

# Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

**"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES  
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"**

[breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html](http://breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html)

**Thousands more free lessons  
from Sean's other websites**

[www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean\\_banville\\_lessons.html](http://www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html)

**Level 3 – 4th August, 2022**

## **UN says nuclear annihilation is one mistake away**

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220804-nuclear-annihilation.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 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).**

**Twitter**



[twitter.com/SeanBanville](https://twitter.com/SeanBanville)

**Facebook**



[www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176](https://www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176)

# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220804-nuclear-annihilation.html>

The world is experiencing troubling times. We have the COVID-19 pandemic, a global cost of living crisis, a changing climate, and record heat waves. The United Nations has warned of an increasing danger - nuclear annihilation. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has warned that one small mistake could lead to a nuclear war. Mr Guterres warned that international tensions were "reaching new highs". He pointed to the Ukraine War, the Korean peninsula, and the Middle East as possible flashpoints. He said, "we have been extraordinarily lucky so far" to have avoided nuclear conflict. He said: "Luck is not a strategy. Nor is it a shield from geopolitical tensions boiling over into nuclear conflict."

Guterres painted a picture of a world close to war. He said the danger level is at its highest since the Cold War. He warned that: "Humanity is just one misunderstanding, one miscalculation away from nuclear annihilation." Guterres was speaking at a conference for countries signed up to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. This started in 1968. He said the conference was "a chance to strengthen" the Treaty and "make it fit for the worrying world around us". He added: "Eliminating nuclear weapons is the only guarantee that they will never be used." He said: "Almost 13,000 nuclear weapons are now being held in arsenals around the world...at a time when the risks of proliferation are growing."

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-62381425>  
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/aug/02/world-one-miscalculation-away-from-nuclear-annihilation-un-chief-says>  
<https://www.dw.com/en/guterres-warns-of-nuclear-annihilation-at-conference-over-nuclear-nonproliferation-treaty/a-62675732>

# WARM-UPS

**1. NUCLEAR WEAPONS:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about nuclear weapons. 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?

troubling / pandemic / cost of living / crisis / heat wave / nuclear war / tensions / luck picture / humanity / misunderstanding / treaty / 1968 / weapons / guarantee / risks

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

**3. DISARM:** Students A **strongly** believe all countries will disarm one day; Students B **strongly** believe this will never happen. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. TROUBLING TIMES:** What troubles do these things bring? How have they affected you? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Troubles	How It Has Affected You
COVID-19		
Cost of living crisis		
Climate change		
War		
Pollution		
Violence		

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

**6. FLASHPOINTS:** Rank these with your partner. Put the most serious at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Ukraine
- Yemen
- Afghanistan
- Iran-Israel
- US-China relations
- Korean Peninsula
- The Middle East
- India-Pakistan

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. troubling    | a. A disease that is all over a whole country or the world.        |
| 2. pandemic     | b. A long, thin piece of land almost surrounded by water.          |
| 3. annihilation | c. Things that can make relations bad between people or countries. |
| 4. tensions     | d. Total, 100% destruction.  |
| 5. peninsula    | e. Causing worry and stress.                                       |
| 6. conflict     | f. A plan of action designed to make an aim or goal successful.    |
| 7. strategy     | g. War.  |

## Paragraph 2

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| 8. humanity       | h. Completely removing something.                              |
| 9. miscalculation | i. All of the people on Earth.                                 |
| 10. conference    | j. Be good enough for.   |
| 11. strengthen    | k. A very fast increase in the number or amount of something.  |
| 12. fit           | l. A big meeting of people that takes place over several days. |
| 13. eliminating   | m. Make stronger.  |
| 14. proliferation | n. The act of making a mistake.                                |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220804-nuclear-annihilation.html>

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

1. The article says the world is experiencing timing troubles. **T / F**
2. The UN Secretary-General said a huge mistake could lead to war. **T / F**
3. The UN Secretary-General said the Middle East was a flashpoint. **T / F**
4. The UN said luck can shield us from global tensions. **T / F**
5. Antonio Guterres likes painting and sketching the world. **T / F**
6. Antonio Guterres said annihilation could come from one miscalculation. **T / F**
7. The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty began in 1968. **T / F**
8. Antonio Guterres said the USA has 13,000 nuclear weapons. **T / F**

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                          |                   |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. <b>troubling</b>      | a. war            |
| 2. <b>global</b>         | b. frictions      |
| 3. <b>annihilation</b>   | c. toughen up     |
| 4. <b>tensions</b>       | d. destruction    |
| 5. <b>conflict</b>       | e. difficult      |
| 6. <b>humanity</b>       | f. chances        |
| 7. <b>miscalculation</b> | g. the human race |
| 8. <b>strengthen</b>     | h. suitable       |
| 9. <b>fit</b>            | i. worldwide      |
| 10. <b>risks</b>         | j. mistake        |

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

- |                                      |                               |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. The world is experiencing         | a. a world close to war       |
| 2. a global cost                     | b. tensions                   |
| 3. boiling                           | c. never be used              |
| 4. geopolitical                      | d. of living crisis           |
| 5. nuclear                           | e. are growing                |
| 6. Guterres painted a picture of     | f. conflict                   |
| 7. Guterres was speaking             | g. troubling times            |
| 8. the only guarantee that they will | h. weapons                    |
| 9. 13,000 nuclear                    | i. over into nuclear conflict |
| 10. the risks of proliferation       | j. at a conference            |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220804-nuclear-annihilation.html>

The world is experiencing (1) \_\_\_\_\_ times. We have the COVID-19 pandemic, a global cost of living crisis, a changing (2) \_\_\_\_\_, and record heat waves. The United Nations has warned of an increasing danger - nuclear annihilation. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has warned that one small (3) \_\_\_\_\_ could lead to a nuclear war. Mr Guterres warned that international tensions were "reaching (4) \_\_\_\_\_ highs". He pointed to the Ukraine War, the Korean (5) \_\_\_\_\_, and the Middle East as possible flashpoints. He said, "we have been extraordinarily lucky so (6) \_\_\_\_\_" to have avoided nuclear conflict. He said: "Luck is not a (7) \_\_\_\_\_. Nor is it a shield from geopolitical tensions boiling (8) \_\_\_\_\_ into nuclear conflict."

*new*  
*far*  
*mistake*  
*over*  
*troubling*  
*climate*  
*strategy*  
*peninsula*

Guterres painted a (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of a world close to war. He said the danger (10) \_\_\_\_\_ is at its highest since the Cold War. He warned that: "Humanity is just one misunderstanding, one miscalculation away from nuclear annihilation." Guterres was (11) \_\_\_\_\_ at a conference for countries signed (12) \_\_\_\_\_ to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. This started in 1968. He said the conference was "a (13) \_\_\_\_\_ to strengthen" the Treaty and "make it fit for the worrying world (14) \_\_\_\_\_ us". He added: "Eliminating nuclear weapons is the only (15) \_\_\_\_\_ that they will never be used." He said: "Almost 13,000 nuclear weapons are now being held in arsenals around the world...at a time when the (16) \_\_\_\_\_ of proliferation are growing."

*level*  
*chance*  
*picture*  
*risks*  
*up*  
*guarantee*  
*speaking*  
*around*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220804-nuclear-annihilation.html>

- 1) a global cost of living crisis, a changing climate, and \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. records heat waves
  - b. record heats waves
  - c. record heat wave
  - d. record heat waves
- 2) Mr Guterres warned that international tensions were " \_\_\_\_\_ "
  - a. reach in new highs
  - b. reaching new high
  - c. reaching new highs
  - d. reaching anew highs
- 3) He pointed to the Ukraine War, \_\_\_\_\_...
  - a. a Korean pen isn't solar
  - b. the Korean pen insular
  - c. the Korean penning solar
  - d. the Korean peninsula
- 4) He said, "we have been extraordinarily \_\_\_\_\_ "
  - a. lucky so far
  - b. luckily sofa
  - c. lucky sofa
  - d. luck is so far
- 5) Nor is it a shield from geopolitical tensions boiling over \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. unto nuclear conflict
  - b. onto nuclear conflict
  - c. into nuclear conflict
  - d. as to nuclear conflict
- 6) Guterres painted a picture of a world \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. closed to war
  - b. close two war
  - c. close too war
  - d. close to war
- 7) from nuclear annihilation. Guterres was speaking \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. at a con fence
  - b. at acorn fence
  - c. at a conifer ants
  - d. at a conference
- 8) a chance to strengthen the Treaty and make it fit for \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the worry in world
  - b. the worry world
  - c. the worrying world
  - d. the worry inner world
- 9) Eliminating nuclear weapons is the only guarantee that they will \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. never been used
  - b. never be use
  - c. never bee used
  - d. never be used
- 10) at a time when the risks of \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. proliferation are growing
  - b. proliferation are grown
  - c. proliferation are grow in
  - d. proliferation are grow wing

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220804-nuclear-annihilation.html>

The world is experiencing troubling times. We have the COVID-19 pandemic, a global (1) \_\_\_\_\_ crisis, a changing climate, and record heat waves. The United Nations has (2) \_\_\_\_\_ increasing danger - nuclear annihilation. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has warned that (3) \_\_\_\_\_ could lead to a nuclear war. Mr Guterres warned that international tensions were "(4) \_\_\_\_\_". He pointed to the Ukraine War, the Korean peninsula, and the Middle East as possible flashpoints. He said, "we have been extraordinarily (5) \_\_\_\_\_" to have avoided nuclear conflict. He said: "Luck is not a strategy. Nor is it (6) \_\_\_\_\_ geopolitical tensions boiling over into nuclear conflict."

Guterres (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of a world close to war. He said the danger level is at its highest since the Cold War. He warned that: "Humanity (8) \_\_\_\_\_ misunderstanding, one miscalculation away from nuclear annihilation." Guterres was speaking (9) \_\_\_\_\_ for countries signed up to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. This started in 1968. He said the conference was "a (10) \_\_\_\_\_" the Treaty and "make it fit for the worrying world around us". He added: "Eliminating nuclear weapons is (11) \_\_\_\_\_ that they will never be used." He said: "Almost 13,000 nuclear weapons are now being held in arsenals around the world...at a time when (12) \_\_\_\_\_ proliferation are growing."



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220804-nuclear-annihilation.html>

1. What kind of time does the article say the world is experiencing?
2. What kind of mistake could lead to nuclear war?
3. What flashpoints were mentioned besides Ukraine and Korea?
4. What did Antonio Guterres say was not a strategy?
5. What could geopolitical tensions boil over into?
6. What did Antonio Guterres paint a picture of?
7. When was the last time the world was in this much danger?
8. When did the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty start?
9. What is the only guarantee that nuclear weapons will never be used?
10. How many nuclear weapons are there in the world?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220804-nuclear-annihilation.html>

- 1) What kind of time does the article say the world is experiencing?
  - a) troubling times
  - b) many times
  - c) early times
  - d) time to change
- 2) What kind of mistake could lead to nuclear war?
  - a) a major mistake
  - b) a repeated mistake
  - c) a small mistake
  - d) a language mistake
- 3) What flashpoints were mentioned besides Ukraine and Korea?
  - a) Iran
  - b) the Middle East
  - c) Myanmar
  - d) Yemen
- 4) What did Antonio Guterres say was not a strategy?
  - a) chance
  - b) risk
  - c) war
  - d) luck
- 5) What could geopolitical tensions boil over into?
  - a) nuclear conflict
  - b) a cooking pot
  - c) a melting pot
  - d) China
- 6) What did Antonio Guterres paint a picture of?
  - a) flowers
  - b) Armageddon
  - c) international tensions
  - d) a world close to war
- 7) When was the last time the world was in this much danger?
  - a) WWI
  - b) the Cold War
  - c) the Korean War
  - d) the Crimean War
- 8) When did the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty start?
  - a) 1986
  - b) 1966
  - c) 1988
  - d) 1968
- 9) What is the only guarantee that nuclear weapons will never be used?
  - a) a warranty
  - b) M.A.D.
  - c) eliminating nuclear weapons
  - d) there is no guarantee
- 10) How many nuclear weapons are there in the world?
  - a) just over 13,000
  - b) almost 13,000
  - c) exactly 13,000
  - d) around 13,000

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220804-nuclear-annihilation.html>

## **Role A – Ukraine**

You think Ukraine is the world's biggest flashpoint. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their tensions aren't as dangerous. Also, tell the others which is the easiest of these to solve (and why): US-China relations, the Korean Peninsula or the Middle East.

## **Role B – US-China Relations**

You think US-China relations are the world's biggest flashpoint. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their tensions aren't as dangerous. Also, tell the others which is the easiest of these to solve (and why): Ukraine, the Korean Peninsula or the Middle East.

## **Role C – Korean Peninsula**

You think the Korean Peninsula is the world's biggest flashpoint. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their tensions aren't as dangerous. Also, tell the others which is the easiest of these to solve (and why): US-China relations, Ukraine or the Middle East.

## **Role D – The Middle East**

You think the Middle East is the world's biggest flashpoint. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their tensions aren't as dangerous. Also, tell the others which is the easiest of these to solve (and why): US-China relations, the Korean Peninsula or Ukraine.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220804-nuclear-annihilation.html>

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

<b>nuclear</b>	<b>war</b>
----------------	------------

- 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>• troubling</li><li>• record</li><li>• small</li><li>• pointed</li><li>• far</li><li>• boiling</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• picture</li><li>• highest</li><li>• speaking</li><li>• 1968</li><li>• only</li><li>• growing</li></ul>
--	--

# NUCLEAR WEAPONS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220804-nuclear-annihilation.html>

Write five GOOD questions about nuclear weapons 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.

# NUCLEAR WEAPONS 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 'nuclear'?
3. What are the most worrying problems in the world?
4. How much time do you spend worrying about the world?
5. How has the cost of living crisis affected you?
6. How has the changing climate affected you?
7. What do you think of the world being close to 'nuclear annihilation'?
8. How and when will the Ukraine War end?
9. How and when will the tensions in Korea end?
10. What must happen to bring peace to the Middle East?

*UN says nuclear annihilation is one mistake away – 4th August, 2022*  
Thousands more free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

---

# NUCLEAR WEAPONS 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 'war'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. How close do you think the world is to war?
15. What do you know about the Cold War?
16. How do you think nuclear war could start?
17. Why don't countries destroy all their nuclear weapons?
18. Which country is the biggest danger to the world?
19. What will the world look like in 50 years from now?
20. What questions would you like to ask the UN?

## DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

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

Copyright © breakingnewsenglish.com 2021

-----

## 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/2208/220804-nuclear-annihilation.html>

The world is experiencing (1) \_\_\_\_ times. We have the COVID-19 pandemic, a global cost of living crisis, a changing climate, and (2) \_\_\_\_ heat waves. The United Nations has warned of an increasing danger - nuclear annihilation. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has warned that (3) \_\_\_\_ small mistake could lead to a nuclear war. Mr Guterres warned that international tensions were "reaching new (4) \_\_\_\_". He pointed to the Ukraine War, the Korean peninsula, and the Middle East as possible (5) \_\_\_\_\_. He said, "we have been extraordinarily lucky so far" to have avoided nuclear conflict. He said: "Luck is not a strategy. (6) \_\_\_\_ is it a shield from geopolitical tensions boiling over into nuclear conflict."

Guterres (7) \_\_\_\_ a picture of a world close to war. He said the danger level is at its highest since the Cold War. He warned that: "Humanity is just one misunderstanding, one miscalculation (8) \_\_\_\_ from nuclear annihilation." Guterres was speaking at a conference for countries signed (9) \_\_\_\_ to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. This started in 1968. He said the conference was "a chance to (10) \_\_\_\_" the Treaty and "make it fit for the worrying world around us". He added: "Eliminating nuclear weapons is the (11) \_\_\_\_ guarantee that they will never be used." He said: "Almost 13,000 nuclear weapons are now being held in arsenals around the world...at a time when the risks of proliferation (12) \_\_\_\_ growing."

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

- |     |                 |                 |                |                 |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1.  | (a) troubling   | (b) problems    | (c) difficulty | (d) hardship    |
| 2.  | (a) hot         | (b) warmish     | (c) record     | (d) broken      |
| 3.  | (a) once        | (b) only        | (c) one        | (d) the         |
| 4.  | (a) elevates    | (b) increase    | (c) ups        | (d) highs       |
| 5.  | (a) flashpoints | (b) flashlights | (c) flashy     | (d) flash cards |
| 6.  | (a) Or          | (b) Nor         | (c) Not        | (d) Now         |
| 7.  | (a) uploaded    | (b) auctioned   | (c) traced     | (d) painted     |
| 8.  | (a) around      | (b) away        | (c) above      | (d) up          |
| 9.  | (a) as          | (b) of          | (c) up         | (d) at          |
| 10. | (a) strength    | (b) strongly    | (c) stronger   | (d) strengthen  |
| 11. | (a) busily      | (b) certainly   | (c) surely     | (d) only        |
| 12. | (a) have        | (b) are         | (c) be         | (d) do          |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220804-nuclear-annihilation.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. The world is perncixneieg troubling times
2. a changing aimclet
3. the Korean alnuespin
4. Luck is not a gyrttsea
5. geopolitical iosstne
6. boiling over into nuclear ocfclint

## Paragraph 2

7. the danger elelv
8. He warned that utamyhni is just one
9. speaking at a cneceenfro
10. a chance to rnetesthn the Treaty
11. the only tagarnee
12. nuclear oepawsn

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220804-nuclear-annihilation.html>

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

- ( ) speaking at a conference for countries signed up to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. This started in
- ( ) been extraordinarily lucky so far" to have avoided nuclear conflict. He said: "Luck is not a strategy. Nor
- ( ) around us". He added: "Eliminating nuclear weapons is the only guarantee that they will never
- ( ) 1968. He said the conference was "a chance to strengthen" the Treaty and "make it fit for the worrying world
- ( ) is it a shield from geopolitical tensions boiling over into nuclear conflict."
- ( ) to a nuclear war. Mr Guterres warned that international tensions were "reaching new highs". He pointed
- ( ) Guterres painted a picture of a world close to war. He said the danger level is at its highest since
- ( ) to the Ukraine War, the Korean peninsula, and the Middle East as possible flashpoints. He said, "we have
- ( ) the Cold War. He warned that: "Humanity is just one misunderstanding, one miscalculation away from nuclear annihilation." Guterres was
- ( ) be used." He said: "Almost 13,000 nuclear weapons are now being held in arsenals
- ( **1** ) The world is experiencing troubling times. We have the COVID-19 pandemic, a global cost of living
- ( ) danger - nuclear annihilation. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has warned that one small mistake could lead
- ( ) crisis, a changing climate, and record heat waves. The United Nations has warned of an increasing
- ( ) around the world...at a time when the risks of proliferation are growing."

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220804-nuclear-annihilation.html>

1. climate heat and changing A waves . record
2. could small One nuclear war . lead to mistake
3. international reaching tensions He highs . warned new were
4. extraordinarily far . been We lucky so have
5. tensions boiling nuclear conflict . into Geopolitical over
6. to of A a close world war . picture
7. at level highest is danger its The .
8. guarantee . only weapons nuclear Eliminating is the
9. being held . nuclear 13,000 are Almost now weapons
10. are of When proliferation the risks growing .

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220804-nuclear-annihilation.html>

The world is *experienced* / *experiencing* troubling times. We have the COVID-19 pandemic, a global cost of living *crises* / *crisis*, a changing climate, and *record* / *records* heat waves. The United Nations has warned of an increasing *dangerous* / *danger* - nuclear annihilation. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has *waned* / *warned* that one small mistake could *lead* / *cause* to a nuclear war. Mr Guterres warned that international tensions were "reaching new highs". He *pointed* / *pointed* to the Ukraine War, the Korean peninsula, and the Middle East as *possibility* / *possible* flashpoints. He said, "we have been extraordinarily lucky *so* / *such* far" to have avoided nuclear conflict. He said: "Luck is not a strategy. Nor is it a shield from geopolitical tensions *cooking* / *boiling* over into nuclear conflict."

Guterres painted a picture of a world *closed* / *close* to war. He said the danger level is at its highest *for* / *since* the Cold War. He warned that: "Humanity is just *one* / *once* misunderstanding, one miscalculation away *from* / *for* nuclear annihilation." Guterres was speaking at a conference for countries signed *up* / *down* to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. This started in 1968. He said the conference was "a *change* / *chance* to strengthen" the Treaty and "make it *fit* / *bit* for the worrying world around us". He added: "Eliminating nuclear weapons is the only *guaranteed* / *guarantee* that they will never be used." He said: "Almost 13,000 nuclear weapons are now being held in *spurs* / *arsenals* around the world...at a time when the risks *of* / *to* proliferation are growing."

**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)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220804-nuclear-annihilation.html>

Th\_ w\_rld \_s \_xp\_r\_\_nc\_ng tr\_\_bl\_ng t\_m\_s. W\_ h\_v\_ th\_ C\_V\_D-19 p\_nd\_m\_c, \_ gl\_b\_l c\_st \_f l\_v\_ng cr\_s\_s, \_ ch\_ng\_ng cl\_m\_t\_, \_nd r\_c\_rd h\_\_t w\_v\_s. Th\_ \_n\_t\_d N\_t\_\_ns h\_s w\_rn\_d \_f \_n \_ncr\_\_s\_ng d\_ng\_r - n\_cl\_\_r \_nn\_h\_l\_t\_\_n. \_N S\_cr\_t\_ry-G\_n\_r\_l \_nt\_n\_\_ G\_t\_rr\_s h\_s w\_rn\_d th\_t \_n\_ sm\_ll m\_st\_k\_ c\_\_ld l\_\_d t\_ \_ n\_cl\_\_r w\_r. Mr G\_t\_rr\_s w\_rn\_d th\_t \_nt\_rn\_t\_\_n\_l t\_ns\_\_ns w\_r\_ "r\_\_ch\_ng n\_w h\_ghs". H\_ p\_\_nt\_d t\_ th\_ \_kr\_\_n\_ W\_r, th\_ K\_r\_\_n p\_n\_ns\_l\_, \_nd th\_ M\_ddl\_ \_\_st \_s p\_ss\_bl\_ fl\_shp\_\_nts. H\_ s\_\_d, "w\_ h\_v\_ b\_\_n \_xtr\_\_rd\_n\_r\_ly l\_cky s\_ f\_r" t\_ h\_v\_ \_v\_\_d\_d n\_cl\_\_r c\_nfl\_ct. H\_ s\_\_d: "L\_ck \_s n\_t \_ str\_t\_gy. N\_r \_s \_t \_ sh\_\_ld fr\_m g\_\_p\_l\_t\_c\_l t\_ns\_\_ns b\_\_l\_ng \_v\_r \_nt\_ n\_cl\_\_r c\_nfl\_ct."

G\_t\_rr\_s p\_\_nt\_d \_ p\_ct\_r\_ \_f \_ w\_rld cl\_s\_ t\_ w\_r. H\_ s\_\_d th\_ d\_ng\_r l\_v\_l \_s \_t \_ts h\_g\_h\_st s\_nc\_ th\_ C\_ld W\_r. H\_ w\_rn\_d th\_t "H\_m\_n\_ty \_s j\_st \_n\_ m\_s\_nd\_rst\_nd\_ng, \_n\_ m\_sc\_l\_c\_l\_t\_\_n \_w\_y fr\_m n\_cl\_\_r \_nn\_h\_l\_t\_\_n." G\_t\_rr\_s w\_s sp\_\_k\_ng \_t \_ c\_nf\_r\_nc\_ \_f\_r c\_\_ntr\_\_s s\_gn\_d \_p t\_ th\_ n\_cl\_\_r N\_n-Pr\_l\_f\_r\_t\_\_n Tr\_\_ty. Th\_s st\_rt\_d \_n 1968. H\_ s\_\_d th\_ c\_nf\_r\_nc\_ w\_s "\_ ch\_nc\_ t\_ strngth\_n" th\_ Tr\_\_ty \_nd "m\_k\_ \_t f\_t f\_r th\_ w\_rry\_ng w\_rld \_r\_\_nd \_s". H\_ \_dd\_d: "\_l\_m\_n\_t\_ng n\_cl\_\_r w\_\_p\_ns \_s th\_ \_nly g\_\_r\_nt\_\_ th\_t th\_y w\_ll n\_v\_r b\_ \_s\_d." H\_ s\_\_d: "\_l\_m\_st 13,000 n\_cl\_\_r w\_\_p\_ns \_r\_ n\_w b\_\_ng h\_ld \_n \_rs\_n\_ls \_r\_\_nd th\_ w\_rld...t \_ t\_m\_ wh\_n th\_ r\_sks \_f pr\_l\_f\_r\_t\_\_n \_r\_ gr\_w\_ng."

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220804-nuclear-annihilation.html>

the world is experiencing troubling times we have the covid19 pandemic a global cost of living crisis a changing climate and record heat waves the united nations has warned of an increasing danger nuclear annihilation un secretarygeneral antonio guterres has warned that one small mistake could lead to a nuclear war mr guterres warned that international tensions were reaching new highs he pointed to the ukraine war the korean peninsula and the middle east as possible flashpoints he said we have been extraordinarily lucky so far to have avoided nuclear conflict he said luck is not a strategy nor is it a shield from geopolitical tensions boiling over into nuclear conflict guterres painted a picture of a world close to war he said the danger level is at its highest since the cold war he warned that humanity is just one misunderstanding one miscalculation away from nuclear annihilation guterres was speaking at a conference for countries signed up to the nuclear nonproliferation treaty this started in 1968 he said the conference was a chance to strengthen the treaty and make it fit for the worrying world around us he added eliminating nuclear weapons is the only guarantee that they will never be used he said almost 13000 nuclear weapons are now being held in arsenals around the worldat a time when the risks of proliferation are growing

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220804-nuclear-annihilation.html>

The world is experiencing troubling times. We have the COVID-19 pandemic, a global cost of living crisis, a changing climate, and record heat waves. The United Nations has warned of an increasing danger - nuclear annihilation. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has warned that one small mistake could lead to a nuclear war. Mr Guterres warned that international tensions were "reaching new highs". He pointed to the Ukraine War, the Korean peninsula, and the Middle East as possible flashpoints. He said, "we have been extraordinarily lucky so far" to have avoided nuclear conflict. He said: "Luck is not a strategy. Nor is it a shield from geopolitical tensions boiling over into nuclear conflict." Guterres painted a picture of a world close to war. He said the danger level is at its highest since the Cold War. He warned that: "Humanity is just one misunderstanding, one miscalculation away from nuclear annihilation." Guterres was speaking at a conference for countries signed up to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. This started in 1968. He said the conference was "a chance to strengthen the Treaty and" make it fit for the worrying world around us". He added: "Eliminating nuclear weapons is the only guarantee that they will never be used." He said: "Almost 13,000 nuclear weapons are now being held in arsenals around the world... at a time when the risks of proliferation are growing."

# FREE WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2208/220804-nuclear-annihilation.html>

Write about **nuclear weapons** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner’s paper.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---





# 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. NUCLEAR WEAPONS:** Make a poster about nuclear weapons. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. BAN:** Write a magazine article about banning and destroying all nuclear weapons. 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 nuclear weapons. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to avoid nuclear war. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F    2 F    3 T    4 F    5 F    6 T    7 T    8 F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Troubling times
2. A small mistake
3. The Middle East
4. Luck
5. Nuclear conflict
6. A world close to war
7. The Cold War
8. 1968
9. Eliminating nuclear weapons
10. Almost 13,000

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. A changing climate and record heat waves.
2. One small mistake could lead to nuclear war.
3. He warned international tensions were reaching new highs.
4. We have been extraordinarily lucky so far.
5. Geopolitical tensions boiling over into nuclear conflict.
6. A picture of a world close to war.
7. The danger level is at its highest
8. Eliminating nuclear weapons is the only guarantee.
9. Almost 13,000 nuclear weapons are now being held.
10. When the risks of proliferation are growing.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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