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Level 1 – 10th March, 2019

Finland's government resigns

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1903/190310-finland-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/1903/190310-finland-1.html>

Finland's government has resigned. It wanted to make welfare and healthcare reforms. However, politicians voted against the reforms. Finland's leader Juha Sipilä was "hugely disappointed". He said he would stay in a "caretaker" government until elections in April. The reforms were because Finland's population is aging. It is under financial pressure. The government's planned reforms would save \$3.4 billion over the next ten years.

Politicians think the government resigning is a mistake. They want the government to stay in power until the elections. Mr Sipilä said it had no support. He said: "My government has no choice but to [resign]. I'll shoulder my responsibility." Sipilä's colleagues said it was right the government resigned. One senior member said: "If anyone asks what political responsibility means, then I would say that this resignation is an example".

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-47496326>
<https://www.foxnews.com/world/finlands-entire-government-resigns-after-breakdown-of-agreement-on-welfare-state-reform>
<http://www.helsinkitimes.fi/finland/finland-news/politics/16248-finnish-government-hands-in-resignation-after-collapse-of-care-reform.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1903/190310-finland-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. make welfare and healthcare | a. government |
| 2. politicians voted against | b. save \$3.4 billion |
| 3. stay in a "caretaker" | c. aging |
| 4. until elections | d. the reforms |
| 5. Finland's population is | e. ten years |
| 6. It is under financial | f. in April |
| 7. reforms would | g. reforms |
| 8. over the next | h. pressure |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. They want the government | a. resigned |
| 2. power until | b. support |
| 3. it had no | c. responsibility |
| 4. My government has no choice | d. the elections |
| 5. I'll shoulder my | e. an example |
| 6. it was right the government | f. to stay |
| 7. political | g. responsibility |
| 8. this resignation is | h. but to resign |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1903/190310-finland-1.html>

Finland's government has resigned. (1) _____
make welfare (2) _____. However, politicians
voted against the reforms. Finland's leader Juha Sipila was
"hugely disappointed". (3) _____ would stay in a
"caretaker" government until (4) _____. The
reforms were because Finland's population is aging.
(5) _____ financial pressure. The government's
planned reforms would save \$3.4 billion
(6) _____ ten years.

Politicians think the government (7) _____
mistake. They want the government to stay in power until the
elections. Mr Sipila said it (8) _____. He said:
"My government has no (9) _____ [resign]. I'll
shoulder my responsibility." Sipila's colleagues said
(10) _____ the government resigned. One senior
member said: "If (11) _____ political
responsibility means, then I would say that this resignation
(12) _____".

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1903/190310-finland-1.html>

Finland's government has resigned. It wanted to make welfare and health care reforms. However, politicians voted against the reforms. Finland's leader Juha Sipilä was "hugely disappointed". He said he would stay in a "caretaker" government until elections in April. The reforms were because Finland's population is aging. It is under financial pressure. The government's planned reforms would save \$3.4 billion over the next ten years. Politicians think the government resigning is a mistake. They want the government to stay in power until the elections. Mr Sipilä said it had no support. He said: "My government has no choice but to [resign]. I'll shoulder my responsibility." Sipilä's colleague said it was right the government resigned. One senior member said: "If anyone asks what political responsibility means, then I would say that this resignation is an example".

FINLAND SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1903/190310-finland-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Finland 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) _____

