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## **Level 2**

### **Somalia postal service back after 20 years**

**16th October, 2014**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1410/141016-postal-service-2.html>

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**Please try Levels 0 and 1 (easier) and the 26–page Level 3 (harder).**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1410/141016-postal-service-2.html>

Somalia has restarted its postal system for the first time in over 20 years. The old postal service collapsed in 1991 because of wars. Mail deliveries stopped for two decades. Somalia is now a little more peaceful. There will be nationwide postcodes with the new service. This is a first for Somalia. Mohamed Ibrahim, the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, told the BBC that he was excited about the new postal service. He said that Somalis would be able to receive letters from abroad. He said the next step would be for people to send letters to other countries.

The return of the postal service is an example of Somalia getting back to normal. Another recent example is the new cash machine (ATM) at a luxury hotel in the capital city Mogadishu. It is Somalia's first ever ATM. The hotel's manager said a few people have used the new machine. He said most customers don't know there is an ATM in Somalia. He explained that most local people don't have a credit card to use the ATM. Another example of Somalia returning to normal is the reopening of the Chinese embassy for the first time in 23 years. Somalia's leader said China is an important partner.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-29606447>  
<http://www.chinatopix.com/articles/15990/20141013/china-officially-reopens-embassy-mogadishu-23-years.htm#ixzz3G5VNyLvb>  
<http://edition.cnn.com/2014/10/09/business/mogadishu-first-ever-atm/>

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1410/141016-postal-service-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. Somalia has restarted its           | a. for two decades        |
| 2. for the first time in               | b. Telecommunications     |
| 3. The old postal service collapsed in | c. step                   |
| 4. Mail deliveries stopped             | d. postal system          |
| 5. nationwide                          | e. the new postal service |
| 6. the Minister of Posts and           | f. over 20 years          |
| 7. he was excited about                | g. postcodes              |
| 8. the next                            | h. 1991                   |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                 |                             |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. an example of Somalia        | a. city                     |
| 2. Another recent               | b. don't have a credit card |
| 3. luxury                       | c. example                  |
| 4. capital                      | d. embassy                  |
| 5. few people have used         | e. hotel                    |
| 6. most local people            | f. the new machine          |
| 7. the reopening of the Chinese | g. in 23 years              |
| 8. for the first time           | h. getting back to normal   |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1410/141016-postal-service-2.html>

Somalia has restarted its postal system (1) \_\_\_\_\_ in over 20 years. The old postal service collapsed in 1991 because of wars. Mail deliveries stopped (2) \_\_\_\_\_. Somalia is now a (3) \_\_\_\_\_. There will be nationwide postcodes with (4) \_\_\_\_\_. This is a first for Somalia. Mohamed Ibrahim, the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, told the BBC (5) \_\_\_\_\_ about the new postal service. He said that Somalis would be able to receive letters from abroad. He said the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ for people to send letters to other countries.

The return of the postal service (7) \_\_\_\_\_ Somalia getting back to normal. Another recent example is the new cash machine (ATM) (8) \_\_\_\_\_ in the capital city Mogadishu. It is Somalia's first ever ATM. The hotel's manager said (9) \_\_\_\_\_ used the new machine. He said most customers (10) \_\_\_\_\_ is an ATM in Somalia. He explained that most local people don't have a credit card to use the ATM. Another example of Somalia (11) \_\_\_\_\_ is the reopening of the Chinese embassy for (12) \_\_\_\_\_ 23 years. Somalia's leader said China is an important partner.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1410/141016-postal-service-2.html>

Somalia has restarted its postal system for the first time in over 20 years. The old postal service collapsed in 1991 because of wars. Mail deliveries stopped for two decades. Somalia is now a little more peaceful. There will be nationwide postcodes with the new service. This is a first for Somalia. Mohamed Ibrahim, the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, told the BBC that he was excited about the new postal service. He said that Somalia would be able to receive letters from abroad. He said the next step would be for people to send letters to other countries. The return of the postal service is an example of Somalia getting back to normal. Another recent example is the new cash machine (ATM) at a luxury hotel in the capital city Mogadishu. It is Somalia's first ever ATM. The hotel's manager said a few people have used the new machine. He said most customers don't know there is an ATM in Somalia. He explained that most local people don't have a credit card to use the ATM. Another example of Somalia returning to normal is the reopening of the Chinese embassy for the first time in 23 years. Somalia's leaders said China is an important partner.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

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b)

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c)

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d)

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e)

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f)

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g)

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h)

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*Somalia postal service back after 20 years – 16th October, 2014*  
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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

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b)

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c)

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d)

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e)

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f)

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g)

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h)

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