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Level 1 – 12th December 2024

Millions of Syrian refugees ready to go home

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241212-syrian-refugees-1.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241212-syrian-refugees-1.html>

Millions of Syrian refugees could soon go home. They want to return after former president Bashar al-Assad left the country. He ruled Syria for 24 years. Thousands of refugees in Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Egypt are waiting to go home. The U.N. believes there are around 5 million refugees in the Middle East. This includes two million school-aged children. Turkey's president said: "God willing...safe...returns will increase."

Many refugees spoke to journalists. One told the AP news agency: "I will return to Syria now. Thank God, the war is over." He left Syria in 2016, five years after civil war started. Another refugee told reporters he waited for 14 years to return. He said: "We can express ourselves. The country is free. The barriers have been broken down." He was hopeful for the future. He wants Syrians to create a "well-organized" country that takes care of its people.

Sources: <https://apnews.com/article/turkey-syrian-refugees-return-border-crossing-b0559be5103a7ef505e7206477f9db04>
<https://www.timesofisrael.com/hundreds-of-syrian-refugees-start-returning-from-turkey-lebanon-after-assads-fall/>
<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14171809/thousands-Syrians-home-end-civil-war-Families-reunited.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241212-syrian-refugees-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Millions of Syrian | a. East |
| 2. former president | b. willing |
| 3. waiting to go | c. Bashar al-Assad |
| 4. there are around | d. increase |
| 5. in the Middle | e. aged children |
| 6. This includes two million school- | f. refugees |
| 7. God | g. home |
| 8. safe returns will | h. 5 million refugees |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. Many refugees spoke | a. over |
| 2. the AP news | b. to Syria now |
| 3. I will return | c. to return |
| 4. the war is | d. broken down |
| 5. five years after civil | e. to journalists |
| 6. he waited for 14 years | f. care of its people |
| 7. The barriers have been | g. agency |
| 8. a "well-organized" country that takes | h. war started |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241212-syrian-refugees-1.html>

Millions of Syrian refugees (1) _____ home. They want to (2) _____ president Bashar al-Assad left the country. He (3) _____ 24 years. Thousands of refugees in Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Egypt are waiting (4) _____. The U.N. believes there are around 5 million refugees in the Middle East. This (5) _____ school-aged children. Turkey's president said: "God willing...safe...(6) _____."

Many refugees (7) _____. One told the AP news agency: "I will return to Syria now. Thank God, the (8) _____." He left Syria in 2016, five years after civil war started. Another refugee told (9) _____ for 14 years to return. He said: "We can express ourselves. The (10) _____. The barriers have been broken down." He was hopeful (11) _____. He wants Syrians to create a "well-organized" country that (12) _____ its people.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241212-syrian-refugees-1.html>

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REFUGEES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241212-syrian-refugees-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about refugees 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) _____

