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## **Level 2**

# **Saudi women to vote for first time**

**24th August, 2015**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1508/150824-voting-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/1508/150824-voting-2.html>

Saudi Arabian women are registering to vote for the first time in their history. They will vote in the city council elections later this year. They have a 21-day period to register. A Saudi newspaper said the first woman to register was Safinaz Abu Al-Shamat. She said she wanted to be, "the first woman to arrive at the centre" to register. She said it was a national duty to take part. Another woman to register was Jamal Al-Saadi. She said: "The participation of Saudi women in the municipal elections as voters and candidates was a dream for us. We are just at the beginning of the road."

Letting women vote was one of the plans of King Abdullah, who died earlier this year. The Saudi government said giving women the vote was, "a significant milestone in progress". Many women also want to run for office and take up government positions. At least 70 want to run for office and more than 80 want to be campaign managers. One of the women who wants to be a candidate in the elections is 36-year-old Haifa al-Hababi. She said she would campaign for change. She said that: "Change is life. The government has given us this tool and I intend to use it."

Sources: <http://news.sky.com/story/1538353/saudi-women-register-to-vote-for-first-time>  
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/saudi-women-are-registering-to-vote-in-elections-across-the-country-for-the-first-time-ever-10461020.html>  
[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/saudi-women-register-to-vote\\_55d75fb2e4b04ae497031659](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/saudi-women-register-to-vote_55d75fb2e4b04ae497031659)

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1508/150824-voting-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                 |                        |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Saudi Arabian women are      | a. candidates          |
| 2 for the first time            | b. council elections   |
| 3. They will vote in the city   | c. of the road         |
| 4. They have a 21-day           | d. to take part        |
| 5. arrive at                    | e. registering to vote |
| 6. it was a national duty       | f. period to register  |
| 7. voters and                   | g. in their history    |
| 8. We are just at the beginning | h. the centre          |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                |                 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Letting women               | a. office       |
| 2 a significant                | b. for change   |
| 3. run for                     | c. to use it    |
| 4. campaign                    | d. milestone    |
| 5. a candidate in the          | e. vote         |
| 6. She said she would campaign | f. managers     |
| 7. The government has given    | g. elections    |
| 8. I intend                    | h. us this tool |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1508/150824-voting-2.html>

Saudi Arabian women are (1) \_\_\_\_\_ for the first time in their history. They will vote in the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ later this year. They have a 21-day (3) \_\_\_\_\_. A Saudi newspaper said the first woman to register was Safinaz Abu Al-Shamat. She (4) \_\_\_\_\_ be, "the first woman to arrive at the centre" to register. She said it (5) \_\_\_\_\_ to take part. Another woman to register was Jamal Al-Saadi. She said: "The participation of Saudi women in the municipal elections as voters and candidates was a dream for us. We are (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of the road."

Letting women vote (7) \_\_\_\_\_ plans of King Abdullah, who died earlier this year. The Saudi government said giving women the vote was, "a (8) \_\_\_\_\_ in progress". Many women also (9) \_\_\_\_\_ office and take up government positions. At least 70 want to run for office and more than 80 want to be (10) \_\_\_\_\_. One of the women who wants (11) \_\_\_\_\_ in the elections is 36-year-old Haifa al-Hababi. She said she would campaign for change. She said that: "Change is life. The government has given us this tool (12) \_\_\_\_\_ it."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1508/150824-voting-2.html>

Saudi Arabian women are registering to vote for the first time in their history. They will vote in the city council elections later this year. They have a 21-day period to register. A Saudi newspaper said the first woman to register was Safinaz Abu Al-Shamat. She said she wanted to be, "the first woman to arrive at the centre" to register. She said it was a national duty to take part. Another woman to register was Jamal Al-Saadi. She said: "The participation of Saudi women in the municipal elections as voters and candidates was a dream for us. We are just at the beginning of the road." "Letting women vote was one of the plans of King Abdullah, who died earlier this year. The Saudi government said giving women the vote was, "a significant milestone in progress". Many women also want to run for office and take up government positions. At least 70 want to run for office and more than 80 want to be campaign managers. One of the women who want to be a candidate in the elections is 36-year-old Haifaal-Hababi. She said she would campaign for change. She said that: "Change is life. The government has given us this tool and I intend to use it."

## 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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*Saudi women to vote for first time - 24th August, 2015*  
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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)

---

f)

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g)

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h)

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