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**Level 6 – 7th February, 2021**

## Myanmar military blocks Facebook after coup

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210207-myanmar-coup.html>

### Contents

|                                |    |  |    |
|--------------------------------|----|--|----|
| The Article                    | 2  | Discussion (Student-Created Qs)        | 15 |
| Warm-Ups                       | 3  | Language Work (Cloze)                  | 16 |
| Vocabulary                     | 4  | Spelling                               | 17 |
| Before Reading / Listening     | 5  | Put The Text Back Together             | 18 |
| Gap Fill                       | 6  | Put The Words In The Right Order       | 19 |
| Match The Sentences And Listen | 7  | Circle The Correct Word                | 20 |
| Listening Gap Fill             | 8  | Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)      | 21 |
| Comprehension Questions        | 9  | Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals    | 22 |
| Multiple Choice - Quiz         | 10 | Put A Slash ( / ) Where The Spaces Are | 23 |
| Role Play                      | 11 | Free Writing                           | 24 |
| After Reading / Listening      | 12 | Academic Writing                       | 25 |
| Student Survey                 | 13 | Homework                               | 26 |
| Discussion (20 Questions)      | 14 | Answers                                | 27 |

**Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210207-myanmar-coup.html>

The Tatmadaw, the military junta that overthrew Myanmar's government on February the 1st, has blocked access to Facebook. The Ministry of Communications issued a statement saying Facebook would be halted in order to maintain "stability". The social media giant is used by a majority of the population and the Tatmadaw sees it as a threat to its rule. In the days after the coup, a civil disobedience page that emerged on Facebook attracted over 200,000 followers. Human Rights Watch Asia said: "The Tatmadaw sees Facebook as its Internet nemesis because it's the dominant communication channel in the country and has been hostile to the military." A Twitter user said it was, "a ban on the Internet".

The Tatmadaw seized power from Myanmar's democratically elected civilian government. It immediately declared a yearlong state of emergency. The coup took place after days of tension between the military and the government. The Tatmadaw refused to accept the results of November's national election, alleging massive voter fraud. It has arrested former Minister of Foreign Affairs Aung San Suu Kyi, who is now being held in detention at an undisclosed location. Authorities filed charges against her for allegedly illegally importing six unregistered walkie-talkie radios. The military also arrested former president Win Myint. He is being charged with violating coronavirus containment measures during the election.

Sources: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-myanmar-politics-facebook-focus/facebook-faces-a-reckoning-in-myanmar-after-blocked-by-military-idUSKBN2A42RY>  
<https://techcrunch.com/2021/02/03/myanmar-orders-telecom-networks-to-temporarily-block-facebook/>  
<https://www.voanews.com/east-asia-pacific/myanmar-military-blocks-access-facebook-resistance-coup-grows>

# WARM-UPS

**1. MYANMAR'S COUP:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about Myanmar's coup. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

military / junta / communications / statement / stability / social media / ban / Internet power / government / emergency / election / fraud / location / walkie-talkies / radios

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. U.N.:** Students A **strongly** believe the United Nations should reinstate the democratically-elected government in Myanmar; Students B **strongly** believe it shouldn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE:** What are the pros and cons of these forms of civil disobedience? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

|                    | Pros | Cons |
|--------------------|------|------|
| Facebook campaigns |      |      |
| Street protests    |      |      |
| Online petitions   |      |      |
| Marches            |      |      |
| Boycotts           |      |      |
| Labor strikes      |      |      |

**5. MILITARY:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "military". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

**6. SOCIAL STABILITY:** Rank these with your partner. Put the most important for social stability at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Free Internet
- Wealth
- Equal opportunities
- Family
- Democracy
- Religion
- Strong courts
- Strong military

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. junta        | a. Unfriendly.   |
| 2. overthrew    | b. Brought to a sudden stop.   |
| 3. halted       | c. Failure or refusal to obey rules or someone in authority.                       |
| 4. threat       | d. A military or political group that rules a country after taking power by force. |
| 5. disobedience | e. A long-standing rival; an enemy.  |
| 6. nemesis      | f. Removed forcibly from power.  |
| 7. hostile      | g. A person or thing likely to cause damage or danger.                             |

## Paragraph 2

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 8. civilian     | h. Wrongful or criminal acts intended to result in financial or personal gain.   |
| 9. declared     | i. The action of detaining someone or the state of being detained in official custody, especially as a political prisoner. |
| 10. alleging    | j. The action of keeping something harmful under control or within limits.   |
| 11. fraud       | k. Openly or formally announced.   |
| 12. detention   | l. Breaking or failing to comply with a rule or formal agreement.  |
| 13. violating   | m. Claiming or asserting that someone has done something illegal or wrong, usually without proof that this is true.        |
| 14. containment | n. Of or relating to a person not belonging to the armed services or police.   |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210207-myanmar-coup.html>

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. A coup took place in Myanmar at the end of January. **T / F**
- b. The Ministry of Communications wants to maintain stability. **T / F**
- c. Less than half of people in Myanmar use Facebook. **T / F**
- d. A human rights group said Facebook was a nemesis to Myanmar's junta. **T / F**
- e. The junta has instilled a month-long state of emergency. **T / F**
- f. The junta refused to accept the results of a national election. **T / F**
- g. Aung San Suu Kyi is being held at the Junta's headquarters. **T / F**
- h. The former president is accused of violating coronavirus measures. **T / F**

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- |                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| <b>1. overthrew</b>  | a. non-military |
| <b>2. halted</b>     | b. appeared     |
| <b>3. threat</b>     | c. breaching    |
| <b>4. emerged</b>    | d. stopped      |
| <b>5. hostile</b>    | e. chicanery    |
| <b>6. civilian</b>   | f. unfriendly   |
| <b>7. tension</b>    | g. reportedly   |
| <b>8. fraud</b>      | h. toppled      |
| <b>9. allegedly</b>  | i. friction     |
| <b>10. violating</b> | j. danger       |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |                                       |                            |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. the military junta that overthrew  | a. civilian government     |
| 2. halted in order to                 | b. of the population       |
| 3. used by a majority                 | c. the results             |
| 4. civil                              | d. channel                 |
| 5. it's the dominant communication    | e. measures                |
| 6. Myanmar's democratically elected   | f. Myanmar's government    |
| 7. The coup took place after days     | g. an undisclosed location |
| 8. refused to accept                  | h. maintain "stability"    |
| 9. held in detention at               | i. of tension              |
| 10. violating coronavirus containment | j. disobedience            |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210207-myanmar-coup.html>

The Tatmadaw, the military (1) \_\_\_\_\_ that overthrew Myanmar's government on February the 1st, has (2) \_\_\_\_\_ access to Facebook. The Ministry of Communications issued a statement saying Facebook would be (3) \_\_\_\_\_ in order to maintain "stability". The social media giant is used by a majority of the population and the Tatmadaw sees it as a (4) \_\_\_\_\_ to its rule. In the days after the coup, a civil disobedience page that (5) \_\_\_\_\_ on Facebook attracted over 200,000 followers. Human Rights Watch Asia said: "The Tatmadaw sees Facebook as its Internet (6) \_\_\_\_\_ because it's the (7) \_\_\_\_\_ communication channel in the country and has been hostile to the military." A Twitter user said it was, "a (8) \_\_\_\_\_ on the Internet".

*halted*  
*ban*  
*emerged*  
*blocked*  
*dominant*  
*junta*  
*nemesis*  
*threat*

The Tatmadaw (9) \_\_\_\_\_ power from Myanmar's democratically elected civilian government. It immediately (10) \_\_\_\_\_ a yearlong state of emergency. The coup took place after days of (11) \_\_\_\_\_ between the military and the government. The Tatmadaw refused to accept the (12) \_\_\_\_\_ of November's national election, alleging massive voter (13) \_\_\_\_\_. It has arrested former Minister of Foreign Affairs Aung San Suu Kyi, who is now being held in (14) \_\_\_\_\_ at an undisclosed location. Authorities filed charges against her for allegedly (15) \_\_\_\_\_ importing six unregistered walkie-talkie radios. The military also arrested former president Win Myint. He is being charged with violating coronavirus containment (16) \_\_\_\_\_ during the election.

*tension*  
*fraud*  
*declared*  
*measures*  
*results*  
*illegally*  
*seized*  
*detention*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210207-myanmar-coup.html>

- 1) issued a statement saying Facebook would be halted in order \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. to maintains stability
  - b. to maintenance stability
  - c. to maintain stability
  - d. to main train stability
- 2) used by a majority of the population and the Tatmadaw sees it as a threat \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. two its rule
  - b. too its rule
  - c. to its rule
  - d. to that's rule
- 3) a civil disobedience page that emerged on Facebook attracted \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. over 2,000,000 followers
  - b. over 20,000 followers
  - c. over 200,000,000 followers
  - d. over 200,000 followers
- 4) Human Rights Watch Asia said: "The Tatmadaw sees Facebook as \_\_\_\_\_"
  - a. its Internet names is
  - b. its Internet name ease
  - c. its Internet nemesis
  - d. its Internet meme assist
- 5) the dominant communication channel in the country and has been hostile \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. to the militarily
  - b. to the militia tree
  - c. to the military
  - d. to the mill a tree
- 6) The Tatmadaw seized power from Myanmar's democratically \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. elected civilian governmental
  - b. elected civilization government
  - c. elected civilian government
  - d. elected civil and government
- 7) It immediately declared a yearlong \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. states of emergency
  - b. state of emergency
  - c. stated of emergency
  - d. straight of emergency
- 8) accept the results of November's national election, alleging \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. massively voter fraud
  - b. massive votes afraid
  - c. massive voter fraud
  - d. massive voter fraudulent
- 9) former Minister of Foreign Affairs Aung San Suu Kyi, who is now being \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. hold in detention
  - b. held in detention
  - c. heeled in detention
  - d. heeled in detention
- 10) He is being charged with violating coronavirus \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. contentment measures
  - b. containment measures
  - c. contain mint measures
  - d. contain meant measures

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210207-myanmar-coup.html>

The Tatmadaw, the military (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Myanmar's government on February the 1st, has (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Facebook. The Ministry of Communications issued a statement saying Facebook would be halted in order to maintain "stability". The social media giant is used by a (3) \_\_\_\_\_ population and the Tatmadaw sees it as a threat to its rule. In the days after the coup, a civil disobedience page (4) \_\_\_\_\_ Facebook attracted over 200,000 followers. Human Rights Watch Asia said: "The Tatmadaw sees Facebook as its Internet nemesis because it's the dominant communication (5) \_\_\_\_\_ country and has been hostile to the military." A Twitter user said it (6) \_\_\_\_\_ on the Internet".

The Tatmadaw (7) \_\_\_\_\_ Myanmar's democratically elected civilian government. It immediately (8) \_\_\_\_\_ state of emergency. The coup took place after days of tension between the military and the government. The Tatmadaw (9) \_\_\_\_\_ the results of November's national election, alleging massive voter fraud. It has arrested former Minister of Foreign Affairs Aung San Suu Kyi, who is now being held (10) \_\_\_\_\_ an undisclosed location. Authorities filed charges against her for allegedly illegally importing six unregistered walkie-talkie radios. The (11) \_\_\_\_\_ former president Win Myint. He is being (12) \_\_\_\_\_ coronavirus containment measures during the election.



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210207-myanmar-coup.html>

1. When did the junta overthrow Myanmar's government?
2. What did the junta say it wanted to maintain?
3. What does the junta see Facebook as a threat to?
4. How many followers does a civil disobedience page have on Facebook?
5. What did a human rights group say the junta views Facebook as?
6. How long is the state of emergency the junta declared?
7. What was there between the junta and government before the coup?
8. What did the junta say happened in November's election?
9. What is Aung San Suu Kyi accused of illegally importing?
10. Who is being charged with violating coronavirus measures?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210207-myanmar-coup.html>

- 1) When did the junta overthrow Myanmar's government?
  - a) February the 5th
  - b) January the 31st
  - c) February the 1st
  - d) January the 30th
- 2) What did the junta say it wanted to maintain?
  - a) stability
  - b) power
  - c) control
  - d) standards
- 3) What does the junta see Facebook as a threat to?
  - a) society
  - b) its rule
  - c) safety
  - d) the Internet
- 4) How many followers does a civil disobedience page have on Facebook?
  - a) exactly 200,000
  - b) just fewer than 200,000
  - c) around 200,000
  - d) over 200,000
- 5) What did a human rights group say the junta views Facebook as?
  - a) an annoyance
  - b) a danger
  - c) its Internet nemesis
  - d) insignificant
- 6) How long is the state of emergency the junta declared?
  - a) a month
  - b) a year
  - c) a week
  - d) 10 weeks
- 7) What was there between the junta and government before the coup?
  - a) talks
  - b) cooperation
  - c) infighting
  - d) tension
- 8) What did the junta say happened in November's election?
  - a) riots
  - b) massive voter fraud
  - c) corruption
  - d) propaganda
- 9) What is Aung San Suu Kyi accused of illegally importing?
  - a) cars
  - b) walkie-talkie radios
  - c) fur coats
  - d) computers
- 10) Who is being charged with violating coronavirus measures?
  - a) former president Win Myint
  - b) Aung San Suu Kyi
  - c) the head of Facebook in Myanmar
  - d) the people in the capital

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210207-myanmar-coup.html>

## **Role A – Strong Military**

You think a strong military is most important for social stability. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): democracy, family or wealth.

## **Role B – Democracy**

You think democracy is most important for social stability. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): a strong military, family or wealth.

## **Role C – Family**

You think family is most important for social stability. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): democracy, a strong military or wealth.

## **Role D – Wealth**

You think wealth is most important for social stability. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): democracy, family or a strong military.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210207-myanmar-coup.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'military' and 'coup'.

| military | coup |
|----------|------|
|          |      |

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• junta</li><li>• issued</li><li>• giant</li><li>• days</li><li>• page</li><li>• hostile</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• immediately</li><li>• took</li><li>• accept</li><li>• location</li><li>• filed</li><li>• violating</li></ul> |
|--|--|

# MYANMAR'S COUP SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210207-myanmar-coup.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Myanmar's coup 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<br>_____ | STUDENT 2<br>_____ | STUDENT 3<br>_____ |
|------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 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.

# MYANMAR'S COUP DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'military'?
3. What do you know about Myanmar?
4. What do you know about military coups?
5. How stable is the government in your country?
6. Why might Facebook be a threat?
7. What do you think of civil disobedience?
8. Would you take part in civil disobedience?
9. Why do you think the military think they can govern a country?
10. Can the Internet be banned?

*Myanmar military blocks Facebook after coup – 7th February, 2021*  
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# MYANMAR'S COUP DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'coup'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you want to know about Myanmar?
15. What happens in a state of emergency?
16. How would you feel if there was a coup in your country?
17. What do you know about Aung San Suu Kyi?
18. What advice do you have for Aung San Suu Kyi?
19. Where do you think this story will be in two months from now?
20. What questions would you like to ask the military government?

## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210207-myanmar-coup.html>

The Tatmadaw, the (1) \_\_\_\_\_ junta that overthrew Myanmar's government on February the 1st, has blocked access to Facebook. The Ministry of Communications issued a statement saying Facebook would be halted (2) \_\_\_\_\_ order to maintain "stability". The social media giant is used by a (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of the population and the Tatmadaw sees it as a (4) \_\_\_\_\_ to its rule. In the days after the coup, a civil disobedience page that (5) \_\_\_\_\_ on Facebook attracted over 200,000 followers. Human Rights Watch Asia said: "The Tatmadaw sees Facebook as its Internet nemesis because it's the dominant communication channel in the country and has been hostile (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the military." A Twitter user said it was, "a ban on the Internet".

The Tatmadaw (7) \_\_\_\_\_ power from Myanmar's democratically elected civilian government. It immediately declared a yearlong (8) \_\_\_\_\_ of emergency. The coup took place after days of tension between the military and the government. The Tatmadaw refused to accept the results of November's national election, alleging massive voter (9) \_\_\_\_\_. It has arrested former Minister of Foreign Affairs Aung San Suu Kyi, who is now being held in detention at an undisclosed location. Authorities (10) \_\_\_\_\_ charges against her for allegedly illegally importing six unregistered walkie-(11) \_\_\_\_\_ radios. The military also arrested former president Win Myint. He is being charged with (12) \_\_\_\_\_ coronavirus containment measures during the election.

## Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- |     |               |                |               |               |
|-----|---------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1.  | (a) militia   | (b) militarily | (c) military  | (d) militants |
| 2.  | (a) in        | (b) on         | (c) at        | (d) by        |
| 3.  | (a) majority  | (b) priority   | (c) rarity    | (d) sorority  |
| 4.  | (a) threat    | (b) throat     | (c) treat     | (d) trait     |
| 5.  | (a) converged | (b) emerged    | (c) assured   | (d) excised   |
| 6.  | (a) in        | (b) as         | (c) of        | (d) to        |
| 7.  | (a) seized    | (b) ceased     | (c) assisted  | (d) sized     |
| 8.  | (a) territory | (b) province   | (c) nation    | (d) state     |
| 9.  | (a) fraud     | (b) irregular  | (c) dishonest | (d) corrupts  |
| 10. | (a) sawed     | (b) filed      | (c) chiselled | (d) rasped    |
| 11. | (a) walkie    | (b) talkie     | (c) bulky     | (d) sulky     |
| 12. | (a) violating | (b) violation  | (c) violator  | (d) violates  |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210207-myanmar-coup.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. the military tuanj
2. maintain talitybsi
3. civil einecobsdeid
4. The Tatmadaw sees Facebook as its Internet eimnses
5. the mninotda communication channel
6. heioslt to the military

## Paragraph 2

7. The Tatmadaw iezsde power
8. iicanliv government
9. after days of osnetni
10. llineagg massive voter fraud
11. being held in einttdoen
12. ognlviita coronavirus containment measures

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210207-myanmar-coup.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) followers. Human Rights Watch Asia said: "The Tatmadaw sees Facebook as its Internet
- ( ) nemesis because it's the dominant communication channel in the country and has been hostile to the military." A Twitter user said it was, "a ban on the Internet".
- ( ) The Tatmadaw seized power from Myanmar's democratically elected civilian government. It immediately declared
- ( ) giant is used by a majority of the population and the Tatmadaw sees it as a threat to its rule. In the days
- ( ) held in detention at an undisclosed location. Authorities filed charges against
- ( ) February the 1st, has blocked access to Facebook. The Ministry of Communications issued
- ( **1** ) The Tatmadaw, the military junta that overthrew Myanmar's government on
- ( ) a statement saying Facebook would be halted in order to maintain "stability". The social media
- ( ) after the coup, a civil disobedience page that emerged on Facebook attracted over 200,000
- ( ) her for allegedly illegally importing six unregistered walkie-talkie radios. The military also arrested former
- ( ) and the government. The Tatmadaw refused to accept the results of November's national election, alleging
- ( ) a yearlong state of emergency. The coup took place after days of tension between the military
- ( ) president Win Myint. He is being charged with violating coronavirus containment measures during the election.
- ( ) massive voter fraud. It has arrested former Minister of Foreign Affairs Aung San Suu Kyi, who is now being

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210207-myanmar-coup.html>

1. halted be would social maintain to stability . Facebook
2. It's a the population . by majority of used
3. that A on page disobedience emerged civil Facebook .
4. Internet its as Tatmadaw The Facebook nemesis . sees
5. Internet . ban a on the It was
6. state yearlong a of It emergency . declared immediately
7. tension . The of after days took place coup
8. undisclosed detention in location . an held Being at
9. radios . Authorities against for filed charges her importing
10. He containment . being charged coronavirus violating with is

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210207-myanmar-coup.html>

The Tatmadaw, the *militarily / military* junta that overthrew Myanmar's government on February the 1st, has blocked *excess / access* to Facebook. The Ministry of Communications issued *a / the* statement saying Facebook would be *hated / halted* in order to maintain "stability". The social media giant is used by a majority of the population and the Tatmadaw sees it as a *threat / treat* to its rule. In the days after the *coop / coup*, a civil disobedience page that emerged *in / on* Facebook attracted over 200,000 followers. Human Rights Watch Asia said: "The Tatmadaw *watches / sees* Facebook as its Internet nemesis because it's the *remnant / dominant* communication channel in the country and has been hostile to the military." A Twitter user said it was, "a *fan / ban* on the Internet".

The Tatmadaw *ceased / seized* power from Myanmar's democratically elected civilian government. It immediately declared a yearlong state *to / of* emergency. The coup took place after days of *tension / tense* between the military and the government. The Tatmadaw refused to accept *the / a* results of November's national election, *alleging / allegory* massive voter fraud. It has arrested *farmer / former* Minister of Foreign Affairs Aung San Suu Kyi, who is now being *hold / held* in detention at an undisclosed location. Authorities *filed / flied* charges against her for allegedly illegally importing six unregistered walkie-talkie radios. The military also *rested / arrested* former president Win Myint. He is being charged with violating coronavirus containment measures *during / while* the election.

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

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Th\_ T\_tm\_d\_w, th\_ m\_l\_t\_ry j\_nt\_ th\_t \_v\_rthr\_w  
My\_nm\_r's g\_v\_rnm\_nt \_n F\_br\_\_ry th\_ 1st, h\_s  
bl\_ck\_d \_cc\_ss t\_ F\_c\_b\_\_k. Th\_ M\_n\_stry \_f  
C\_mm\_n\_c\_t\_\_ns \_ss\_\_d \_ st\_t\_m\_nt s\_y\_ng F\_c\_b\_\_k  
w\_\_ld b\_ h\_lt\_d \_n \_rd\_r t\_ m\_\_nt\_\_n "st\_b\_l\_ty". Th\_  
s\_c\_\_l m\_d\_\_ g\_\_nt \_s \_s\_d by \_ m\_j\_r\_ty \_f th\_  
p\_p\_l\_t\_\_n \_nd th\_ T\_tm\_d\_w s\_\_s \_t \_s \_ thr\_\_t t\_  
\_ts r\_l\_. \_n th\_ d\_ys \_ft\_r th\_ c\_\_p, \_ c\_v\_l  
d\_s\_b\_d\_\_nc\_ p\_g\_ th\_t \_m\_rg\_d \_n F\_c\_b\_\_k \_ttr\_ct\_d  
\_v\_r 200,000 f\_ll\_w\_rs. H\_m\_n R\_ghts W\_tch \_s\_\_  
s\_\_d: "Th\_ T\_tm\_d\_w s\_\_s F\_c\_b\_\_k \_s \_ts \_nt\_rn\_t  
n\_m\_s\_s b\_c\_\_s\_ \_t's th\_ d\_m\_n\_nt c\_mm\_n\_c\_t\_\_n  
ch\_nn\_l \_n th\_ c\_\_ntry \_nd h\_s b\_\_n h\_st\_l\_ t\_ th\_  
m\_l\_t\_ry." \_ Tw\_tt\_r \_s\_r s\_\_d \_t w\_s, "\_ b\_n \_n th\_  
\_nt\_rn\_t".

Th\_ T\_tm\_d\_w s\_\_z\_d p\_w\_r fr\_m My\_nm\_r's  
d\_m\_cr\_t\_c\_lly \_l\_ct\_d c\_v\_l\_\_n g\_v\_rnm\_nt. \_t  
\_mm\_d\_\_t\_ly d\_cl\_r\_d \_ y\_\_rlng st\_t\_ \_f \_m\_rg\_ncy.  
Th\_ c\_\_p t\_\_k pl\_c\_ \_ft\_r d\_ys \_f t\_n\_s\_\_n b\_tw\_\_n  
th\_ m\_l\_t\_ry \_nd th\_ g\_v\_rnm\_nt. Th\_ T\_tm\_d\_w  
r\_f\_s\_d t\_ \_cc\_pt th\_ r\_s\_lts \_f N\_v\_mb\_r's n\_t\_\_n\_l  
\_l\_ct\_\_n, \_ll\_g\_ng m\_ss\_v\_ v\_t\_r fr\_\_d. \_t h\_s  
\_rr\_st\_d fr\_m\_r M\_n\_st\_r \_f F\_r\_\_gn \_ff\_\_rs \_\_ng S\_n  
S\_\_ Ky\_, wh\_ \_s n\_w b\_\_ng h\_ld \_n d\_t\_nt\_\_n \_t \_n  
\_nd\_scl\_s\_d l\_c\_t\_\_n. \_\_th\_r\_t\_\_s f\_l\_d ch\_rg\_s \_g\_\_nst  
h\_r f\_r \_ll\_g\_dly \_ll\_g\_lly \_mp\_rt\_ng s\_x \_nr\_g\_st\_r\_d  
w\_lk\_\_-t\_lk\_\_ r\_d\_\_s. Th\_ m\_l\_t\_ry \_ls\_ \_rr\_st\_d  
fr\_m\_r pr\_s\_d\_nt W\_n My\_nt. H\_ \_s b\_\_ng ch\_rg\_d  
w\_th v\_\_l\_t\_ng c\_r\_n\_v\_r\_s c\_nt\_\_nm\_nt m\_\_s\_r\_s  
d\_r\_ng th\_ \_l\_ct\_\_n.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210207-myanmar-coup.html>

the tatmadaw the military junta that overthrew myanmars government on february the 1st has blocked access to facebook the ministry of communications issued a statement saying facebook would be halted in order to maintain stability the social media giant is used by a majority of the population and the tatmadaw sees it as a threat to its rule in the days after the coup a civil disobedience page that emerged on facebook attracted over 200000 followers human rights watch asia said the tatmadaw sees facebook as its internet nemesis because its the dominant communication channel in the country and has been hostile to the military a twitter user said it was a ban on the internet

the tatmadaw seized power from myanmars democratically elected civilian government it immediately declared a yearlong state of emergency the coup took place after days of tension between the military and the government the tatmadaw refused to accept the results of novembers national election alleging massive voter fraud it has arrested former minister of foreign affairs aung san suu kyi who is now being held in detention at an undisclosed location authorities filed charges against her for allegedly illegally importing six unregistered walkietalkie radios the military also arrested former president win myint he is being charged with violating coronavirus containment measures during the election

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2102/210207-myanmar-coup.html>

The Tatmadaw, the military junta that overthrew Myanmar's government on February the 1st, has blocked access to Facebook. The Ministry of Communications issued a statement saying Facebook would be halted in order to maintain "stability". The social media giant is used by a majority of the population and the Tatmadaw sees it as a threat to its rule. In the days after the coup, a civil disobedience page that emerged on Facebook attracted over 200,000 followers. Human Rights Watch Asia said: "The Tatmadaw sees Facebook as its Internet nemesis because it's the dominant communication channel in the country and has been hostile to the military." A Twitter user said it was, "a ban on the Internet". The Tatmadaw seized power from Myanmar's democratically elected civilian government. It immediately declared a year-long state of emergency. The coup took place after days of tension between the military and the government. The Tatmadaw refused to accept the results of November's national election, alleging massive voter fraud. It has arrested former Minister of Foreign Affairs Aung San Suu Kyi, who is now being held in detention at an undisclosed location. Authorities filed charges against her for allegedly illegally importing six unregistered walkie-talkie radios. The military also arrested former president Win Myint. He is being charged with violating coronavirus containment measures during the election.







# HOMEWORK

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. MYANMAR'S COUP:** Make a poster about Myanmar's coup. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. RESTORE POWER:** Write a magazine article about the world restoring power to Myanmar's elected government. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on Myanmar's coup. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your opinions on it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. d    2. f    3. b    4. g    5. c    6. e    7. a  
8. n    9. k    10. m    11. h    12. i    13. l    14. j

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- a F    b T    c F    d T    e F    f T    g F    h T

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

|      |      |      |      |       |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. h | 2. d | 3. j | 4. b | 5. f  |
| 6. a | 7. i | 8. e | 9. g | 10. c |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- February the 1st
- Stability
- Its rule
- Over 200,000
- Its Internet nemesis
- A year
- Tension
- Massive voter fraud
- Walkie-talkie radios
- Former president Win Myint

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

- Facebook would be halted to maintain social stability.
- It's used by a majority of the population.
- A civil disobedience page that emerged on Facebook.
- The Tatmadaw sees Facebook as its Internet nemesis.
- It was a ban on the Internet.
- It immediately declared a yearlong state of emergency.
- The coup took place after days of tension.
- Being held in detention at an undisclosed location.
- Authorities filed charges against her for importing radios.
- He is being charged with violating coronavirus containment.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. c    2. a    3. b    4. d    5. c    6. b    7. d    8. b    9. b    10. a

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)