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## Level 1

### South Korea government to help people in debt

2nd December, 2017

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171202-debt-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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171202-debt-1.html>

People have a lot of debt. They use credit cards too much and owe a lot of money. People have loans for food. More young people have big student loans. South Korea is doing something to help people with debt. It will cancel the debts of 1.6 million people on low incomes. Its National Happiness Fund will help people with money problems to make a fresh start in life. South Koreans who cannot pay back debts of less than \$9,000 could get help.

A former South Korean president started the National Happiness Fund in 2013. He wanted to help Korea's poorest people and make people more equal. However, there is still a big problem because people on middle and higher incomes have most of the debt in South Korea. The government is trying to stop working families from going bankrupt. It said families have "a mountain of debt". It must do something quickly. There could be a big debt crisis coming.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/business-42177172>  
[http://world.kbs.co.kr/english/news/news\\_Ec\\_detail.htm?No=132027&id=Ec](http://world.kbs.co.kr/english/news/news_Ec_detail.htm?No=132027&id=Ec)  
[http://koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/opinion/2017/11/137\\_239633.html](http://koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/opinion/2017/11/137_239633.html)

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171202-debt-1.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                  |                          |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. owe a                         | a. of 1.6 million people |
| 2. young people have big student | b. lot of money          |
| 3. doing something               | c. problems              |
| 4. It will cancel the debts      | d. \$9,000               |
| 5. people with money             | e. loans                 |
| 6. make a fresh                  | f. to help people        |
| 7. Koreans who cannot pay        | g. back debts            |
| 8. less than                     | h. start in life         |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                      |                   |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. A former South Korean             | a. people         |
| 2. He wanted to help Korea's poorest | b. quickly        |
| 3. make people more                  | c. going bankrupt |
| 4. people on middle and              | d. crisis coming  |
| 5. stop working families from        | e. equal          |
| 6. It said families have a mountain  | f. president      |
| 7. It must do something              | g. higher incomes |
| 8. There could be a big debt         | h. of debt        |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171202-debt-1.html>

People have a (1) \_\_\_\_\_. They use credit cards too much and (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of money. People have loans for food. More young people have big student loans. South Korea is doing something (3) \_\_\_\_\_ with debt. It will cancel the debts of 1.6 million people (4) \_\_\_\_\_. Its National Happiness Fund will help people with money problems to make a (5) \_\_\_\_\_ life. South Koreans who cannot pay back debts (6) \_\_\_\_\_ \$9,000 could get help.

A former South Korean president started the National Happiness Fund in 2013. He (7) \_\_\_\_\_ Korea's poorest people and make (8) \_\_\_\_\_. However, there is still a big problem because (9) \_\_\_\_\_ and higher incomes have (10) \_\_\_\_\_ debt in South Korea. The government is trying to stop working families from going bankrupt. It said families (11) \_\_\_\_\_ of debt". It must do something quickly. There could be a (12) \_\_\_\_\_ coming.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171202-debt-1.html>

People have a lot of debt. They use credit cards too much and owe a lot of money. People have loans for food. More young people have big student loans. South Korea is doing something to help people with debt. It will cancel the debt of 1.6 million people on low incomes. Its National Happiness Fund will help people with money problems to make a fresh start in life. South Koreans who cannot pay back debt of less than \$9,000 could get help. A former South Korean president started the National Happiness Fund in 2013. He wanted to help Korea's poorest people and make people more equal. However, there is still a big problem because people on middle and higher incomes have most of the debt in South Korea. The government is trying to stop working families from going bankrupt. It said families have "an amount of debt". It must do something quickly. There could be a big debt crisis coming.

# DEBT SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1712/171202-debt-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about debt 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*South Korea government to help people in debt – 2nd December, 2017*  
More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

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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) \_\_\_\_\_

