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Level 5

Thai junta orders free World Cup TV for all

14th June, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1406/140614-free-world-cup.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/1406/140614-free-world-cup.html>

Thailand has seen a lot of upheaval and turmoil in the past few years. To try to quell public unrest, the ruling military junta has ordered national broadcasters to make all World Cup games free. Many Thais are under curfew. The National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) believes people will be happy if they can watch World Cup games for free. Poorer Thais could not afford the special digital box needed to see the games. The NCPO arranged that all matches would be free on the army-owned stations. The satellite channel RS paid over \$20 million for the broadcasting rights.

The NCPO leader said the move would "return happiness to the Thai people" as part of its "happiness campaign". It wants to win hearts and minds following last month's coup. There have also been free concerts and haircuts. Next will be support for farmers, a limit on the price of basic food and new building projects. Many soccer-mad Thais will have to watch the World Cup at home because of the curfew. Thailand's national team is 149th in the world and has never qualified for the World Cup. The tournament began on June the 12th and will finish on July the 13th.

Sources: <http://www.bangkokpost.com/news/sports/414872/military-wins-fans-hearts-again>.
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-27790396>
<http://www.ctvnews.ca/sports/world-cup-for-free-how-thailand-s-junta-seeks-to-return-happiness-1.1863269#ixzz34P2GUtt9>

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1406/140614-free-world-cup.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. a lot of upheaval | a. curfew |
| 2. try to quell public | b. Thais |
| 3. national | c. unrest |
| 4. Many Thais are under | d. rights |
| 5. Poorer | e. and turmoil |
| 6. could not | f. owned stations |
| 7. the army- | g. broadcasters |
| 8. broadcasting | h. afford the special digital box |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. return happiness | a. for farmers |
| 2. part of its | b. coup |
| 3. win hearts | c. for the World Cup |
| 4. last month's | d. "happiness campaign" |
| 5. Next will be support | e. of the curfew |
| 6. soccer- | f. to the Thai people |
| 7. watch the World Cup at home because | g. mad Thais |
| 8. never qualified | h. and minds |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1406/140614-free-world-cup.html>

Thailand has seen (1) _____ and turmoil in the past few years. To try to quell public unrest, (2) _____ has ordered national broadcasters to make all World Cup games free. Many (3) _____. The National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) believes people (4) _____ they can watch World Cup games for free. Poorer Thais could (5) _____ special digital box needed to see the games. The NCPO arranged that all matches would be free on the army-owned stations. The satellite channel RS paid over \$20 million for (6) _____.

The NCPO leader said the move would "(7) _____ the Thai people" as part of its "happiness campaign". It wants to win hearts and minds following (8) _____. There have also been free concerts and haircuts. Next will (9) _____ farmers, a limit on the price of basic food and new building projects. Many soccer-mad Thais (10) _____ World Cup at home because of the curfew. Thailand's national team is 149th in the world and (11) _____ for the World Cup. The (12) _____

June the 12th and will finish on July the 13th.

FREE TV SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1406/140614-free-world-cup.html>

Write five GOOD questions about free TV 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)

FREE WRITING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1406/140614-free-world-cup.html>

Write about **free TV** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.
