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## **Level 2**

### **Israel backs bill to make mosques quieter**

**15th November, 2016**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1611/161115-call-to-prayer-2.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1611/161115-call-to-prayer-2.html>

Israel has OK'd a bill to make mosques quieter. If the bill becomes law, Israel's mosques will not be able to use loudspeakers during the call to prayer. The call to prayer happens five times a day. The first time is at dawn and the last is after sunset. The bill has to pass several more stages to become law. It says loudspeakers at mosques are too loud and damage the quality of life for people who live near mosques. The Israeli politician who made the bill said, "hundreds of thousands of Israelis suffer regularly and daily from noise caused by the [prayer] calls from mosques".

Israel's Prime Minister supports the bill. He said: "Israel is committed to freedom of religion, but it must also protect citizens from the noise of the announcements." An Arab politician said the bill was, "another law in a series of racist...laws that only aim to create an atmosphere of hatred...against the Arab public". Another critic said the bill would, "create noise that will hurt all of society and the efforts to establish [harmony] between Jews and Arabs". Arabs make up roughly 20 per cent of Israel's population, while Jews make up around 75 per cent.

Sources: <http://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/.premium-1.752956>  
<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/11/benjamin-netanyahu-backs-bill-stop-mosque-noise-161113183806099.html>  
<https://www.alaraby.co.uk/english/news/2016/11/13/israeli-pm-backs-quietening-muslim-call-to-prayer>  
<http://www.jpost.com/Israel-News/Ministers-approve-bill-muffling-muezzins-call-to-prayer-472519>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1611/161115-call-to-prayer-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                      |                          |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Israel has OK'd a bill to make    | a. thousands of Israelis |
| 2. The call to prayer happens        | b. are too loud          |
| 3. The first time is at dawn and the | c. from mosques          |
| 4. It says loudspeakers at mosques   | d. five times a day      |
| 5. damage the quality of             | e. mosques quieter       |
| 6. The Israeli politician who        | f. last is after sunset  |
| 7. hundreds of                       | g. made the bill         |
| 8. prayer calls                      | h. life                  |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Israel's Prime Minister   | a. Jews and Arabs          |
| 2. freedom of                | b. of racist laws          |
| 3. protect citizens          | c. 20 per cent             |
| 4. another law in a series   | d. religion                |
| 5. hatred                    | e. from the noise          |
| 6. create noise that will    | f. supports the bill       |
| 7. establish harmony between | g. against the Arab public |
| 8. Arabs make up roughly     | h. hurt all of society     |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1611/161115-call-to-prayer-2.html>

Israel has OK'd (1) \_\_\_\_\_ mosques quieter. If the bill becomes law, Israel's mosques will (2) \_\_\_\_\_ use loudspeakers during the call to prayer. The call to prayer happens (3) \_\_\_\_\_ day. The first time is at dawn and the last is after sunset. The bill has (4) \_\_\_\_\_ more stages to become law. It says loudspeakers at mosques are too loud and damage the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ for people who live near mosques. The Israeli politician who made the bill said, "hundreds of thousands of Israelis (6) \_\_\_\_\_ and daily from noise caused by the [prayer] calls from mosques".

Israel's Prime Minister (7) \_\_\_\_\_. He said: "Israel is committed to freedom of religion, but it (8) \_\_\_\_\_ citizens from the noise of the announcements." An Arab politician said the bill was, "another (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of racist...laws that only aim to create an atmosphere of hatred...against the Arab public". Another (10) \_\_\_\_\_ bill would, "create noise that will hurt all of society and (11) \_\_\_\_\_ establish [harmony] between Jews and Arabs". Arabs make up roughly 20 per cent of Israel's population, while Jews (12) \_\_\_\_\_ 75 per cent.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1611/161115-call-to-prayer-2.html>

Israel has OK'd a bill to make mosques quieter. If the bill becomes law, Israel's mosques will not be able to use loudspeakers during the call to prayer. The call to prayer happens five times a day. The first time is at dawn and the last is after sunset. The bill has to pass several more stages to become law. It says loudspeakers at mosques are too loud and damage the quality of life for people who live near mosques. The Israeli politician whom the bill said, "hundreds of thousands of Israelis suffer regularly and daily from noise caused by the [prayer] calls from mosques". Israel's Prime Minister supports the bill. He said: "Israel is committed to freedom of religion, but it must also protect citizens from the noise of the announcements." An Arab politician said the bill was, "another law in a series of racist... laws that only aim to create an atmosphere of hatred... against the Arab public". Another critic said the bill would, "create noise that will hurt all of society and the effort to establish [harmony] between Jews and Arabs". Arabs make up roughly 20 percent of Israel's population, while Jews make up around 75 percent.

# PRAYER SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1611/161115-call-to-prayer-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about prayer 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.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

# WRITING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1611/161115-call-to-prayer-2.html>

Write about **prayer** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.

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