsrael.Despitegrowing pressureforIsraeltoenditsstrikes,MrNetanyahumadeitcleartoworldleadersthat IsraelwouldconsideralloptionstodefenditselffromattacksfromGaza.Healsostated hishopesforaceasefiretoavoidaninvasionofGaza,whichwouldlikelyleadtoan escalateddeathtoll.Netanyahusaidanycessationofairstrikeswoulddependon HamasendingitsbombardmentofIsrael'scities.Sourcesaysasmanyas100rockets adayarefiredacrosstheborder,somereachingTelAviv.Airraidsirensoundedin Jerusalemforthefirsttimeindecades.Israelsaiditstillhashundredsoftargetstohit andistargetingthoseassociatedwithHamas.ItalreadydestroyedtheHamasprime minister'soffice.Thedeathtollfromtheconflicthasnowclaimedthelivesofmore than50PalestiniansandthreeIsraelis.Dozensmorehavebeeninjured,manyof themcivilians.AnIsraelimilitaryspokespersonsaidIsraeliforceshadtargetedclose to1,000sitesinGaza,whileHamahaslaunchedmorethan400missilesintoIsrael. TheIsraeligovernmentalsoapprovedthecall-upof75,000reservistsinpreparation foragroundoffensive.Diplomatieffortsareinfullswingasregionalleadersaremeet inginCairoinanattempttostopthesituationfromspirallingfurtheroutofcontrol.

FREE WRITING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121119-israel_gaza_conflict.html

Write about the **Israel-Gaza conflict** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

[illegible]

ACADEMIC WRITING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1211/121119-israel_gaza_conflict.html

The conflict between the Israelis and Palestinians is one that will never find a peaceful solution. Discuss.

This image shows a full page of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins or other markings visible.

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 this story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. GAZA: Make a poster about Gaza. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. THE CONFLICT: Write a magazine article about the Israel-Gaza conflict. Include imaginary interviews with people from both sides.

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. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to a fighter in the conflict. Ask him/her three questions about what's happening. Give him/her three pieces of advice he/she should give to his/her leaders. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1. prepared | a. ready |
| 2. troops | b. soldiers |
| 3. options | c. alternatives |
| 4. cessation | d. ending |
| 5. sounded | e. blared out |
| 6. associated with | f. related to |
| 7. claimed | g. taken |
| 8. civilians | h. ordinary citizens |
| 9. approved | i. given the OK |
| 10. spiralling | j. escalating |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. troops
2. world leaders
3. all options to defend itself
4. the death toll
5. Jerusalem
6. hundreds
7. close to 1,000
8. 75,000
9. diplomatic efforts
10. to stop the situation from spiralling further out of control

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. b 2. c 3. d 4. b 5. a 6. a 7. d 8. c 9. d 10. b

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)