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Level 6

Spanish festival charges for tomato

30th August, 2013

http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival.html

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Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival.html

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

Tourists from all over the world have flocked to the Tomatina for decades. Bunol's town mayor told reporters the decision to charge was partly due to financial constraints, but also out of security concerns. He said: "This is the first year we are charging for access to this popular festival due to the 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 started just after the end of WWII. There are various reports about its origins. The most popular is that of a brawl between teenagers near a vegetable market ending up with the youths pelting each other with tomatoes.

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

WARM-UPS

1. TOMATOES: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about tomatoes. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

economic woes / famous festivals / participants / tomatoes / tickets / ammunition / tourists / financial constraints / security / festival / origins / brawl / teenagers

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. FESTIVALS: Invent some new ones. Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote. Take a class vote on the best ideas.

Festival about...	Official name	What happens?	What do you need to do?
Facebook			
English			
Hair			
Ice cream			
Conservation			
Paper			

4. NO CHARGE: Students A **strongly** believe festivals should be free; Students B **strongly** believe a fee is OK. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. WORLD EVENTS: Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the one you most want to go to at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Spain's Tomatina
- Brazil's Rio Carnival
- Germany's Oktoberfest
- Cannes Film Festival
- New Orleans Mardi Gras
- India's Holi (colour festival)
- China's Lantern Festival
- Japan's Hiroshima Peace Festival

6. TOURISTS: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "tourists". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival.html

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- | | |
|--|-------|
| a. People will have to pay for a festival because of the poor economy. | T / F |
| b. Local people can go to the festival without paying. | T / F |
| c. 13 tons of tomatoes are used in the Tomatina festival. | T / F |
| d. Good drains mean there is almost no tomato juice in the streets. | T / F |
| e. The mayor said he is charging partly for safety reasons. | T / F |
| f. There has never been a problem at the festival in the past. | T / F |
| g. Tomatina started in the early nineteenth century. | T / F |
| h. People say the festival started after a fight between teenagers. | T / F |

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| 1. woes | a. amount |
| 2. cash-strapped | b. limitations |
| 3. take part | c. fight |
| 4. allocated | d. participate |
| 5. sum | e. troubles |
| 6. flocked | f. to a certain extent |
| 7. partly | g. different |
| 8. constraints | h. impoverished |
| 9. various | i. gathered |
| 10. brawl | j. shared out |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Spain's economic | a. participants |
| 2. start charging | b. part of that sum |
| 3. Local residents have been | c. to financial constraints |
| 4. A hefty | d. between teenagers |
| 5. The streets are literally flooded | e. each other |
| 6. partly due | f. allocated 5,000 free tickets |
| 7. limit the crowd | g. the end of WWII |
| 8. started just after | h. with tomato juice |
| 9. a brawl | i. woes |
| 10. ending up with the youths pelting | j. for safety reasons |

GAP FILL

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival.html

Spain's economic (1) _____ have led to one of its most famous festivals becoming a "pay-to-join" event. The cash- (2) _____ town of Bunol will start charging (3) _____ who want to take part in its world-famous Tomatina tomato-throwing festival. Tourists will have to pay a (4) _____ of 10 euros (\$13) to be part of the hour-long tomato fight. Regardless, all 15,000 tickets have been sold. Local residents have been (5) _____ 5,000 free tickets. The Tomatina costs the town 150,000 euros to organise. A (6) _____ part of that sum goes toward paying for the 130 tons of tomatoes used as (7) _____ in the street battles. The streets are literally (8) _____ with tomato juice at the festival's end.

participants
flooded
hefty
strapped
allocated
woes
minimum
ammunition

Tourists from all over the world have (9) _____ to the Tomatina for decades. Bunol's town mayor told reporters the decision to (10) _____ was partly due to financial constraints, but also out of security (11) _____. He said: "This is the first year we are charging for access to this popular festival due to the need to (12) _____ the crowd for safety reasons. We have had a problem for the past eight or 10 years. The Tomatina is not (13) _____. We don't know how many people are going to come." The festival started just after the end of WWII. There are (14) _____ reports about its origins. The most popular is that of a (15) _____ between teenagers near a vegetable market ending up with the youths (16) _____ each other with tomatoes.

brawl
concerns
controlled
flocked
pelting
charge
various
limit

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival.html

- 1) The cash-strapped town of Bunol will start charging _____
 - a. party see pants
 - b. part its see pants
 - c. participant
 - d. participants
- 2) _____ 15,000 tickets have been sold
 - a. Needless, all
 - b. Regardless, all
 - c. Heedless, all
 - d. Penniless, all
- 3) Local residents have _____ free tickets
 - a. been allocating 5,000
 - b. been allocated 5,000
 - c. been allocates 5,000
 - d. been allocation 5,000
- 4) paying for the 130 tons of tomatoes _____
 - a. used as am you mission
 - b. used as a munitions
 - c. used as admonition
 - d. used as ammunitions
- 5) The streets are _____ tomato juice at the festival's end
 - a. literally flooded with
 - b. literary flooded with
 - c. literal lea flooded with
 - d. literal flooded with
- 6) Tourists from all over the world have flocked to the Tomatina _____
 - a. for decade
 - b. for decadence
 - c. for decodes
 - d. for decades
- 7) the decision to charge was partly due _____
 - a. to financial constraints
 - b. to financial constants
 - c. to financial Constance
 - d. to financial constrains
- 8) He said: "This is the first year we are _____"
 - a. charging for excess
 - b. charging for axes
 - c. charging for access
 - d. charging for success
- 9) There are various reports _____
 - a. about its origin
 - b. about its originals
 - c. about its origins
 - d. about its originates
- 10) ending up with the youths _____ with tomatoes
 - a. pelting each other
 - b. belting each other
 - c. welting each other
 - d. melting each other

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival.html

Spain's economic woes (1) _____ of its most famous festivals becoming a "pay-to-join" event. (2) _____ town of Bunol will start charging participants (3) _____ part in its world-famous Tomatina tomato-throwing festival. Tourists will have to pay a minimum of 10 euros (\$13) (4) _____ hour-long tomato fight. Regardless, all 15,000 tickets have been sold. Local residents have been allocated 5,000 free tickets. The Tomatina costs the town 150,000 euros to organise. A (5) _____ sum goes toward paying for the 130 tons of tomatoes used as ammunition in the street battles. The streets (6) _____ with tomato juice at the festival's end.

Tourists from all over the world (7) _____ Tomatina for decades. Bunol's town mayor told reporters the decision to charge was partly (8) _____ constraints, but also out of security concerns. He said: "This is the first year we are charging for access to this popular festival (9) _____ 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 started (10) _____ WWII. There are various reports (11) _____. The most popular is that of a brawl between teenagers near a vegetable market ending up with the youths (12) _____ tomatoes.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival.html

1. What kind of event has the Tomatina become?

2. How much will tourists have to pay to join the festival?

3. How many free tickets do people living in the town get?

4. How many tomatoes are used in the festival?

5. What fills the streets by the end of the festival?

6. Who goes to the festival?

7. For what other reason is the town charging, besides finances?

8. When has the town had problems at the festival?

9. When did the festival start?

10. Who threw tomatoes at each other near a market?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival.html

1. What kind of event has the Tomatina become?
 - a) a televised event
 - b) a world-heritage event
 - c) one you have to pay for
 - d) a free one
2. How much will tourists have to pay to join the festival?
 - a) \$13
 - b) \$14
 - c) \$30
 - d) \$40
3. How many free tickets do people living in the town get?
 - a) 5,000
 - b) 6,000
 - c) 7,000
 - d) 8,000
4. How many tomatoes are used in the festival?
 - a) 130,000
 - b) 130 tons
 - c) \$130,000
 - d) 130 per person
5. What fills the streets by the end of the festival?
 - a) music
 - b) red T-shirts
 - c) blood
 - d) tomato juice
6. Who goes to the festival?
 - a) tomato lovers
 - b) people from all over the world
 - c) farmers
 - d) celebrities
7. For what other reason is the town charging, besides finances?
 - a) safety
 - b) tourism
 - c) environmental
 - d) public health
8. When has the town had problems at the festival?
 - a) when there were no tomatoes
 - b) in 1969
 - c) in the past 10 years
 - d) when people started throwing grapes
9. When did the festival start?
 - a) at 3pm
 - b) in July
 - c) 1945
 - d) after the tomato harvest
10. Who threw tomatoes at each other near a market?
 - a) kids
 - b) farmers
 - c) a mayor and his rival
 - d) football fans

ROLE PLAY

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival.html

Role A – Tomatina town mayor

You think it's OK to charge for people to join the Tomatina festival. Tell the others three reasons why. Ten euros is a small price to pay and it will help the festival. Disagree with everything said by the aid worker and the tourist. Agree with most of what the local citizen says.

Role B – Aid worker

You are shocked that people throw tons of tomatoes at each other for fun. Tell the others three reasons why. Ask the mayor to end the festival and give the tomatoes to hungry people. Tell him his town does not need the festival and it's bad for its image.

Role C – Tourist

You are very angry you have to pay to join the festival. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell the mayor local citizens must also pay. Tell him/her that people will stop going to the festival and the town will lose money from tourism. Tell him/her you will bring your own tomatoes if you can join for free.

Role D – Local citizen

You think charging for the festival is a great idea. Tell the others three reasons why. You want the mayor to charge a higher fee. You also think people should bring their own tomatoes. You also think tourist, not local citizens, should clean the streets after.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival.html

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'take' and 'part'.

take	part
-------------	-------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• woes• cash• minimum• free• 130• juice	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• decades• security• limit• 10• origins• market
--	--

FESTIVALS SURVEY

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival.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.

FESTIVALS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'festival'?
- c) What do you think about the Tomatina festival?
- d) Which world festival would you most like to join?
- e) What festivals does your town hold? Are they good?
- f) Should street festivals be free?
- g) How much fun do you think the Tomatina festival might be?
- h) Is \$13 too much to join a festival?
- i) Is it right that local citizens can join the Tomatina for free?

Spanish festival charges for tomato throwing – 30th August, 2013
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FESTIVALS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) Why do people like festivals?
- c) Is the mayor right to limit the number of people at the festival?
- d) Do you think other world festivals will start charging?
- e) What do you know about the Tomatina?
- f) What festival would you like to start?
- g) How many festivals have you been to?
- h) Is the Tomatina festival a waste of food?
- i) What questions would you like to ask the town's mayor?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival.html

Spain's economic (1) _____ have led to one of its most famous festivals becoming a "pay-to-join" event. The cash-(2) _____ town of Bunol will start charging participants who want to (3) _____ part in its world-famous Tomatina tomato-throwing festival. Tourists will have to pay a minimum (4) _____ 10 euros (\$13) to be part of the hour-long tomato fight. Regardless, all 15,000 tickets have been sold. Local residents have been allocated 5,000 free tickets. The Tomatina costs the town 150,000 euros to organise. A hefty part of that (5) _____ goes toward paying for the 130 tons of tomatoes used as ammunition in the street battles. The streets are literally (6) _____ with tomato juice at the festival's end.

Tourists from all over the world have (7) _____ to the Tomatina for decades. Bunol's town mayor told reporters the decision to charge was (8) _____ due to financial constraints, but also (9) _____ of security concerns. He said: "This is the first year we are charging for access to this popular festival due to the need to limit the crowd for (10) _____ 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 started just after the end of WWII. There are (11) _____ reports about its origins. The most popular is that of a brawl between teenagers near a vegetable market ending (12) _____ with the youths pelting each other with tomatoes.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. | (a) hoes | (b) foes | (c) toes | (d) woes |
| 2. | (a) stripped | (b) stopped | (c) slapped | (d) strapped |
| 3. | (a) be | (b) take | (c) do | (d) have |
| 4. | (a) with | (b) for | (c) of | (d) at |
| 5. | (a) sum | (b) same | (c) some | (d) sump |
| 6. | (a) flooded | (b) washing | (c) sprinkled | (d) rained |
| 7. | (a) teemed | (b) rounded up | (c) herded | (d) flocked |
| 8. | (a) partly | (b) partial | (c) parts | (d) partied |
| 9. | (a) with | (b) out | (c) from | (d) due |
| 10. | (a) safely | (b) safes | (c) safety | (d) saviour |
| 11. | (a) variety | (b) varies | (c) various | (d) variant |
| 12. | (a) on | (b) up | (c) down | (d) of |

SPELLING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival.html

Paragraph 1

1. The shac-darpstep town of Bunol
2. start charging tsiaticpnarp
3. Local esiedntsr
4. cedllaoat 5,000 free tickets
5. tomatoes used as ntniaumiom
6. The streets are leiytlalr flooded with tomato juice

Paragraph 2

7. cekfdol to the Tomatina
8. financial nasircotnst
9. charging for ccseas to this popular festival
10. uvsiaro reports
11. about its niogsri
12. nigtelp each other

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival.html

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () sold. Local residents have been allocated 5,000 free tickets. The Tomatina costs the town 150,000 euros to
- () of security concerns. He said: "This is the first year we are charging for access to this popular festival due
- () mayor told reporters the decision to charge was partly due to financial constraints, but also out
- () to-join" event. The cash-strapped town of Bunol will start charging participants who want to take
- () of 10 euros (\$13) to be part of the hour-long tomato fight. Regardless, all 15,000 tickets have been
- () part in its world-famous Tomatina tomato-throwing festival. Tourists will have to pay a minimum
- (**1**) Spain's economic woes have led to one of its most famous festivals becoming a "pay-
- () controlled. We don't know how many people are going to come." The festival started just
- () after the end of WWII. There are various reports about its origins. The most popular is that of a
- () brawl between teenagers near a vegetable market ending up with the youths pelting each other with tomatoes.
- () organise. A hefty part of that sum goes toward paying for the 130 tons of tomatoes used as
- () Tourists from all over the world have flocked to the Tomatina for decades. Bunol's town
- () ammunition in the street battles. The streets are literally flooded with tomato juice at the festival's end.
- () to the need to limit the crowd for safety reasons. We have had a problem for the past eight or 10 years. The Tomatina is not

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival.html

1. - strapped town of Bunol will start charging The cash.

2. hour part euros fight - of to long the be 10 tomato.

3. 5,000 free been have residents Local tickets allocated .

4. tomatoes ammunition the of as For tons used 130.

5. juice literally flooded The with streets tomato are.

6. year we are charging for access This is the first.

7. for to crowd reasons need the safety The limit.

8. started the WWII festival after of The just end.

9. that of a brawl between teenagers The most popular is.

10. tomatoes with other each pelting youths The.

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival.html

Spain's economic *woes / vows* have led to one of its most famous festivals becoming a "pay-to-join" event. The *cash-strapped / cast-stripped* town of Bunol will start charging participants who want to *take / be* part in its world-famous Tomatina tomato-throwing festival. Tourists will have to pay a minimum *for / of* 10 euros (\$13) to be part of the hour-long tomato fight. *Regardless, / Needless,* all 15,000 tickets have been sold. *Locally / Local* residents have been *relocated / allocated* 5,000 free tickets. The Tomatina costs the town 150,000 euros to organise. A *hefty / heavy* part of that sum goes toward paying for the 130 tons of tomatoes used as *ammunition / remuneration* in the street battles. The streets are literally *flooded / floods* with tomato juice at the festival's end.

Tourists from all over the world have *flicked / flocked* to the Tomatina for *decades / decade*. Bunol's town mayor told reporters the decision to charge was partly due *for / to* financial constraints, but also *out / in* of security concerns. He said: "This is the first year we are charging for *excess / access* to this popular festival due to the need to *limitation / limit* the crowd for safety reasons. We have had a problem for the *passed / past* eight or 10 years. The Tomatina is not controlled. We don't know how many people are going to come." The festival started *just / justly* after the end of WWII. There are various reports about its *originals / origins*. The most popular is that of a brawl between teenagers near a vegetable market ending up with the youths *pelting / petting* each other with tomatoes.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival.html

Sp__n's __c__n__m__c__w__s__h__v__l__d__t__ __n__ __f__ts__m__st__
f__m__s__f__st__v__ls__b__c__m__ng__ "p__y__t__-j__n" __v__nt__. Th__
c__sh__str__pp__d__t__wn__ __f__ B__n__l__w__ll__st__rt__ch__rg__ng__
p__rt__c__p__nts__wh__w__nt__t__t__k__p__rt__ __n__ts__w__rld__
f__m__s__T__m__t__n__t__m__t__-thr__w__ng__f__st__v__l__. T__r__sts__
w__ll__h__v__t__p__y__ __m__n__m__m__f__10__ __r__s__(\$13) t__b__
p__rt__ __f__th__h__r__l__ng__t__m__t__f__ght__. R__g__rdl__ss__, __ll__
15,000 t__ck__ts__h__v__b__ __n__s__ld__. L__c__l__r__s__d__nts__h__v__
b__n__ll__c__t__d__5,000 fr__t__ck__ts__. Th__T__m__t__n__c__sts__
th__t__wn__150,000__ __r__s__t__ __rg__n__s__. __h__fty__p__rt__ __f__
th__t__s__m__g__s__t__w__rd__p__y__ng__f__r__th__130 t__ns__ __f__
t__m__t__s__s__d__s__mm__n__t__n__n__th__str__t__b__ttl__s__.
Th__str__ts__r__l__t__r__lly__fl__d__d__w__th__t__m__t__j__c__t__
th__f__st__v__l's__nd__.

T__r__sts__fr__m__ll__ __v__r__th__w__rld__h__v__fl__ck__d__t__th__
T__m__t__n__f__r__d__c__d__s__. B__n__l's__t__wn__m__y__r__t__ld__
r__p__rt__rs__th__d__c__s__n__t__ch__rg__w__s__p__rtly__d__t__
f__n__nc__l__c__nstr__nts__, b__t__ls__ __t__ __f__s__c__r__ty__
c__nc__rns__. H__s__d__: "Th__s__s__th__f__rst__y__r__w__ __r__
ch__rg__ng__f__r__cc__ss__t__th__s__p__p__l__r__f__st__v__l__d__t__th__
n__d__t__l__m__t__th__cr__wd__f__r__s__f__ty__r__s__ns__. W__h__v__
h__d__ __pr__bl__m__f__r__th__p__st__ __ght__r__10__y__rs__. Th__
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PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival.html

Spain's economic woes have led to one of its most famous festivals becoming a "pay-to-join" event. The cash-strapped town of Bunol will start charging participants who want to take part in its world-famous Tomatina tomato-throwing festival. Tourists will have to pay a minimum of 10 euros (\$13) to be part of the hour-long tomato fight. Regardless, all 15,000 tickets have been sold. Local residents have been allocated 5,000 free tickets. The Tomatina costs the town 150,000 euros to organise, and a hefty part of that sum goes toward paying for the 130 tons of tomatoes used as ammunition in the street battles. The streets are literally flooded with tomato juice at the festival's end.

Tourists from all over the world have flocked to the Tomatina for decades. Bunol's town mayor told reporters the decision to charge was partly due to financial constraints but also out of security concerns. He said "this is the first year we are charging for access to this popular festival due to the 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 started just after the end of WWII. There are various reports about its origins. The most popular is that of a brawl between teenagers near a vegetable market ending up with the youths pelting each other with tomatoes.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1308/130830-tomato_throwing_festival.html

Spain's economic woes have led to one of its most famous festivals becoming a "pay-to-join" event. The cash-strapped town of Bunol will start charging participants who want to take part in its world-famous Tomatina tomato-throwing festival. Tourists will have to pay a minimum of 10 euros (\$13) to be part of the hour-long tomato fight. Regardless, all 15,000 tickets have been sold. Local residents have been allocated 5,000 free tickets. The Tomatina costs the town 150,000 euros to organise. A hefty part of that sum goes toward paying for the 130 tons of soft tomatoes used as ammunition in the street battles. The streets are literally flooded with tomato juice at the festival's end. Tourists from all over the world have flocked to the Tomatina for decades. Bunol's town mayor told reporters the decision to charge was partly due to financial constraints, but also out of security concerns. He said: "This is the first year we are charging for access to this popular festival due to the 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 started just after the end of WWII. There are various reports about its origins. The most popular is that of a brawl between teenagers near a vegetable market ending up with the youth pelting each other with tomatoes.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about the Tomatina festival. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. FESTIVALS: Make a poster about festivals. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. TOMATINA: Write a magazine article about the Tomatina festival. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against charging tourists to join the festival.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to the mayor. Ask him/her three questions about the Tomatina. Give him/her three ideas on how to raise money from it while keeping it free. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a T b T c F d F e T f F g F h T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| 1. woes | a. troubles |
| 2. cash-strapped | b. impoverished |
| 3. take part | c. participate |
| 4. allocated | d. shared out |
| 5. sum | e. amount |
| 6. flocked | f. gathered |
| 7. partly | g. to a certain extent |
| 8. constraints | h. limitations |
| 9. various | i. different |
| 10. brawl | j. fight |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. A "pay-to-join" event
2. 10 euros (\$13)
3. 5,000
4. 130 tons
5. Tomato juice
6. Tourists from all over the world
7. Security / Safety
8. In the past 8-10 years
9. After the end of WWII
10. Teenagers

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. c 2. a 3. a 4. b 5. d 6. b 7. a 8. c 9. d 10. a

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)