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Level 0 – 9th November, 2019

Typhoon-damaged bullet trains scrapped in Japan

FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains-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/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains-0.html>

Ten of Japan's bullet trains were destroyed in a typhoon. The typhoon caused great damage. There were many photos of the bullet trains. They were deep in water after a river overflowed. The trains ran between Tokyo and the Sea of Japan coast. The bullet train company will operate a full service again by March 2020.

Bullet trains are called Shinkansen in Japan. They started in 1964 and are a symbol of Japan. They travel at 320kph. A Shinkansen president said the damage was around \$135 million. He said water damaged motors and brakes. He added: "For stability and safety, we [will] replace the trains with newly built ones instead of repairing them."

Sources: https://www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/en/news/20191106_37/
<https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2019/11/4e7dfd267c83-all-10-typhoon-flooded-shinkansen-bullet-trains-to-be-scrapped.html>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-50323239>
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shinkansen>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains-0.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. bullet trains | a. March 2020 |
| 2. The typhoon caused | b. in water |
| 3. They were deep | c. company |
| 4. after a river | d. great damage |
| 5. the Sea of | e. again |
| 6. The bullet train | f. overflowed |
| 7. operate a full service | g. were destroyed |
| 8. by | h. Japan coast |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Bullet trains are called | a. at 320kph |
| 2. a symbol | b. and brakes |
| 3. They travel | c. of repairing them |
| 4. the damage was around | d. of Japan |
| 5. water damaged motors | e. with newly built ones |
| 6. For stability and | f. \$135 million |
| 7. replace the trains | g. Shinkansen in Japan |
| 8. instead | h. safety |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains-0.html>

Ten of Japan's bullet trains (1) _____ a typhoon.

The typhoon (2) _____. There were many photos

of the bullet trains. They (3) _____ water after a

river overflowed. The (4) _____ Tokyo and the

Sea (5) _____. The bullet train company will

operate a full (6) _____ March 2020.

Bullet (7) _____ Shinkansen in Japan. They

started in 1964 and are (8) _____ Japan. They

travel at 320kph. A Shinkansen president

(9) _____ was around \$135 million. He said water

damaged (10) _____. He added: "For

(11) _____, we [will] replace the trains with newly

built ones instead (12) _____."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains-0.html>

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BULLET TRAINS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about bullet trains 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) _____

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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) _____

