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Level 2 – 4th January 2024

2024 to be biggest ever year for voting in elections

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240104-voting-in-elections-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/2401/240104-voting-in-elections-2.html>

The year 2024 will be the biggest election year ever. An estimated two billion people in around 64 countries and the European Union will vote this year. That is almost half the global population. The elections will bring big changes for the future of many people. Voters in the world's four largest electoral blocs - the EU, India, Indonesia and the USA - will cast their votes. Taiwan goes to the polls first on January the 13th. For much of the year, eyes will be on events in the US. In November, there will be a repeat of the 2020 election if Donald Trump runs again.

Journalists are worried about how free and fair elections will be. Bloomberg.com has asked a question that is on the lips of many people: "Will 2024 be the year fake news destroys democracy?" Bloomberg said artificial intelligence will be used to change the way people vote. It said there will be "a storm of disinformation...unlike anything the world has ever seen". It added that disinformation "gets harder to spot as fake with every passing month". Fact checkers will have to work extra hard to reduce the number of AI-based fake news stories on social media.

Sources: <https://time.com/6550920/world-elections-2024/>
<https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2023-12-28/elections-2024-fake-news-could-destroy-democracy>
http://www.koreaherald.com/global_insite/view.php

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240104-voting-in-elections-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. An estimated | a. electoral blocs |
| 2. That is almost half the global | b. two billion people |
| 3. The elections will bring | c. of the 2020 election |
| 4. Voters in the world's four largest | d. population |
| 5. Taiwan goes to the | e. events in the US |
| 6. eyes will be on | f. runs again |
| 7. there will be a repeat | g. big changes |
| 8. if Donald Trump | h. polls first |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. how free and fair | a. ever seen |
| 2. a question that is on the lips | b. people vote |
| 3. the year fake news destroys | c. of disinformation |
| 4. change the way | d. elections will be |
| 5. there will be a storm | e. harder to spot |
| 6. unlike anything the world has | f. democracy |
| 7. disinformation gets | g. fake news stories |
| 8. reduce the number of AI-based | h. of many people |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240104-voting-in-elections-2.html>

The year 2024 will be the biggest (1) _____. An estimated two billion people in around 64 countries and the European Union will (2) _____. That is almost half the global population. The elections will (3) _____ for the future of many people. Voters in the world's four (4) _____ - the EU, India, Indonesia and the USA - will cast their votes. Taiwan goes to the polls first on January the 13th. For much of the year, (5) _____ on events in the US. In November, there will be (6) _____ the 2020 election if Donald Trump runs again.

Journalists are worried about how (7) _____ elections will be. Bloomberg.com has asked a question that is on the (8) _____ people: "Will 2024 be the year fake news destroys democracy?" Bloomberg said artificial intelligence will be used to (9) _____ people vote. It said there will (10) _____ of disinformation...unlike anything the world has ever seen". It added that disinformation "gets harder to (11) _____ with every passing month". Fact checkers will have to work extra hard to (12) _____ of AI-based fake news stories on social media.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240104-voting-in-elections-2.html>

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ELECTIONS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2401/240104-voting-in-elections-2.html>

Write five GOOD questions about elections 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) _____

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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) _____

