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Level 3

1 million Syrian child refugees

24th August, 2013

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1308/130824-refugees.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130824-refugees.html>

There are now over one million child refugees because of the war in Syria. The United Nations called this number "a shameful milestone". The children were forced to leave Syria because it is too dangerous for them to stay in the country. Most of them are in Jordan, Turkey and Lebanon. They have recently started escaping to Europe and North Africa. The United Nations said: "This one millionth child refugee is not just another number. This is a real child ripped from home, maybe even from a family, facing horrors we can only begin to comprehend." Another 2 million children in Syria have no home. Half of Syria's 2 million refugees are children. Over 740,000 of these are under the age of eleven.

Syria's civil war started in March 2011. The UN says it is the worst refugee crisis for 20 years. The last situation as bad as Syria was the 1994 genocide in Rwanda. The UN high commissioner for refugees, Antonio Guterres, told reporters: "The youth of Syria are losing their homes, their family members and their futures. Even after they have crossed a border to safety, they are traumatised, depressed and in need of a reason for hope." The UN warned the world that the children face many dangers. Many are now used illegally for child labour. Others are sold for early marriages or for the sex trade. Very few of the children can go to any kind of school. The UN said just 118,000 of the children are in education.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-23803308>
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/1m-children-displaced-from-syria-says-united-nations-8781424.html>

WARM-UPS

1. REFUGEES: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about refugees. Change partners often and share your findings.

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

child refugees / war / shameful / forced to leave / escaping / horrors / have no home / crisis / genocide / crossed a border / safety / traumatised / depressed / dangers

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

3. ONE MILLION: What's it like for Syria's million child refugees? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What do you think it's like?	How can we help?
Home		
Food		
School		
Friends		
Soldiers		
Future		

4. SHAMEFUL: Students A **strongly** believe it is shameful the world is not helping these children; Students B **strongly** believe the world is doing all it can. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. SYRIA DANGERS: Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the biggest dangers for children at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- chemical weapons
- being sold as a child worker
- not going to school
- disease
- depression
- being shot
- joining an army
- losing touch with family

6. WAR: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "war". 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/1308/130824-refugees.html>

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

- | | |
|--|-------|
| a. The UN said it was shameful there were so many child refugees. | T / F |
| b. Most of the children have escaped to North Africa and Europe. | T / F |
| c. The UN said the one millionth child refugee is just another number. | T / F |
| d. A quarter of Syrian refugees are children. | T / F |
| e. The UN said Syria's refugee crisis is the world's worst in two decades. | T / F |
| f. The last crisis as bad as Syria was in Rwanda. | T / F |
| g. The UN said the children are in danger even after they leave Syria. | T / F |
| h. Just under 12,000 of the child refugees go to school. | T / F |

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

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. because of | a. fleeing |
| 2. shameful | b. schooling |
| 3. escaping | c. emergency |
| 4. comprehend | d. due to |
| 5. under | e. mass murder |
| 6. crisis | f. young people |
| 7. genocide | g. shocking |
| 8. youth | h. sad |
| 9. depressed | i. below |
| 10. education | j. understand |

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

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. because of | a. begin to comprehend |
| 2. The United Nations called this number | b. in education |
| 3. They have recently started | c. "a shameful milestone" |
| 4. facing horrors we can only | d. the war in Syria |
| 5. 740,000 of these are under | e. crisis for 20 years |
| 6. civil | f. a border to safety |
| 7. the worst refugee | g. escaping to Europe |
| 8. after they have crossed | h. labour |
| 9. child | i. the age of eleven |
| 10. just 118,000 of the children are | j. war |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130824-refugees.html>

There are now (1) _____ one million child refugees because of the war in Syria. The United Nations called this number "a (2) _____ milestone". The children were (3) _____ to leave Syria because it is too dangerous for them to stay in the country. Most of them are in Jordan, Turkey and Lebanon. They have recently started (4) _____ to Europe and North Africa. The United Nations said: "This one (5) _____ child refugee is not just another number. This is a real child ripped from home, maybe even from a family, (6) _____ horrors we can only begin to (7) _____." Another 2 million children in Syria have no home. Half of Syria's 2 million refugees are children. Over 740,000 of (8) _____ are under the age of eleven.

facing
these
shameful
millionth
over
escaping
comprehend
forced

Syria's (9) _____ war started in March 2011. The UN says it is the worst refugee (10) _____ for 20 years. The last situation as bad as Syria was the 1994 (11) _____ in Rwanda. The UN high commissioner for refugees, Antonio Guterres, told reporters: "The youth of Syria are (12) _____ their homes, their family members and their futures. Even after they have crossed a (13) _____ to safety, they are traumatised, depressed and in need of a reason for (14) _____." The UN warned the world that the children face many dangers. Many are now used illegally for child (15) _____. Others are sold for early marriages or for the sex trade. Very few of the children can go to any kind of school. The UN said just 118,000 of the children are in (16) _____.

losing
labour
crisis
education
hope
civil
genocide
border

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130824-refugees.html>

- 1) There are now over one million child refugees _____
 - a. because of the wars
 - b. because of the warrior
 - c. because of the war
 - d. because of the wartime
- 2) The United Nations called this number "a _____"
 - a. shameful stepping stone
 - b. shameful milestone
 - c. shameful mine stone
 - d. shameful mail stone
- 3) it is too dangerous for them to stay _____
 - a. on the country
 - b. at the country
 - c. to the country
 - d. in the country
- 4) facing horrors we can only begin _____
 - a. to comprehends
 - b. to comprehension
 - c. to comprehending
 - d. to comprehend
- 5) Over 740,000 of these are _____ eleven
 - a. under the age of
 - b. under the old of
 - c. under the years of
 - d. under the youth of
- 6) The UN says it is the worst _____ for 20 years
 - a. refugee cry seas
 - b. refugee crisis
 - c. refugee crises
 - d. refugee cry sees
- 7) Even after they have crossed a _____
 - a. border to safely
 - b. border to safe tea
 - c. border to safest
 - d. border to safety
- 8) Many are now used illegally for _____
 - a. child's labour
 - b. children labour
 - c. child labour
 - d. childish labour
- 9) Others are sold for early marriages or for _____
 - a. the sex trading
 - b. the sex trade
 - c. the sex trader
 - d. the sex traded
- 10) The UN said just 118,000 of the children _____
 - a. are on education
 - b. are in education
 - c. are at education
 - d. are to education

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130824-refugees.html>

There (1) _____ million child refugees because of the war in Syria. The United Nations called this number "a shameful milestone". The children were (2) _____ Syria because it is too dangerous for (3) _____ country. Most of them are in Jordan, Turkey and Lebanon. They have recently started escaping to Europe and North Africa. The United Nations said: " (4) _____ child refugee is not just another number. This is a real child ripped from home, maybe even from a family, (5) _____ can only begin to comprehend." Another 2 million children in Syria have no home. Half of Syria's 2 million refugees are children. Over 740,000 of these (6) _____ of eleven.

Syria's civil war started in March 2011. The UN (7) _____ refugee crisis for 20 years. The last situation as bad as Syria was the 1994 genocide in Rwanda. The UN high commissioner for refugees, Antonio Guterres, told reporters: " (8) _____ are losing their homes, their family members and their futures. (9) _____ crossed a border to safety, they are traumatised, depressed (10) _____ reason for hope." The UN warned the world that the children face many dangers. Many are now (11) _____ child labour. Others are sold for early marriages or for the sex trade. (12) _____ children can go to any kind of school. The UN said just 118,000 of the children are in education.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130824-refugees.html>

1. Who said one million child refugees was a "child milestone"?

2. Why are the children leaving Syria?

3. To which new places are the children escaping?

4. How many homeless children are there in Syria?

5. How many of Syria's homeless children are under 11 years old?

6. What refugee crisis was as bad as the one in Syria?

7. What three things did a UN spokesman say children are losing?

8. What did the UN say the children needed?

9. What are many of the children used for illegally?

10. How many of the child refugees go to school?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130824-refugees.html>

1. Who said one million child refugees was a "child milestone"?
 - a) Barack Obama
 - b) a children's charity
 - c) the United Nations
 - d) Syria's president
2. Why are the children leaving Syria?
 - a) it's too dangerous to stay
 - b) the army told them to
 - c) to get a better education
 - d) their towns have disappeared
3. To which new places are the children escaping?
 - a) Cyprus and Greece
 - b) Germany and Poland
 - c) Russia and Iran
 - d) Europe and North Africa
4. How many homeless children are there in Syria?
 - a) 200,000
 - b) 2,000,000
 - c) 22,000,000
 - d) 220,000
5. How many of Syria's homeless children are under 11 years old?
 - a) exactly 740,000
 - b) a little fewer than 740,000
 - c) more than 740,000
 - d) around 740,000
6. What refugee crisis was as bad as the one in Syria?
 - a) the UN crisis 20 years ago
 - b) the Rwanda genocide
 - c) Syria's last war
 - d) the one in March 2011
7. What three things did a UN spokesman say children are losing?
 - a) hope, childhood and innocence
 - b) schools, parks and playgrounds
 - c) their towns, cities and country
 - d) homes, family members and futures
8. What did the UN say the children needed?
 - a) clothes
 - b) a reason for hope
 - c) a border
 - d) schools
9. What are many of the children used for illegally?
 - a) child labour
 - b) child soldiers
 - c) targets
 - d) propaganda
10. How many of the child refugees go to school?
 - a) 80,000
 - b) 18,000
 - c) 180,000
 - d) 118,000

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130824-refugees.html>

Role A – The USA

You think the USA is the best place for the refugees. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their places. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): Lebanon, Saudi Arabia or inside Syria.

Role B – Lebanon

You think Lebanon is the best place for the refugees. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their places. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): the USA, Saudi Arabia or inside Syria.

Role C – Saudi Arabia

You think Saudi Arabia is the best place for the refugees. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their places. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): Lebanon, the USA or inside Syria.

Role D – Inside Syria

You think inside Syria is the best place for the refugees. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their places. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): Lebanon, Saudi Arabia or the USA.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130824-refugees.html>

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

civil	war
--------------	------------

- 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">• now• called• stay• another• facing• under	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• started• bad• youth• border• dangers• education
--	--

REFUGEES SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130824-refugees.html>

Write five GOOD questions about refugees 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.

REFUGEES 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 'refugee'?
- c) What do you think about what you read?
- d) How could the world let the number of child refugees rise to a million?
- e) How shameful is this milestone?
- f) How can the world help the child refugees?
- g) How many more child refugees do you think there will be?
- h) What do you think it is like for the children going to other countries?
- i) Is the one millionth child really just another number?
- j) What can you do to help the child refugees?

1 million Syrian child refugees – 24th August, 2013
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REFUGEES 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 Syria's civil war?
- c) What do you know about the 1994 Rwandan genocide?
- d) What did the commissioner mean when he said children are losing their futures?
- e) How can doctors help children who are depressed and traumatised?
- f) How can the world keep the children safe?
- g) What do you think of a world in which such terrible things happen?
- h) What will Syria be like this time next year?
- i) What advice could you give to the children?
- j) What questions would you like to ask the head of the UN?

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. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130824-refugees.html>

There are now over one million child refugees because of the war in Syria. The United Nations called this (1) _____ "a shameful milestone". The children were (2) _____ to leave Syria because it is too dangerous for them to stay in the country. Most of them are in Jordan, Turkey and Lebanon. They have (3) _____ started escaping to Europe and North Africa. The United Nations said: "This one (4) _____ child refugee is not just another number. This is a real child ripped from home, maybe even from a family, facing horrors we can only begin to (5) _____." Another 2 million children in Syria have no home. Half of Syria's 2 million refugees are children. Over 740,000 of these are under the (6) _____ of eleven.

Syria's (7) _____ war started in March 2011. The UN says it is the worst refugee crisis for 20 years. The last situation as bad as Syria was the 1994 (8) _____ in Rwanda. The UN high commissioner for refugees, Antonio Guterres, told reporters: "The (9) _____ of Syria are losing their homes, their family members and their futures. Even after they have crossed a (10) _____ to safety, they are traumatised, depressed and in need of a reason for hope." The UN warned the world that the children (11) _____ many dangers. Many are now used illegally for child labour. Others are sold for early marriages or for the sex trade. Very few of the children can go to any kind of school. The UN said just 118,000 of the children are (12) _____ education.

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

- | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. (a) number | (b) numeracy | (c) numbered | (d) numeral |
| 2. (a) faced | (b) focused | (c) forced | (d) fleeced |
| 3. (a) recent | (b) currently | (c) current | (d) recently |
| 4. (a) million | (b) millionth | (c) millions | (d) millionfold |
| 5. (a) comprehends | (b) comprehension | (c) comprehensive | (d) comprehend |
| 6. (a) old | (b) years | (c) age | (d) year |
| 7. (a) anti- | (b) civil | (c) world | (d) wage |
| 8. (a) genocide | (b) pesticide | (c) suicide | (d) herbicide |
| 9. (a) youth | (b) infants | (c) toddlers | (d) adolescents |
| 10. (a) margin | (b) frontier | (c) border | (d) rim |
| 11. (a) head | (b) eye | (c) skull | (d) face |
| 12. (a) of | (b) in | (c) at | (d) by |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130824-refugees.html>

Paragraph 1

1. a muleafhs milestone
2. The children were ordcef to leave
3. They have nyrtlcee started
4. egnicasp to Europe
5. facing rrrohso
6. begin to mcepndheor

Paragraph 2

7. Syria's iilvc war
8. the worst refugee ssicir
9. the 1994 necdeigo in Rwanda
10. epdeerssd and in need of a reason for hope
11. used alglielyl for child labour
12. sold for early argeairsm

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130824-refugees.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () refugees, Antonio Guterres, told reporters: "The youth of Syria are losing their homes, their family members and their
- () for hope." The UN warned the world that the children face many dangers. Many are now used
- () number "a shameful milestone". The children were forced to leave Syria because it is too
- () Syria's civil war started in March 2011. The UN says it is the worst refugee crisis for
- () futures. Even after they have crossed a border to safety, they are traumatised, depressed and in need of a reason
- () recently started escaping to Europe and North Africa. The United Nations said: "This one
- () no home. Half of Syria's 2 million refugees are children. Over 740,000 of these are under the age of eleven.
- () dangerous for them to stay in the country. Most of them are in Jordan, Turkey and Lebanon. They have
- () millionth child refugee is not just another number. This is a real child ripped from home, maybe even from
- () go to any kind of school. The UN said just 118,000 of the children are in education.
- (**1**) There are now over one million child refugees because of the war in Syria. The United Nations called this
- () illegally for child labour. Others are sold for early marriages or for the sex trade. Very few of the children can
- () 20 years. The last situation as bad as Syria was the 1994 genocide in Rwanda. The UN high commissioner for
- () a family, facing horrors we can only begin to comprehend." Another 2 million children in Syria have

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130824-refugees.html>

1. The this a . called milestone" UN number "shameful

2. They Europe to escaping started recently have.

3. comprehend can only Facing begin horrors to we.

4. refugees children . 2 of million are Half Syria's

5. 11 Over of under of 740,000 the these , age are.

6. worst it The 20 refugee is UN years crisis the says for.

7. Syria are The losing youth their of homes.

8. after crossed to Even have border they a safety.

9. labour used illegally Many for are child now.

10. any to go can children the of Few school of kind.

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130824-refugees.html>

There are now over one million child refugees because of the war in Syria. The United Nations called this *numeral / number* "a shameful milestone". The children were *forced / faced* to leave Syria because it is *too / to* dangerous for them to *reside / stay* in the country. Most of them are in Jordan, Turkey and Lebanon. They have *recent / recently* started escaping to Europe and North Africa. The United Nations said: "This one *million / millionth* child refugee is not just *another / other* number. This is a real child ripped from home, maybe *ever / even* from a family, facing horrors we can only begin to *comprehension / comprehend*." Another 2 million children in Syria have no home. Half of Syria's 2 million refugees are children. Over 740,000 of these are under the *age / old* of eleven.

Syria's civil war started in March 2011. The UN says it is the worst refugee *crisis / crises* for 20 years. The last situation as *worse / bad* as Syria was the 1994 genocide in Rwanda. The UN high commissioner for *refuges / refugees*, Antonio Guterres, told reporters: "The *youth / toddlers* of Syria are losing their homes, their family *members / member* and their futures. Even after they have crossed a border to safety, they are traumatised, *depression / depressed* and in need of a reason for *hope / hopeful*." The UN warned the world that the children *face / head* many dangers. Many are now used *illegal / illegally* for child labour. Others are sold for early marriages or for the sex trade. Very few of the children can go to any kind of school. The UN said just 118,000 of the children are *in / on* education.

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/1308/130824-refugees.html>

Th_r_ _r_ n_w _v_r _n_ m_ll__n ch_ld r_fg__s
b_c__s_ _f th_ w_r _n Syr___. Th_ _n_t_d N_t__ns
c_ll_d th_s n_mb_r " _ sh_m_f_l m_l_st_n_". Th_
ch_ldr_n w_r_f_rc_d t_l__v_ Syr__ b_c__s_ _t_s t__
d_ng_r__s f_r th_m t_ st_y _n th_ c__ntry. M_st _f
th_m _r_ _n J_rdn, T_rk_y _nd L_b_n_n. Th_y h_v_
r_c_ntly st_rt_d _sc_p_ng t_ __r_p_ _nd N_rth_fr_c_.
Th_ _n_t_d N_t__ns s__d: "Th_s _n_ m_ll__nth ch_ld
r_fg__ _s n_t j_st _n th_r n_mb_r. Th_s _s _r__l
ch_ld r_pp_d fr_m h_m_, m_yb_ _v_n fr_m _f_m_ly,
f_c_ng h_rr_rs w_ c_n _nly b_g_n t_ c_mpr_h_nd."
_n_th_r 2 m_ll__n ch_ldr_n _n Syr__ h_v_ n_ h_m_.
H_lf _f Syr__'s 2 m_ll__n r_fg__s _r ch_ldr_n. _v_r
740,000 _f th_s _r _nd_r th_ _g_ _f_l_v_n.

Syr__'s c_v_l w_r st_rt_d _n M_rch 2011. Th_ _N s_ys
_t _s th_ w_rst r_fg__ cr_s_s f_r 20 y__rs. Th_ l_st
s_t__t__n _s b_d _s Syr__ w_s th_ 1994 g_n_c_d _n
Rw_nd_. Th_ _N h_g_h c_mm_ss__n_r f_r r_fg__s,
_nt_n__ G_t_rr_s, t_ld r_p_rt_rs: "Th_y__th _f Syr__
_r_l_s_ng th__r h_m_s, th__r f_m_ly m_mb_rs _nd
th__r f_t_r_s. _v_n _ft_r th_y h_v_ cr_ss_d _b_rdr
t_ s_f_ty, th_y _r tr__m_t_s_d, d_pr_ss_d _nd _n
n__d _f _r__s_n f_r h_p_." Th_ _N w_rn_d th_ w_rld
th_t th_ ch_ldr_n f_c_ m_ny d_ng_rs. M_ny _r_n_w
_s_d _ll_g_lly f_r ch_ld l_b__r. _th_rs _r_sld f_r
__rly m_rr__g_s _r f_r th_ s_x tr_d_. V_r_y f_w _f th_
ch_ldr_n c_n g_ t_ _ny k_nd _f sch__l. Th_ _N s__d
j_st 118,000 _f th_ ch_ldr_n _r _n_d_c_t__n.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130824-refugees.html>

there are now over one million child refugees because of the war in syria the united nations called this number "a shameful milestone" the children were forced to leave syria because it is too dangerous for them to stay in the country most of them are in jordan turkey and lebanon they have recently started escaping to europe and north africa the united nations said "this one millionth child refugee is not just another number this is a real child ripped from home maybe even from a family facing horrors we can only begin to comprehend" another 2 million children in syria have no home half of syria's 2 million refugees are children over 740000 of these are under the age of eleven

syria's civil war started in march 2011 the un says it is the worst refugee crisis for 20 years the last situation as bad as syria was the 1994 genocide in rwanda the un high commissioner for refugees antonio guterres told reporters "the youth of syria are losing their homes their family members and their futures even after they have crossed a border to safety they are traumatised depressed and in need of a reason for hope" the un warned the world that the children face many dangers many are now used illegally for child labour others are sold for early marriages or for the sex trade very few of the children can go to any kind of school the un said just 118000 of the children are in education

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130824-refugees.html>

There are now over one million child refugees because of the war in Syria. The United Nations called this number "a shameful milestone". The children were forced to leave Syria because it is too dangerous for them to stay in the country. Most of them are in Jordan, Turkey and Lebanon. They have recently started escaping to Europe and North Africa. The United Nations said: "This one millionth child refugee is not just another number. This is a real child ripped from home, maybe even from a family, facing horrors we can only begin to comprehend." Another 2 million children in Syria have no home. Half of Syria's 2 million refugees are children. Over 740,000 of these are under the age of eleven. Syria's civil war started in March 2011. The UN says it is the worst refugee crisis for 20 years. The last situation as bad as Syria was the 1994 genocide in Rwanda. The UN high commissioner for refugees, Antonio Guterres, told reporters: "The youth of Syria are losing their homes, their family members and their futures. Even after they have crossed a border to safety, they are traumatised, depressed and in need of a reason for hope." The UN warned the world that the children face many dangers. Many are now used illegally for child labour. Others are sold for early marriages or for sex trade. Very few of the children can go to any kind of school. The UN said just 118,000 of the children are in education.

FREE WRITING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130824-refugees.html>

Write about **refugees** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

[illegible]

ACADEMIC WRITING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130824-refugees.html>

Foreign countries need to act now to stop the war in Syria. Discuss.

[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 Syria's child refugees. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

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

4. ONE MILLION: Write a magazine article about Syria's one million child refugees. Include imaginary interviews with some of them.

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 an expert on Syria. Ask him/her three questions about the refugees. Give him/her three ideas on how to help them. 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 F d F e T f T g T h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. because of | a. due to |
| 2. shameful | b. shocking |
| 3. escaping | c. running away |
| 4. comprehend | d. understand |
| 5. under | e. below |
| 6. crisis | f. emergency |
| 7. genocide | g. mass murder |
| 8. youth | h. young people |
| 9. depressed | i. sad |
| 10. education | j. schooling |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. The United Nations
2. It is too dangerous to stay
3. Europe and North Africa
4. Two million
5. 740,000
6. The Rwanda genocide
7. Their homes, family members and futures
8. A reason for hope
9. Child labour
10. 118,000

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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