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Level 2

France to help make Saudi Arabia's first opera house

12th April, 2018

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera-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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera-2.html>

Saudi Arabia will have its first orchestra and opera. France will help to set them up. The two countries signed agreements on Monday to boost cultural ties and cooperation. France's Culture Minister said: "Today, an agreement was signed with the Paris Opera to help Saudi Arabia set up a national orchestra and an opera." The Paris Opera will help Saudi Arabia produce its own performances. Plans are already under way to build the country's first opera house in the kingdom's second largest city, Jeddah. Saudi Arabia will invest \$64 billion in its entertainment industry over the next 10 years.

The agreement is part of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's Vision 2030 project. He wants to modernize Saudi life. Other parts of the cultural agreement will see French archaeologists developing Saudi Arabia's northwest region of Al-Ula. This area is rich in ancient archaeological sites. French archaeologists will help to preserve the area. Another important part of the agreement is the translation of literature. France's Culture Minister stressed, "the importance of translating books in both directions, from Arabic into French and French into Arabic".

Sources: <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1281546/saudi-arabia>
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-43703236>
<http://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/gulf/2018/04/09/Saudi-French-agreement-to-launch-opera-house-and-orchestra.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Saudi Arabia will have its first | a. help |
| 2. The two countries signed | b. industry |
| 3. boost cultural | c. signed |
| 4. an agreement was | d. 10 years |
| 5. The Paris Opera will | e. orchestra |
| 6. Saudi Arabia will invest | f. agreements |
| 7. its entertainment | g. \$64 billion |
| 8. over the next | h. ties |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. He wants to modernize | a. archaeologists |
| 2. parts of the cultural | b. of literature |
| 3. French | c. preserve the area |
| 4. Saudi Arabia's northwest | d. into French |
| 5. rich in ancient archaeological | e. agreement |
| 6. help to | f. region |
| 7. the translation | g. Saudi life |
| 8. from Arabic | h. sites |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera-2.html>

Saudi Arabia will (1) _____ orchestra and opera. France will help to (2) _____. The two countries signed agreements on Monday to boost cultural ties and cooperation. France's Culture Minister said: "Today, an agreement (3) _____ the Paris Opera to help Saudi Arabia set up a national orchestra and an opera." The Paris Opera will help Saudi Arabia (4) _____ performances. Plans are already (5) _____ build the country's first opera house in the kingdom's second largest city, Jeddah. Saudi Arabia will invest \$64 billion in its entertainment industry (6) _____ 10 years.

The agreement (7) _____ Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's Vision 2030 project. He (8) _____ Saudi life. Other parts of the cultural agreement will see French archaeologists developing Saudi Arabia's (9) _____ Al-Ula. This area is rich in ancient archaeological sites. French archaeologists will (10) _____ the area. Another important (11) _____ agreement is the translation of literature. France's Culture Minister stressed, "the importance of translating books (12) _____, from Arabic into French and French into Arabic".

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera-2.html>

SaudiArabia will have its first orchestra and opera. France will help to set them up. The two countries signed agreements on Monday to boost cultural ties and cooperation. France's Culture Ministers said: "Today, an agreement was signed with the Paris Opera to help Saudi Arabia set up a national orchestra and an opera." The Paris Opera will help Saudi Arabia produce its own performances. Plans are already underway to build the country's first opera house in the kingdom's second largest city, Jeddah. Saudi Arabia will invest \$64 billion in its entertainment industry over the next 10 years. The agreement is part of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's Vision 2030 project. He wants to modernize Saudi life. Other parts of the cultural agreement will see French archaeologists developing Saudi Arabia's north west region of Al-Ula. This area is rich in ancient archaeological sites. French archaeologists will help to preserve the area. Another important part of the agreement is the translation of literature. France's Culture Minister stressed, "the importance of translating books in both directions, from Arabic into French and French into Arabic".

OPERA SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Opera 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) _____

