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Level 1

Venezuela seizes 4 million toys for its children

13th December, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1612/161213-toys-1.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1612/161213-toys-1.html>

Venezuela's government took 4 million children's toys from a toy company. It will give them to children for free or at low prices. The government says the company charged high prices for the toys. Only rich people could buy them. Venezuela has one of the highest rates of inflation in the world. Many people can't afford things like toys. The monthly minimum salary does not buy much. Venezuela has also cut the price of clothes.

The government tweeted: "Our children are sacred....Boys and girls of this country will have a happy Christmas." The government said the toy company kept the toys out of the shops to increase prices. The government also said the company tried to sell the toys at much higher prices. The company said it did nothing wrong and was not trying to sell the toys at high prices. It said many of the toys were not in fashion.

Sources: <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-12-09/venezuela-seizes-millions-of-toys-accuses-importer-of-hoarding>
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-38274267>
<http://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2016/12/11/505189281/venezuela-seizes-nearly-4-million-toys-saying-theyre-overpriced>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1612/161213-toys-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. It will give them to children | a. in the world |
| 2. the company charged high | b. much |
| 3. Only rich people could | c. like toys |
| 4. the highest rates of inflation | d. for free |
| 5. Many people can't afford things | e. of clothes |
| 6. The monthly minimum | f. buy them |
| 7. does not buy | g. salary |
| 8. cut the price | h. prices for the toys |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Boys and girls | a. higher prices |
| 2. have a | b. at high prices |
| 3. the toy company kept the toys | c. of this country |
| 4. increase | d. fashion |
| 5. sell the toys at much | e. out of the shops |
| 6. The company said it did | f. happy Christmas |
| 7. trying to sell the toys | g. nothing wrong |
| 8. the toys were not in | h. prices |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1612/161213-toys-1.html>

Venezuela's government (1) _____ children's toys from a toy company. It will (2) _____ children (3) _____ low prices. The government says the company charged high prices for the toys. Only rich people could buy them. Venezuela has (4) _____ rates of inflation in the world. Many people (5) _____ like toys. The monthly minimum salary does not buy much. Venezuela has (6) _____ of clothes.

The government tweeted: "Our children are sacred....Boys and girls (7) _____ will have a happy Christmas." The government said the toy company (8) _____ out of the shops to (9) _____. The government also said the company (10) _____ the toys at much higher prices. The company said it (11) _____ and was not trying to sell the toys at high prices. It said many of the toys (12) _____ fashion.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1612/161213-toys-1.html>

Venezuela's government took 4 million children's toys from a toy company. It will give them to children for free or at low prices. The government says the company charged high prices for the toys. Only rich people could buy them. Venezuela has one of the highest rates of inflation in the world. Many people can't afford things like toys. The monthly minimum salary does not buy much. Venezuela has also cut the price of clothes. The government tweeted: "Our children are sacred.... Boys and girls of this country will have a happy Christmas." The government said the toy company kept the toys out of the shop to increase prices. The government also said the company tried to sell the toys at much higher prices. The company said it did nothing wrong and was not trying to sell the toys at high prices. It said many of the toys were not in fashion.

TOYS SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1612/161213-toys-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about toys 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) _____

