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## Armenia and Azerbaijan fight over Nagorno-Karabakh - 30th September, 2020

#### Level 0

There is fighting between Armenia and Azerbaijan. It is over a border area called Nagorno-Karabakh. Civilians and soldiers died in the clashes. Armenia said Azerbaijan started the conflict by launching missiles. Azerbaijan said it launched missiles to keep the population safe.

Tensions started after the Nagorno-Karabakh War in 1994. The current fighting is the worst in many years. A journalist said it was, "a very serious escalation". Turkey is backing Azerbaijan. Russia is backing Armenia. It called for urgent talks. Iran offered to arrange peace talks.

#### Level 1

There is fighting between Armenia and Azerbaijan. It could lead to a bigger conflict. It is over a border region called Nagorno-Karabakh. Many in the world say it is part of Azerbaijan but it has a majority Armenian population. Civilians and soldiers died in the clashes. Armenia said Azerbaijan started the conflict by launching missiles into the region. Azerbaijan said it launched missiles to "ensure the safety of the population".

Tensions started between the two countries after the Nagorno-Karabakh War in 1994. The current clashes are the worst fighting in many years. A journalist said the fighting was, "a very serious escalation". Turkey said it would back Azerbaijan. Russia gave its backing to Armenia. It called for a ceasefire and urgent talks. Iran, which shares a border with Azerbaijan and Armenia, offered to arrange peace talks.

#### Level 2

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.

### Level 3

Heavy fighting has broken out between Armenia and Azerbaijan. There is a danger the fighting could lead to a bigger conflict between the two countries. Their trouble is over a region that is on their border called Nagorno-Karabakh. This is a disputed territory. It is internationally recognized as being part of Azerbaijan but it has a majority Armenian ethnic population. It has governed itself for the past few decades. The recent clashes resulted in the deaths of both civilians and soldiers. Armenia blamed Azerbaijan for starting the recent conflict. It said Azerbaijan launched missiles into the region. Azerbaijan's defence ministry said it launched missiles to "ensure the safety of the population" in the region.

There have been tensions between Armenia and Azerbaijan since the end of the Nagorno-Karabakh War in 1994. There have been many flashpoints between the two countries. The current clashes have seen the worst fighting in many years. An Al Jazeera journalist who is an expert on Nagorno-Karabakh described the situation as, "a very serious escalation". Neighboring countries are now getting involved. Turkey's President said his country would support Azerbaijan. Russia has given its backing to Armenia, but called for an immediate ceasefire and urgent negotiations. Iran, which shares a border with both Azerbaijan and Armenia, has offered to arrange peace talks.