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Level 6

World faces biggest humanitarian crisis since 1945

13th March, 2017

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1703/170313-humanitarian-crisis.html>

Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	14
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	15
Before Reading / Listening	4	Spelling	16
Gap Fill	5	Put The Text Back Together	17
Match The Sentences And Listen	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	18
Listening Gap Fill	7	Circle The Correct Word	19
Comprehension Questions	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	20
Multiple Choice - Quiz	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	21
Role Play	10	Put A Slash (/) Where The Spaces Are	22
After Reading / Listening	11	Free Writing	23
Student Survey	12	Academic Writing	24
Discussion (20 Questions)	13	Homework	25
		Answers	26

Please try Levels 5 and 4 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170313-humanitarian-crisis.html>

The United Nations (UN) has reported that the world is facing its biggest humanitarian crisis since 1945. It has issued a plea to all nations to help avoid "a catastrophe". UN Emergency Relief Coordinator, Stephen O'Brien, warned that more than 20 million people face the threat of starvation and famine in Kenya, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen. He stressed there was an urgent need for, "accelerated global efforts to support UN humanitarian action on the ground". Mr O'Brien told the UN Security Council: "We stand at a critical point in history. Already at the beginning of the year we are facing the largest humanitarian crisis since the creation of the UN."

The UN warned of a bleak future for millions in the affected African countries and Yemen. It said: "Without collective and coordinated global efforts...people risk starving to death and succumbing to disease ... [with] stunted children, lost futures, mass displacements and reversed development gains." While the natural El Niño weather phenomenon has brought little or no rain, a lot of the problems fuelling the crisis are man made. War and conflicts are displacing many in these countries and are hampering efforts to distribute aid. There are reports of aid convoys being attacked. Mr O'Brien said: "It is possible to avert this crisis, to avert these famines, to avert these looming human catastrophes. It is all preventable."

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-39238808>
<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=56339#.WMPiWIFic0>
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201703100256.html>

WARM-UPS

1. HUMANITARIAN CRISIS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about humanitarian crisis. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

humanitarian / crisis / plea / catastrophe / starvation / global / action / beginning / bleak / future / disease / development / El Niño / conflicts / aid / convoys / famine

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

3. GIVE: Students A **strongly** believe everyone with money should give to help this crisis; Students B **strongly** believe not. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. RESPONSIBLE: Who is responsible for helping the victims of this crisis? How much responsibility do they have? What should they do? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How much responsibility?	What should they do?
The UN		
The World Bank		
Your country		
You		
Billionaires		
Big business		

5. CATASTROPHE: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "catastrophe". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. AID: Rank these with your partner. Put the things the crisis victims need most at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- blankets
- Internet
- money
- tents
- seeds
- livestock
- a water well
- protection

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170313-humanitarian-crisis.html>

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

- a. The UN has made a plea to 20 countries to help victims of the crisis. **T / F**
- b. Over 20 million face the threat of dying of hunger. **T / F**
- c. The article mentioned five countries that the UN said were in crisis. **T / F**
- d. The UN said it is the biggest crisis in the history of the UN. **T / F**
- e. The UN warned that millions of people faced a bleak future. **T / F**
- f. There will be no loss of development gains despite the crisis. **T / F**
- g. The article said all of the problems were man made. **T / F**
- h. A UN spokesperson said it is now impossible to avert the crisis. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| 1. facing | a. dying from |
| 2. plea | b. menace |
| 3. threat | c. hastened |
| 4. accelerated | d. common |
| 5. critical | e. appeal |
| 6. bleak | f. give out |
| 7. collective | g. crucial |
| 8. succumbing | h. prevent |
| 9. distribute | i. unpromising |
| 10. avert | j. encountering |

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

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. It has issued a plea | a. future |
| 2. 20 million people face the | b. creation of the UN |
| 3. He stressed there was an urgent | c. phenomenon |
| 4. We stand at a critical | d. affected African countries |
| 5. the largest humanitarian crisis since the | e. threat of starvation |
| 6. The UN warned of a bleak | f. to all nations |
| 7. millions in the | g. to death |
| 8. people risk starving | h. point in history |
| 9. the natural El Niño weather | i. this crisis |
| 10. It is possible to avert | j. need |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170313-humanitarian-crisis.html>

The United Nations (UN) has reported that the world is facing its biggest humanitarian crisis since 1945. It has issued a (1) _____ to all nations to help (2) _____ "a catastrophe". UN Emergency Relief Coordinator, Stephen O'Brien, warned that more than 20 million people face the (3) _____ of starvation and (4) _____ in Kenya, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen. He stressed there was an (5) _____ need for, "accelerated global efforts to support UN humanitarian action on the (6) _____". Mr O'Brien told the UN Security Council: "We stand at a (7) _____ point in history. Already at the beginning of the year we are facing the largest humanitarian crisis since the (8) _____ of the UN."

avoid
ground
famine
creation
plea
critical
threat
urgent

The UN warned of a (9) _____ future for millions in the affected African countries and Yemen. It said: "Without (10) _____ and coordinated global efforts...people risk (11) _____ to death and succumbing to disease ... [with] stunted children, lost futures, (12) _____ displacements and reversed development gains." While the natural El Niño weather (13) _____ has brought little or no rain, a lot of the problems (14) _____ the crisis are man made. War and conflicts are displacing many in these countries and are hampering efforts to distribute aid. There are reports of aid (15) _____ being attacked. Mr O'Brien said: "It is possible to avert this crisis, to avert these famines, to avert these (16) _____ human catastrophes. It is all preventable."

collective
phenomenon
bleak
looming
mass
convoys
starving
fuelling

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170313-humanitarian-crisis.html>

- 1) It has issued a plea to all nations to help _____ "
 - a. avoid "a catastrophic
 - b. avoid "all catastrophe
 - c. avoid "a catastrophe
 - d. avoid "a catastrophes
- 2) O'Brien warned that more than 20 million people face the threat of _____
 - a. starving and famine
 - b. starve aviation and famine
 - c. starvation and famine
 - d. star aviation and famine
- 3) an urgent need for, "accelerated global efforts to support UN humanitarian _____ "
 - a. action in the ground
 - b. action by the ground
 - c. action at the ground
 - d. action on the ground
- 4) Mr O'Brien told the UN Security Council: "We stand at a _____ history."
 - a. critically point in
 - b. critic call point in
 - c. critical point in
 - d. critic all point in
- 5) e are facing the largest humanitarian crisis since the _____ UN
 - a. creation off the
 - b. creation of the
 - c. creation of a
 - d. creation of an
- 6) The UN warned of a bleak future for millions in the _____ countries
 - a. affected African
 - b. affective African
 - c. affect it African
 - d. affected it African
- 7) people risk starving to death and _____ disease
 - a. succumb in to
 - b. suck humming to
 - c. succumb into
 - d. succumbing to
- 8) ...phenomenon has brought little or no rain, a lot of the problems _____
 - a. fuelling the crisis
 - b. felling the crisis
 - c. filling the crisis
 - d. fulfilling the crisis
- 9) conflicts are displacing many in these countries and are hampering efforts _____
 - a. too distribute aid
 - b. to distributes aid
 - c. to distributed aid
 - d. to distribute aid
- 10) to avert these famines, to avert these _____ catastrophes
 - a. glooming human
 - b. blooming human
 - c. looming human
 - d. loom in human

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170313-humanitarian-crisis.html>

The United Nations (UN) has reported that (1) _____ its biggest humanitarian crisis since 1945. It has (2) _____ all nations to help avoid "a catastrophe". UN Emergency Relief Coordinator, Stephen O'Brien, warned that more than 20 million people (3) _____ starvation and famine in Kenya, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen. He stressed there (4) _____ need for, "accelerated (5) _____ support UN humanitarian action on the ground". Mr O'Brien told the UN Security Council: "We stand at a critical point in history. Already at the beginning of the year we are facing the largest humanitarian crisis (6) _____ the UN."

The UN warned (7) _____ for millions in the affected African countries and Yemen. It said: "Without collective and coordinated global efforts...people risk (8) _____ and succumbing to disease ... [with] stunted children, lost futures, mass displacements and reversed (9) _____." While the natural El Niño weather phenomenon has brought little or no rain, a lot of the problems (10) _____ are man made. War and conflicts are displacing many in these countries and are hampering (11) _____ aid. There are reports of aid convoys being attacked. Mr O'Brien said: "It is possible to avert this crisis, to avert these famines, (12) _____ looming human catastrophes. It is all preventable."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170313-humanitarian-crisis.html>

1. What did the UN issue to all nations?
2. How many people face the threat of starvation?
3. Where did the UN say it wanted help for its humanitarian action?
4. At what point in history did the UN say were at?
5. How many larger crises have there been since the UN was created?
6. What kind of future did the UN warn of?
7. What did the UN say people risked succumbing to?
8. What did the UN say was fuelling the crisis, besides El Niño?
9. What did the UN say was being attacked?
10. What did the UN say it was possible to do?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170313-humanitarian-crisis.html>

- 1) What did the UN issue to all nations?
 - a) a plea
 - b) an ultimatum
 - c) a famine kit
 - d) a warning
- 2) How many people face the threat of starvation?
 - a) exactly 20,000,0000
 - b) around 20 million
 - c) more than 20 million
 - d) slightly fewer than 20 million
- 3) Where did the UN say it wanted help for its humanitarian action?
 - a) in the mountains
 - b) near dry river beds
 - c) in the desert
 - d) on the ground
- 4) At what point in history did the UN say were at?
 - a) the starting point
 - b) a critical point
 - c) the beginning of the end
 - d) the end of the beginning
- 5) How many larger crises have there been since the UN was created?
 - a) 0
 - b) 1
 - c) 2
 - d) 3
- 6) What kind of future did the UN warn of?
 - a) a painful one
 - b) a hopeful one
 - c) a promising one
 - d) a bleak one
- 7) What did the UN say people risked succumbing to?
 - a) temptation
 - b) fate
 - c) disease
 - d) rebel armies
- 8) What did the UN say was fuelling the crisis, besides El Niño?
 - a) oil
 - b) man
 - c) global warming
 - d) big business
- 9) What did the UN say was being attacked?
 - a) rebels
 - b) villagers
 - c) aid convoys
 - d) electricity plants
- 10) What did the UN say it was possible to do?
 - a) raise enough money
 - b) avert the crisis
 - c) feed all the people
 - d) defeat the rebel armies

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170313-humanitarian-crisis.html>

Role A – Blankets

You think blankets are the most important thing for victims of the humanitarian crisis. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as necessary. Also, tell the others which is the least necessary of these (and why): the Internet, livestock or protection.

Role B – Internet

You think the Internet is the most important thing for victims of the humanitarian crisis. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as necessary. Also, tell the others which is the least necessary of these (and why): blankets, livestock or protection.

Role C – Livestock

You think livestock is the most important thing for victims of the humanitarian crisis. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as necessary. Also, tell the others which is the least necessary of these (and why): the Internet, blankets or protection.

Role D – Protection

You think protection is the most important thing for victims of the humanitarian crisis. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as necessary. Also, tell the others which is the least necessary of these (and why): the Internet, livestock or blankets.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170313-humanitarian-crisis.html>

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

humanitarian	crisis
---------------------	---------------

- 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">• plea• threat• stressed• action• stand• largest	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• bleak• risk• lost• little• reports• possible
---	---

HUMANITARIAN CRISIS SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170313-humanitarian-crisis.html>

Write five GOOD questions about humanitarian crisis 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.

HUMANITARIAN CRISIS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'humanitarian'?
3. Why does the world let things get to this stage?
4. Why is it that poor countries suffer the most?
5. What can we do to help?
6. What does starvation in the 21st century say about humanity?
7. What will your country do to help?
8. What do you know about previous famines in Africa?
9. What do you know about the United Nations?
10. Should we learn about the benefits of giving at school?

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HUMANITARIAN CRISIS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'crisis'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What is making the problems worse in Yemen?
15. What is making the problems worse in South Sudan?
16. How can the world act collectively to help?
17. If the problems are man made, why can't they be 'man-solved'?
18. Do you think it is possible to avert this crisis?
19. What would you do if you were head of the UN?
20. What questions would you like to ask 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/1703/170313-humanitarian-crisis.html>

The United Nations (UN) has reported that the world is facing its biggest humanitarian crisis since 1945. It has issued a (1) _____ to all nations to help (2) _____ "a catastrophe". UN Emergency Relief Coordinator, Stephen O'Brien, warned that more than 20 million people face the (3) _____ of starvation and famine in Kenya, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen. He (4) _____ there was an urgent need for, "accelerated global efforts to support UN humanitarian action (5) _____ the ground". Mr O'Brien told the UN Security Council: "We stand at a critical (6) _____ in history. Already at the beginning of the year we are facing the largest humanitarian crisis since the creation of the UN."

The UN warned of a (7) _____ future for millions in the affected African countries and Yemen. It said: "Without collective and coordinated global efforts...people risk starving (8) _____ death and succumbing to disease ... [with] stunted children, lost futures, mass displacements and reversed development (9) _____." While the natural El Niño weather phenomenon has brought little or no rain, a lot of the problems (10) _____ the crisis are man made. War and conflicts are displacing many in these countries and are hampering efforts to distribute aid. There are reports of aid convoys (11) _____ attacked. Mr O'Brien said: "It is possible to avert this crisis, to avert these famines, to avert these (12) _____ human catastrophes. It is all preventable."

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) please | (b) plea | (c) pleasure | (d) pleas |
| 2. | (a) evasion | (b) avoidance | (c) evade | (d) avoid |
| 3. | (a) warn | (b) likely | (c) threat | (d) menacing |
| 4. | (a) stressed | (b) accented | (c) tensioned | (d) pressured |
| 5. | (a) in | (b) on | (c) at | (d) by |
| 6. | (a) point | (b) dot | (c) mark | (d) speck |
| 7. | (a) freak | (b) creak | (c) bleak | (d) sleek |
| 8. | (a) to | (b) of | (c) by | (d) from |
| 9. | (a) win | (b) forwards | (c) advance | (d) gains |
| 10. | (a) felling | (b) filling | (c) fuelling | (d) fulfilling |
| 11. | (a) been | (b) being | (c) were | (d) are |
| 12. | (a) blossoming | (b) glooming | (c) blooming | (d) looming |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170313-humanitarian-crisis.html>

Paragraph 1

1. help avoid a tatsoraceph
2. 20 million people face the tearth
3. narosivatt and famine
4. eclaeecrtd global efforts
5. We stand at a ccialtr point in history
6. since the eiaocrtn of the UN

Paragraph 2

7. The UN warned of a blkea future
8. collective and oriaedcdnto global efforts
9. hampering efforts to itrtibedus aid
10. aid vnscooy
11. It is possible to tvaer this crisis
12. It is all abnpeelertv

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170313-humanitarian-crisis.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () disease ... [with] stunted children, lost futures, mass displacements and reversed development
- () gains." While the natural El Niño weather phenomenon has brought little or no rain, a lot of the problems fuelling
- () famine in Kenya, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen. He stressed there was an urgent
- () and coordinated global efforts...people risk starving to death and succumbing to
- () The UN warned of a bleak future for millions in the affected African countries and Yemen. It said: "Without collective
- () a plea to all nations to help avoid "a catastrophe". UN Emergency Relief Coordinator,
- () The United Nations (UN) has reported that the world is facing its biggest humanitarian crisis since 1945. It has issued
- () Stephen O'Brien, warned that more than 20 million people face the threat of starvation and
- (**1**) efforts to distribute aid. There are reports of aid convoys being attacked. Mr O'Brien said: "It is possible to avert
- () the crisis are man made. War and conflicts are displacing many in these countries and are hampering
- () need for, "accelerated global efforts to support UN humanitarian action on the
- () this crisis, to avert these famines, to avert these looming human catastrophes. It is all preventable."
- () history. Already at the beginning of the year we are facing the largest humanitarian crisis since the creation of the UN."
- () ground". Mr O'Brien told the UN Security Council: "We stand at a critical point in

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170313-humanitarian-crisis.html>

1. to Issued a help all a "catastrophe" avoid nations plea to .
2. million the starvation 20 face of than people threat More .
3. need urgent was There efforts" global for an "accelerated .
4. a at stand We history in point critical .
5. largest since of The crisis creation UN humanitarian the the .
6. bleak UN future warned for of millions a The .
7. fuelling the crisis are man made A lot of the problems .
8. many and in conflicts these are countries displacing War .
9. reports are There attacked being convoys aid of .
10. possible O'Brien crisis to "It said: avert is Mr this" .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170313-humanitarian-crisis.html>

The United Nations (UN) has *reported / reporting* that the world is facing its biggest humanitarian crisis since 1945. It has issued a *please / plea* to all nations to help *avoid / evade* "a catastrophe". UN Emergency Relief Coordinator, Stephen O'Brien, warned that more than 20 million people *facing / face* the threat of starvation and famine in Kenya, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Yemen. He stressed there was an *urgently / urgent* need for, "accelerated *global / globally* efforts to support UN humanitarian action *on / in* the ground". Mr O'Brien told the UN Security Council: "We *stand / kneel* at a critical point *on / in* history. Already at the beginning of the year we are facing the largest humanitarian crisis since the *creator / creation* of the UN."

The UN warned of a *bleak / bleakly* future for millions in the affected African countries and Yemen. It said: "Without *collection / collective* and coordinated global efforts...people *risk / risky* starving *to / by* death and succumbing to disease ... [with] stunted children, lost futures, mass displacements and reversed development *gains / against*." *While / Whichever* the natural El Niño weather phenomenon has brought little or no rain, a lot of the problems *fuel / fuelling* the crisis *are / is* man made. War and conflicts are displacing many in these countries and are *hampering / hankering* efforts to distribute aid. There are reports of aid convoys being attacked. Mr O'Brien said: "It is possible to avert this crisis, to avert these famines, to avert these *blooming / looming* human catastrophes. It is all preventable."

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/1703/170313-humanitarian-crisis.html>

Th_ _n_t_d N_t__ns (_N) h_s r_p_rt_d th_t th_ w_rld
_s f_c_ng _ts b_gg_st h_m_n_t_r__n cr_s_s s_nc_
1945. _t h_s _ss__d _ pl__ t_ _ll n_t__ns t_ h_lp
_v__d " _ c_t_str_ph_". _N _m_rg_ncy R_l__f
C__rd_n_t_r, St_ph_n_'Br__n, w_rn_d th_t m_r_th_n
20 m_ll__n p__pl_ f_c_ th_ thr__t _f st_rv_t__n _nd
f_m_n__n K_ny_, N_g_r__, S_m_l__, S__th S_d_n _nd
Y_m_n. H_ str_ss_d th_r_ w_s _n _rg_nt n__d f_r,
"_cc_l_r_t_d gl_b_l _ff_rts t_ s_pp_rt _N
h_m_n_t_r__n _ct__n _n th_ gr__nd". Mr_'Br__n t_ld
th_ _N S_c_r_ty C__nc_l: "W_ st_nd _t _ cr_t_c_l
p__nt _n h_st_ry. _lr__dy _t th_ b_g_nn_ng _f th_
y__r w_ _r_ f_c_ng th_ l_rg_st h_m_n_t_r__n cr_s_s
s_nc_ th_ cr__t__n _f th_ _N."

Th_ _N w_rn_d _f _ bl__k f_t_r_ f_r m_ll__ns _n th_
_ff_ct_d _fr_c_n c__ntr__s _nd Y_m_n. _t s__d:
"W_th__t c_ll_ct_v__nd c__rd_n_t_d gl_b_l
_ff_rts...p__pl_ r_sk st_rv_ng t_ d__th _nd s_cc_mb_ng
t_ d_s__s_ ... [w_th] st_nt_d ch_ldr_n, l_st f_t_r_s,
m_ss_d spl_c_m_nts _nd r_v_rs_d d_v_l_pm_nt g__ns."
Wh_l_ th_ n_t_r_l _l N_ñ_ w__th_r ph_n_m_n_n h_s
br_ght lttl_ _r_n_r__n, _l_t _f th_ pr_bl_ms
f__ll_ng th_ cr_s_s _r_m_n_m_d_. W_r _nd c_nfl_cts
_r_d spl_c_ng m_ny _n th_s c__ntr__s _nd _r_
h_mp_r_ng _ff_rts t_ d_str_b_t_ __d. Th_r_ _r_
r_p_rts _f __d c_nv_ys b__ng _tt_ck_d. Mr_'Br__n
s__d: "_t_s p_ss_bl_ t_ _v_rt th_s cr_s_s, t_ _v_rt
th_s _f_m_n_s, t_ _v_rt th_s _l__m_ng h_m_n
c_t_str_ph_s. _t_s _ll pr_v_nt_bl_."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170313-humanitarian-crisis.html>

the united nations (un) has reported that the world is facing its biggest humanitarian crisis since 1945 it has issued a plea to all nations to help avoid "a catastrophe" un emergency relief coordinator stephen o'brien warned that more than 20 million people face the threat of starvation and famine in kenya nigeria somalia south sudan and yemen he stressed there was an urgent need for "accelerated global efforts to support un humanitarian action on the ground" mr o'brien told the un security council "we stand at a critical point in history already at the beginning of the year we are facing the largest humanitarian crisis since the creation of the un"

the un warned of a bleak future for millions in the affected african countries and yemen it said "without collective and coordinated global efforts...people risk starving to death and succumbing to disease ... [with] stunted children lost futures mass displacements and reversed development gains" while the natural el niño weather phenomenon has brought little or no rain a lot of the problems fuelling the crisis are man made war and conflicts are displacing many in these countries and are hampering efforts to distribute aid there are reports of aid convoys being attacked mr o'brien said "it is possible to avert this crisis to avert these famines to avert these looming human catastrophes it is all preventable"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1703/170313-humanitarian-crisis.html>

TheUnitedNations(UN)hasreportedthattheworldisfacingitsbiggesthumanitariancrisis since1945.IthasissuedapleatoallNationstohelpavoid"acatastrophe".UNEmergencyReliefCoordinator,StephenO'Brien,warnedthatmorethan20millionpeoplefacethethreatofstarvationand famineinKenya,Nigeria,Somalia,SouthSudanandYemen.Hestressedtherewasanurgentneedfor,"acceleratedglobaleffortstosupportUNhumanitarianactionontheground".MrO'BrientoldtheUNSecurityCouncil:"Westandatacriticalpointinhistory.Alreadyatthebeginningoftheyearwearefacingthelargesthumanitariancrisis sincethecreationoftheUN."TheUNwarnedofableakfutureformillionsintheaffectedAfrican countriesandYemen.Itsaid:"Withoutcollectiveandcoordinatedglobalefforts...peopleriskstarvingtodeathandsuccumbingtodisease...[with]stunted children,lostfutures, massdisplacementsandreverseddevelopment gains."WhilethenaturalElNiñoweatherphenomenonhasbroughtlittle ornorain,alotoftheproblemsfuellingthecrisisaremanmade.Warand conflictsaredisplacingmanyinthesecountriesandarehamperingeffortstodistributeaid.Therereportsof aid convoysbeingattacked.MrO'Briensaid:"Itispossibletoavertthiscrisis,toavertthesefamines,toaverttheseloominghumancatastrophes.Itisallpreventable."

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 this humanitarian crisis. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. HUMANITARIAN CRISIS: Make a poster about humanitarian crises of the past few decades. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. PLEA: Write a magazine article about this humanitarian crisis and the UN's plea for help. Discuss why everyone with money and big businesses should donate more than they have ever donated before. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

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 humanitarian crises. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how this crisis can be averted. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F b T c T d T e T f F g F h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. facing | a. encountering |
| 2. plea | b. appeal |
| 3. threat | c. menace |
| 4. accelerated | d. hastened |
| 5. critical | e. crucial |
| 6. bleak | f. unpromising |
| 7. collective | g. common |
| 8. succumbing | h. dying from |
| 9. distribute | i. give out |
| 10. avert | j. prevent |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. A plea
2. Over 20 million
3. On the ground
4. A critical point
5. None
6. A bleak future
7. Disease
8. Man
9. Aid convoys
10. Avert the crisis

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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