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Level 4

Russia says NATO is its biggest threat

29th December, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1412/141229-nato-4.html>

Contents

The Reading	2
Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
Survey	5
Discussion	6
Writing	7

Please try the harder Level 5 and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1412/141229-nato-4.html>

Russia's Vladimir Putin has said NATO is one of Russia's biggest dangers. NATO is a North American and European defence treaty that started in 1949. It created tensions between Russia and the West that started the Cold War. The rival Warsaw Pact began in 1955 and the Cold War got worse. Relations worsened last week when former Russian ally Ukraine tried to join NATO. Russia said NATO was using Ukraine as a "frontline of confrontation".

NATO said it was following international law over Ukraine and was not threatening Russia. It said it would look at how ready Ukraine is to join the alliance. It would do this in the same way as with any other country. A spokeswoman said: "This is an issue between NATO and the individual countries aspiring to membership." She added that Russia's actions in Ukraine broke international law and threatened European security.

Sources: <http://www.themoscowtimes.com/news/article/putin-signs-new-military-doctrine-as-ukraine-moves-toward-nato/513917.html>
<http://www.tehrantimes.com/world/120496-russia-nato-biggest-threat->
<http://www.voanews.com/content/russia-identifies-nato-us-as-major-threats/2574605.html>

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1412/141229-nato-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. NATO is one of Russia's | a. worsened last week |
| 2. defence | b. join NATO |
| 3. It created | c. Warsaw Pact |
| 4. The rival | d. of confrontation |
| 5. Relations | e. treaty |
| 6. former Russian | f. biggest dangers |
| 7. Ukraine tried to | g. tensions |
| 8. a frontline | h. ally Ukraine |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. NATO said it was following | a. to membership |
| 2. it would look at how | b. the same way |
| 3. join the | c. security |
| 4. It would do this in | d. other country |
| 5. as with any | e. international law |
| 6. individual countries aspiring | f. ready Ukraine is |
| 7. Russia's actions | g. alliance |
| 8. threatened European | h. in Ukraine |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1412/141229-nato-4.html>

Russia's Vladimir Putin (1) _____ one of Russia's biggest dangers. NATO is a North American and European defence treaty that started in 1949. It (2) _____ Russia and the West that started the Cold War. The (3) _____ began in 1955 and the Cold War got worse. Relations (4) _____ when former Russian ally Ukraine (5) _____. Russia said NATO was using Ukraine as a "(6) _____".

NATO (7) _____ international law over Ukraine and was not threatening Russia. It said it would (8) _____ Ukraine is to join the alliance. It would (9) _____ way as with any other country. A spokeswoman said: "This (10) _____ NATO and the individual countries (11) _____." She added that Russia's actions in Ukraine broke international (12) _____ European security.

NATO SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1412/141229-nato-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about NATO 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/1412/141229-nato-4.html>

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