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## **Level 5**

### **Indian repatriates 3,700 prisoners in UAE**

**5th July, 2013**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1307/130705-prisoners-5.html>

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Please try Level 4 (easier) and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1307/130705-prisoners-5.html>

An Indian businessman in the United Arab Emirates has helped repatriate nearly 3,700 prisoners in UAE jails. The prisoners are from various Muslim nations. They had all finished their prison sentences but lacked the money to pay off the debts that put them in prison. They could also not afford the air ticket home. Firoz G. Merchant, 54, owner of the Pure Gold jewellery company, has spent about \$1,000,000 to free the prisoners. He plans to help another 1,000 inmates later this year. Mr Merchant said he only helps people who were sentenced over unpaid debts.

Do-gooder Mr Merchant said the UAE's economic downturn in 2010 motivated him. Thousands of construction workers lost their jobs and had many debts from education loans, credit cards and unpaid housing rent. He recalled: "There were a lot of people behind bars, especially labourers....It opened my eyes that this is my duty." He added that he wanted the men to return home in time for Ramadan. He told reporters: "Ramadan is the month for giving, so I want to put greater effort into getting these prisoners back to their own countries...and reunited with their families."

Sources: <http://www.indianexpress.com/news/indian-trader-helps-free-inmates-in-uae-jails/1136585/>  
<http://www.thenational.ae/news/uae-news/indian-businessman-writes-off-dh1-5m-debt-for-hundreds-of-uae-prisoners#ixzz2Y1YFEDRh>

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1307/130705-prisoners-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. helped repatriate                       | a. the money               |
| 2. prison                                  | b. to free the prisoners   |
| 3. lacked                                  | c. nearly 3,700 prisoners  |
| 4. pay off the debts                       | d. over unpaid debts       |
| 5. They could also not afford              | e. that put them in prison |
| 6. spent about \$1,000,000                 | f. inmates later this year |
| 7. help another 1,000                      | g. the air ticket home     |
| 8. he only helps people who were sentenced | h. sentences               |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                      |                        |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. the UAE's economic                | a. education loans     |
| 2. Thousands of construction workers | b. behind bars         |
| 3. debts from                        | c. with their families |
| 4. a lot of people                   | d. time for Ramadan    |
| 5. this is my                        | e. effort into         |
| 6. return home in                    | f. downturn in 2010    |
| 7. put greater                       | g. duty                |
| 8. reunited                          | h. lost their jobs     |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1307/130705-prisoners-5.html>

An Indian businessman in the United Arab Emirates (1) \_\_\_\_\_ nearly 3,700 prisoners in UAE jails. The prisoners are from various Muslim nations. They (2) \_\_\_\_\_ prison sentences but lacked the money to (3) \_\_\_\_\_ put them in prison. They could also (4) \_\_\_\_\_ home. Firoz G. Merchant, 54, owner of the Pure Gold jewellery company, has spent about \$1,000,000 to free the prisoners. He plans to help another (5) \_\_\_\_\_ year. Mr Merchant said he only helps people who (6) \_\_\_\_\_ unpaid debts.

Do-gooder Mr Merchant said the UAE's (7) \_\_\_\_\_ 2010 motivated him. Thousands of construction workers lost their jobs and had many debts from education loans, credit cards (8) \_\_\_\_\_. He recalled: "There were a lot (9) \_\_\_\_\_, especially labourers....It opened my eyes (10) \_\_\_\_\_." He added that he wanted the men to return home in time for Ramadan. He told reporters: "Ramadan is the month for giving, so I want (11) \_\_\_\_\_ getting these prisoners back to their own countries... (12) \_\_\_\_\_ families."

# CHARITY SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1307/130705-prisoners-5.html>

Write five GOOD questions about charity 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)

g)

h)

*Indian repatriates 3,700 prisoners in UAE – 5th July, 2013*  
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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)

g)

h)

