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Level 0 – 8th May 2025

Donald Trump may reopen Alcatraz as a prison

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250508-alcatraz-prison-0.html>

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Please try Levels 1, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250508-alcatraz-prison-0.html>

Donald Trump wants to reopen the prison Alcatraz. The prison was used between 1934 and 1963. It is now a tourist attraction. The famous gangster Al Capone stayed there. No one has ever escaped from the prison alive. President Trump said Alcatraz was a symbol of law and order.

The USA's head of border control said Alcatraz could be good for public safety. However, a former head of the prisons service said: "It's not realistic to think you can repair it. You'd have to tear it up and start over." He said security was poor. There are no cameras and fences. He said: "You can't run a prison [like that]."

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cly5d9yzt7wo>
<https://edition.cnn.com/2025/05/05/us/trump-alcatraz-prison-history-hnk>
<https://www.npr.org/2025/05/05/nx-s1-5387239/trump-alcatraz-reopen>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250508-alcatraz-prison-0.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Donald Trump wants to reopen | a. gangster |
| 2. The prison was used between | b. stayed there |
| 3. It is now a tourist | c. order |
| 4. The famous | d. attraction |
| 5. Al Capone | e. was a symbol |
| 6. No one has ever | f. the prison |
| 7. President Trump said Alcatraz | g. escaped |
| 8. law and | h. 1934 and 1963 |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. The USA's head of border | a. repair it |
| 2. Alcatraz could be good | b. service |
| 3. a former head of the prisons | c. like that |
| 4. It's not | d. for public safety |
| 5. you can | e. it up |
| 6. You'd have to tear | f. control |
| 7. He said security | g. realistic |
| 8. You can't run a prison | h. was poor |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250508-alcatraz-prison-0.html>

Donald Trump (1) _____ the prison Alcatraz.

The (2) _____ between 1934 and 1963. It is

now (3) _____. The famous gangster Al

Capone stayed there. (4) _____ ever

escaped from (5) _____. President Trump

said Alcatraz was a symbol of (6) _____.

The USA's (7) _____ control said Alcatraz

could be (8) _____ safety. However, a

former (9) _____ prisons service said: "It's

not realistic to think you (10) _____. You'd

have to tear it up and start over." He said security was poor.

There are no (11) _____. He said: "You can't

run a (12) _____."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250508-alcatraz-prison-0.html>

Donald Trump wants to reopen the prison Alcatraz. The prison was used between 1934 and 1963. It is now a tourist attraction. The famous gangster Al Capone stayed there. No one has ever escaped from the prison alive. President Trump said Alcatraz was a symbol of law and order. The USA's sheriff and border controls said Alcatraz could be good for public safety. However, a former head of the prison services said: "It's not realistic to think you can repair it. You'd have to tear it up and start over." He said security was poor. There are no cameras and fences. He said: "You can't run a prison [like that]."

PRISON SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2505/250508-alcatraz-prison-0.html>

Write five GOOD questions about prison 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) _____

