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## **Level 5**

# **Spanish festival charges for tomato**

**30th August, 2013**

[http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1308/130830-tomato\\_throwing\\_festival-5.html](http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival-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/1308/130830-tomato\\_throwing\\_festival-5.html](http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival-5.html)

Spain's economic problems mean one of its most famous festivals is now a "pay-to-join" event. The cash-strapped town of Bunol will start charging people to take part in its Tomatina tomato-throwing festival. Tourists will have to pay 10 euros (\$13) for the hour-long tomato fight. Regardless, all 15,000 tickets have been sold. Local residents will get 5,000 free tickets. The Tomatina costs 150,000 euros to organise. A lot of that goes toward paying for the 130 tons of tomatoes used as ammunition in the street battles. The streets are flooded with tomato juice at the end of the festival.

Tourists from all over the world have visited the Tomatina for decades. Bunol's mayor said the decision to charge for the first time was for both financial and security reasons. He said: "We...need to limit the crowd for safety reasons. We have had a problem for the past eight or 10 years. The Tomatina is not controlled. We don't know how many people are going to come." The festival began after the end of WWII. There are many reports about its origins. Some people say a fight between teenagers near a vegetable market ended up with the youths throwing tomatoes at each other.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-23860462>  
<http://www.enca.com/life/town-charges-tomato-fight>  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/La\\_Tomatina](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/La_Tomatina)

# MATCHING

From [http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1308/130830-tomato\\_throwing\\_festival-5.html](http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival-5.html)

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                     |                      |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Spain's economic                 | a. residents         |
| 2. The cash-                        | b. ammunition        |
| 3. the hour-                        | c. to organise       |
| 4. local                            | d. tomato juice      |
| 5. free                             | e. strapped town     |
| 6. The Tomatina costs 150,000 euros | f. problems          |
| 7. tomatoes used as                 | g. tickets           |
| 8. flooded with                     | h. long tomato fight |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                             |                       |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. tourists from all        | a. security reasons   |
| 2. the decision             | b. eight or 10 years  |
| 3. financial and            | c. to charge          |
| 4. limit the crowd          | d. about its origins  |
| 5. the past                 | e. over the world     |
| 6. The festival began after | f. at each other      |
| 7. There are many reports   | g. the end of WWII    |
| 8. throwing tomatoes        | h. for safety reasons |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From [http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1308/130830-tomato\\_throwing\\_festival-5.html](http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival-5.html)

Spain's economic problems (1) \_\_\_\_\_ most famous festivals is now a "pay-to-join" event. The (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of Bunol will start charging people to take part in its Tomatina tomato-throwing festival. Tourists (3) \_\_\_\_\_ 10 euros (\$13) for the hour-long tomato fight. Regardless, all 15,000 tickets (4) \_\_\_\_\_. Local residents will get 5,000 free tickets. The Tomatina costs 150,000 euros to organise. A lot of (5) \_\_\_\_\_ paying for the 130 tons of tomatoes used (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the street battles. The streets are flooded with tomato juice at the end of the festival.

Tourists from all over the (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the Tomatina for decades. Bunol's mayor said the (8) \_\_\_\_\_ for the first time was for both financial and security reasons. He said: "We...need to limit the crowd (9) \_\_\_\_\_. We have had a problem for the past eight or 10 years. The Tomatina is not controlled. We don't know how many people are going to come." The festival began (10) \_\_\_\_\_ WWII. There are many reports (11) \_\_\_\_\_. Some people say a fight between teenagers near a vegetable market (12) \_\_\_\_\_ youths throwing tomatoes at each other.

# FESTIVALS SURVEY

From [http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1308/130830-tomato\\_throwing\\_festival-5.html](http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival-5.html)

Write five GOOD questions about festivals 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)

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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)

