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**Level 2 – 30th September, 2020**

**Armenia and Azerbaijan fight over Nagorno-Karabakh**

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh-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/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh-2.html>

There is heavy fighting between Armenia and Azerbaijan. It could lead to a bigger conflict between the countries. The trouble is over a border region called Nagorno-Karabakh. It is internationally recognized as being part of Azerbaijan but it has a majority Armenian ethnic population. It largely governs itself. Civilians and soldiers have died in the clashes. Armenia blamed Azerbaijan for starting the conflict. It said Azerbaijan launched missiles into the region. Azerbaijan said it launched missiles to "ensure the safety of the population" in the region.

There have been tensions between the two countries since the end of the Nagorno-Karabakh War in 1994. The current clashes are the worst fighting in many years. A journalist and expert on Nagorno-Karabakh said fighting was, "a very serious escalation". Other countries are now getting involved. Turkey's President said his country would back Azerbaijan. Russia gave its backing to Armenia, but called for a ceasefire and urgent negotiations. Iran, which shares a border with both Azerbaijan and Armenia, offered to arrange peace talks.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-54314341>  
<https://edition.cnn.com/2020/09/27/europe/armenia-azerbaijan-tensions-nagorno-karabakh-intl/index.html>  
<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/9/27/heavy-fighting-erupts-in-disputed-nagorno-karabakh-region>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                 |                        |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. heavy                        | a. into the region     |
| 2. It could lead to a bigger    | b. region              |
| 3. The trouble is over a border | c. of the population   |
| 4. it has a majority Armenian   | d. fighting            |
| 5. Civilians and soldiers have  | e. missiles            |
| 6. Azerbaijan launched missiles | f. ethnic population   |
| 7. Azerbaijan said it launched  | g. conflict            |
| 8. ensure the safety            | h. died in the clashes |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| 1. There have been tensions              | a. many years       |
| 2. since the end of the Nagorno-Karabakh | b. peace talks      |
| 3. the worst fighting in                 | c. escalation       |
| 4. A journalist and                      | d. negotiations     |
| 5. a very serious                        | e. between the two  |
| 6. Other countries are now               | f. expert           |
| 7. a ceasefire and urgent                | g. War in 1994      |
| 8. offered to arrange                    | h. getting involved |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh-2.html>

There (1) \_\_\_\_\_ between Armenia and Azerbaijan. It could lead to a bigger conflict between the countries. The trouble is over (2) \_\_\_\_\_ called Nagorno-Karabakh. It is internationally recognized as being part of Azerbaijan but it has a majority Armenian ethnic population. It (3) \_\_\_\_\_. Civilians and soldiers have died (4) \_\_\_\_\_. Armenia blamed Azerbaijan for starting the conflict. It said Azerbaijan launched missiles (5) \_\_\_\_\_. Azerbaijan said it launched missiles to "(6) \_\_\_\_\_ of the population" in the region.

There (7) \_\_\_\_\_ between the two countries since the end of the Nagorno-Karabakh War in 1994. The (8) \_\_\_\_\_ the worst fighting in many years. A journalist and expert on Nagorno-Karabakh said fighting was, "(9) \_\_\_\_\_ escalation". Other countries are now getting involved. Turkey's President said his country would back Azerbaijan. Russia (10) \_\_\_\_\_ to Armenia, but called (11) \_\_\_\_\_ and urgent negotiations. Iran, which shares a border with both Azerbaijan and Armenia, (12) \_\_\_\_\_ peace talks.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh-2.html>

There is heavy fighting between Armenia and Azerbaijan. It could lead to a bigger conflict between the countries. The trouble is over a border region called Nagorno-Karabakh. It is internationally recognized as being part of Azerbaijan but it has a majority Armenian ethnic population. It largely governs itself. Civilians and soldiers have died in the clashes. Armenia blamed Azerbaijan for starting the conflict. It said Azerbaijan launched missiles into the region. Azerbaijan said it launched missiles to "ensure the safety of the population" in the region. There have been tensions between the two countries since the end of the Nagorno-Karabakh War in 1994. The current clashes are the worst fighting in many years. A journalist and expert on Nagorno-Karabakh said fighting was, "a very serious escalation". Other countries are now getting involved. Turkey's President said his country would back Azerbaijan. Russia gave its backing to Armenia, but called for a ceasefire and urgent negotiations. Iran, which shares a border with both Azerbaijan and Armenia, offered to arrange peace talks.

# CONFLICT SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh-4.html>

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

*Armenia and Azerbaijan fight over Nagorno-Karabakh – 30th September, 2020*  
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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) \_\_\_\_\_

