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**Level 5 – 17th April, 2019**

## **Japan starts nuclear fuel removal from Fukushima**

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1904/190417-nuclear-reactor-5.html>

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**Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1904/190417-nuclear-reactor-5.html>

A Tokyo power company has started removing fuel rods from Japan's Fukushima nuclear power plant. The plant was badly damaged and suffered meltdowns after a huge earthquake and tsunami hit it in 2011. Workers started removing the nuclear fuel on Monday, five years behind schedule. The work to move the hazardous rods was delayed because of many malfunctions in the devices that were designed for the removal operation. Another factor causing delays was high levels of radiation in the area. This created a "significant challenge" for engineers.

The company is removing seven unspent nuclear fuel rods from the reactor's pool. There are a total of 1,573 fuel rods at the power plant. These rods will be transferred to safer storage pools. The work should be finished by the end of March 2021. A company spokesman said: "I believe everything is going well so far. We will watch the progress at the site as we put safety first. Our goal is not to rush the process but to carefully proceed." Another spokesman said: "Safety is our priority. We will carefully continue this work." Japan's Prime Minister said the country would do its best to rebuild.

Sources: <https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/04/15/national/tepcos-begins-removing-fuel-rods-unit-3-reactor-pool-crippled-fukushima-nuclear-plant/>  
<https://japantoday.com/category/national/removal-of-fuel-in-pool-at-fukushima-s-melted-reactor-begins>  
<https://news.yahoo.com/nuclear-fuel-removed-crippled-japan-plant-034119163.html>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1904/190417-nuclear-reactor-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                              |                      |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. The plant was badly       | a. radiation         |
| 2. suffered meltdowns after  | b. schedule          |
| 3. five years behind         | c. for engineers     |
| 4. move the hazardous        | d. a huge earthquake |
| 5. malfunctions              | e. causing delays    |
| 6. Another factor            | f. damaged           |
| 7. high levels of            | g. in the devices    |
| 8. a "significant challenge" | h. rods              |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                  |                            |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. There are a total             | a. at the site             |
| 2. transferred to safer storage  | b. continue this work      |
| 3. finished by the               | c. pools                   |
| 4. I believe everything is going | d. its best to rebuild     |
| 5. We will watch the progress    | e. end of March            |
| 6. Our goal is                   | f. well so far             |
| 7. We will carefully             | g. of 1,573 fuel rods      |
| 8. the country would do          | h. not to rush the process |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1904/190417-nuclear-reactor-5.html>

A Tokyo power company (1) \_\_\_\_\_ fuel rods from Japan's Fukushima nuclear power plant. The (2) \_\_\_\_\_ damaged and suffered meltdowns (3) \_\_\_\_\_ earthquake and tsunami hit it in 2011. Workers started removing the nuclear fuel on Monday, five (4) \_\_\_\_\_. The work to move the hazardous rods was delayed because of many malfunctions (5) \_\_\_\_\_ that were designed for the removal operation. Another (6) \_\_\_\_\_ was high levels of radiation in the area. This created a "significant challenge" for engineers.

The company is removing seven unspent nuclear (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the reactor's pool. There are a total of 1,573 fuel rods at the power plant. These rods will be transferred to (8) \_\_\_\_\_. The work should be finished (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of March 2021. A company spokesman said: "I believe everything is going well so far. We will (10) \_\_\_\_\_ at the site as we put safety first. Our goal is not to rush the (11) \_\_\_\_\_ carefully proceed." Another spokesman said: "Safety is our priority. We will carefully continue this work." Japan's Prime Minister said the country would do its (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1904/190417-nuclear-reactor-5.html>

A Tokyo power company has started removing fuel rods from Japan's Fukushima nuclear power plant. The plant was badly damaged and suffered meltdowns after a huge earthquake and tsunami hit it in 2011. Workers started removing the nuclear fuel on Monday, five years behind schedule. The work to move the hazardous rods was delayed because of many malfunctions in the devices that were redesigned for the removal operation. Another factor causing delays was high levels of radiation in the area. This created a "significant challenge" for engineers. The company is removing seven unspent nuclear fuel rods from the reactor's pool. There are a total of 1,573 fuel rods at the power plant. These rods will be transferred to safer storage pools. The work should be finished by the end of March 2021. A company spokesman said: "I believe everything is going well so far. We will watch the progress at the site as we put safety first. Our goal is not to rush the process but to carefully proceed." Another spokesman said: "Safety is our priority. We will carefully continue this work." Japan's Prime Minister said the country would do its best to rebuild.

# NUCLEAR POWER SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1904/190417-nuclear-reactor-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about nuclear power 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*Japan starts nuclear fuel removal from Fukushima – 17th April, 2019*  
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) \_\_\_\_\_

# WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1904/190417-nuclear-reactor-5.html>

Write about **nuclear power** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.

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