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## Level 0

### France to help make Saudi Arabia's first opera house

12th April, 2018

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera-0.html>

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Please try Levels 1, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera-0.html>

France will help Saudi Arabia to get its first orchestra and opera. The two countries signed a cultural agreement. The Paris Opera will help Saudi Arabia make its own performances. The first opera house will be in Saudi's second largest city, Jeddah. Saudi will spend \$64 billion on entertainment in the next 10 years.

Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's plan is to modernize Saudi. France will help with tourism. It will preserve old sites in Saudi's region of Al-Ula. Another important part of the agreement is to translate books. France said it was important to translate books, "in both directions, from Arabic into French and French into Arabic".

Sources: <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1281546/saudi-arabia>  
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-43703236>  
<http://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/gulf/2018/04/09/Saudi-French-agreement-to-launch-opera-house-and-orchestra.html>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera-0.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                    |                  |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. France will help                | a. largest city  |
| 2. get its first orchestra         | b. performances  |
| 3. two countries signed a cultural | c. \$64 billion  |
| 4. make its own                    | d. and opera     |
| 5. The first opera                 | e. agreement     |
| 6. Saudi's second                  | f. next 10 years |
| 7. spend                           | g. house         |
| 8. in the                          | h. Saudi Arabia  |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                              |                  |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Mohammed bin Salman's     | a. tourism       |
| 2. modernize                 | b. into French   |
| 3. France will help with     | c. the agreement |
| 4. It will preserve old      | d. plan          |
| 5. Saudi's region            | e. books         |
| 6. Another important part of | f. Saudi         |
| 7. translate                 | g. sites         |
| 8. from Arabic               | h. of Al-Ula     |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera-0.html>

France will help Saudi Arabia to (1) \_\_\_\_\_  
orchestra and opera. The two countries (2) \_\_\_\_\_  
agreement. The Paris (3) \_\_\_\_\_ Saudi Arabia  
make its (4) \_\_\_\_\_. The first opera house will be  
in Saudi's (5) \_\_\_\_\_ city, Jeddah. Saudi will  
spend \$64 billion on entertainment (6) \_\_\_\_\_ 10  
years.

Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's (7) \_\_\_\_\_  
modernize Saudi. France will (8) \_\_\_\_\_. It will  
preserve (9) \_\_\_\_\_ Saudi's region of Al-Ula.  
Another important (10) \_\_\_\_\_ agreement is to  
translate books. France said it (11) \_\_\_\_\_  
translate books, "(12) \_\_\_\_\_, from Arabic into  
French and French into Arabic".

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera-0.html>

France will help Saudi Arabia to get its first orchestra and opera. The two countries signed a cultural agreement. The Paris Opera will help Saudi Arabia make its own performances. The first opera house will be in Saudi's second largest city, Jeddah. Saudi will spend \$64 billion on entertainment in the next 10 years. Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's plan is to modernize Saudi. France will help with tourism. It will preserve old sites in Saudi's region of Al-Ula. Another important part of the agreement is to translate books. France said it was important to translate books, "in both directions, from Arabic into French and French into Arabic".

# OPERA SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about opera 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*France to help make Saudi Arabia's first opera house – 12th April, 2018*  
More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

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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) \_\_\_\_\_

# WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera-0.html>

Write about **opera** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.

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