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**Level 3 – 30th September, 2020**

**Armenia and Azerbaijan fight over Nagorno-Karabakh**

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh.html>

Heavy fighting has broken out between Armenia and Azerbaijan. There is a danger the fighting could lead to a bigger conflict between the two countries. Their trouble is over a region that is on their border called Nagorno-Karabakh. This is a disputed territory. It is internationally recognized as being part of Azerbaijan but it has a majority Armenian ethnic population. It has governed itself for the past few decades. The recent clashes resulted in the deaths of both civilians and soldiers. Armenia blamed Azerbaijan for starting the recent conflict. It said Azerbaijan launched missiles into the region. Azerbaijan's defence ministry said it launched missiles to "ensure the safety of the population" in the region.

There have been tensions between Armenia and Azerbaijan since the end of the Nagorno-Karabakh War in 1994. There have been many flashpoints between the two countries. The current clashes have seen the worst fighting in many years. An Al Jazeera journalist who is an expert on Nagorno-Karabakh described the situation as, "a very serious escalation". Neighboring countries are now getting involved. Turkey's President said his country would support Azerbaijan. Russia has given its backing to Armenia, but called for an immediate ceasefire and urgent negotiations. Iran, which shares a border with both Azerbaijan and Armenia, has offered to arrange peace talks.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-54314341>  
<https://edition.cnn.com/2020/09/27/europe/armenia-azerbaijan-tensions-nagorno-karabakh-intl/index.html>  
<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/9/27/heavy-fighting-erupts-in-disputed-nagorno-karabakh-region>

# WARM-UPS

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

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

fighting / danger / conflict / countries / territory / majority / population / region / tensions / flashpoints / journalist / expert / situation / backing / ceasefire / peace

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

**3. WAR:** Students A **strongly** believe there will be no wars in the future; Students B **strongly** believe there will always be wars. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. CONFLICTS:** What do you know about these conflicts? How did they change the world or the region? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What I Know	How It Changed The World
World War II		
Iraq Wars		
Yemen		
Mexican Drug War		
Syrian Civil War		
The Balkans War		

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

**6. SOURCES OF CONFLICT:** Rank these with your partner. Put the most serious sources of conflict at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Religion
- Borders
- Oil
- Independence
- Ethnic groups
- Money
- Terrorism
- Land grab

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 1. conflict | a. The bigger number of.  |
| 2. region   | b. A line that separates two countries or areas.                    |
| 3. border   | c. An area or part of a country or the world with no fixed borders. |
| 4. disputed | d. Sent a missile or rocket into the air.                           |
| 5. majority | e. A battle, disagreement or war between countries.                 |
| 6. civilian | f. Something that not everyone agrees with and is arguing about it. |
| 7. launched | g. People who are not in the army or the police force.              |

## Paragraph 2

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 8. tension     | h. A place, event, or time at which trouble, such as violence or anger, suddenly starts. |
| 9. flashpoint  | i. Give help to, especially with money.  |
| 10. expert     | j. When it is very important that something needs immediate action or attention.         |
| 11. escalation | k. A person who has a lot of knowledge of or skill in a particular area.                 |
| 12. support    | l. A short stopping of fighting, usually one during which peace talks take place.        |
| 13. ceasefire  | m. An increase in the danger or seriousness of something.                                |
| 14. urgent     | n. A difficult and stressful relationship between people or countries.                   |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh.html>

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

- a. Light fighting has broken out between Armenia and Azerbaijan. **T / F**
- b. The fighting is over oil and minerals in the region. **T / F**
- c. Nagorno-Karabakh has a largely Armenian ethnic population. **T / F**
- d. Armenia blamed Azerbaijan for firing missiles in the area. **T / F**
- e. The Nagorno-Karabakh War ended in 2004. **T / F**
- f. A journalist said the recent fighting was a serious escalation. **T / F**
- g. Turkey said it would not support Azerbaijan. **T / F**
- h. Russia said it would back Azerbaijan. **T / F**

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| <b>1. fighting</b>   | a. intensification |
| <b>2. lead to</b>    | b. land            |
| <b>3. territory</b>  | c. specialist      |
| <b>4. launched</b>   | d. set up          |
| <b>5. tensions</b>   | e. result in       |
| <b>6. expert</b>     | f. truce           |
| <b>7. escalation</b> | g. battles         |
| <b>8. backing</b>    | h. support         |
| <b>9. ceasefire</b>  | i. fired           |
| <b>10. arrange</b>   | j. strains         |

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

- |                                     |                             |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Heavy fighting has broken        | a. for the past few decades |
| 2. a danger the fighting could lead | b. backing to Armenia       |
| 3. It has governed itself           | c. population in the region |
| 4. launched                         | d. arrange peace talks      |
| 5. ensure the safety of the         | e. ceasefire                |
| 6. There have been many flashpoints | f. out                      |
| 7. a very serious                   | g. to a bigger conflict     |
| 8. Russia has given its             | h. escalation               |
| 9. called for an immediate          | i. missiles                 |
| 10. offered to                      | j. between the two          |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh.html>

Heavy fighting has (1) \_\_\_\_\_ out between Armenia and Azerbaijan. There is a danger the fighting could lead to a bigger (2) \_\_\_\_\_ between the two countries. Their trouble is over a (3) \_\_\_\_\_ that is on their border called Nagorno-Karabakh. This is a disputed territory. It is internationally recognized as being part of Azerbaijan but it has a (4) \_\_\_\_\_ Armenian ethnic population. It has governed itself for the past few decades. The recent clashes resulted in the deaths of both (5) \_\_\_\_\_ and soldiers. Armenia blamed Azerbaijan for starting the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ conflict. It said Azerbaijan (7) \_\_\_\_\_ missiles into the region. Azerbaijan's defence ministry said it launched missiles to "ensure the (8) \_\_\_\_\_ of the population" in the region.

*conflict*  
*civilians*  
*safety*  
*broken*  
*launched*  
*majority*  
*region*  
*recent*

There have been (9) \_\_\_\_\_ between Armenia and Azerbaijan since the end of the Nagorno-Karabakh War in 1994. There have been many flashpoints between the two countries. The (10) \_\_\_\_\_ clashes have seen the worst fighting in many years. An Al Jazeera journalist who is an (11) \_\_\_\_\_ on Nagorno-Karabakh described the situation as, "a very (12) \_\_\_\_\_ escalation". Neighboring countries are now getting involved. Turkey's President said his country would (13) \_\_\_\_\_ Azerbaijan. Russia has given its backing to Armenia, but called for an (14) \_\_\_\_\_ ceasefire and urgent negotiations. Iran, which shares a (15) \_\_\_\_\_ with both Azerbaijan and Armenia, has offered to arrange peace (16) \_\_\_\_\_.

*immediate*  
*serious*  
*tensions*  
*talks*  
*current*  
*support*  
*border*  
*expert*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh.html>

- 1) There is a danger the fighting could lead to \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. a bigger conflicts
  - b. a bigger conflicted
  - c. a bigger conflict
  - d. a bigger con flicked
- 2) Their trouble is over a region that is \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. on their boarder
  - b. on their border
  - c. on their broader
  - d. on their bored are
- 3) recognized as being part of Azerbaijan but it has a majority Armenian \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. ethnics population
  - b. yes Nick population
  - c. ethnically population
  - d. ethnic population
- 4) It has governed itself for the past few decades. The \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. recent clashes
  - b. recent clash is
  - c. recent caches
  - d. recent crashes
- 5) it launched missiles to "ensure the safety of the population" \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. inner region
  - b. in them region
  - c. in the region
  - d. in the regional
- 6) There have been tensions between Armenia and Azerbaijan \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. since a end
  - b. since the ends
  - c. since the end
  - d. since the ended
- 7) The current clashes have seen \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the worse fighting
  - b. the worst fighting
  - c. the warts fighting
  - d. the worsts fighting
- 8) an expert on Nagorno-Karabakh described the situation as a \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. very cereal escalation
  - b. very series escalation
  - c. very seriously escalation
  - d. very serious escalation
- 9) Turkey's President said his country would \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. supports Azerbaijan
  - b. support Azerbaijan
  - c. supportive Azerbaijan
  - d. supported Azerbaijan
- 10) with both Azerbaijan and Armenia, has offered to \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. arrange piece talks
  - b. arrange peas talks
  - c. arrange appease talks
  - d. arrange peace talks

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh.html>

Heavy fighting has broken out between Armenia and Azerbaijan. There is a danger the fighting (1) \_\_\_\_\_ a bigger conflict between the two countries. Their trouble is (2) \_\_\_\_\_ that is on their border called Nagorno-Karabakh. This is a disputed territory. It is internationally recognized as (3) \_\_\_\_\_ Azerbaijan but it has a majority Armenian ethnic population. It has governed itself for the past few decades. (4) \_\_\_\_\_ resulted in the deaths of both civilians and soldiers. Armenia blamed Azerbaijan (5) \_\_\_\_\_ recent conflict. It said Azerbaijan launched missiles into the region. Azerbaijan's defence ministry said it launched missiles to "ensure (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the population" in the region.

There (7) \_\_\_\_\_ between Armenia and Azerbaijan since the end of the Nagorno-Karabakh War in 1994. There have been many flashpoints between the two countries. The (8) \_\_\_\_\_ seen the worst fighting in many years. An Al Jazeera journalist who is an expert on Nagorno-Karabakh (9) \_\_\_\_\_ as, "a very serious escalation". Neighboring countries are now getting involved. Turkey's President said his country would support Azerbaijan. Russia has given its backing to Armenia, but called (10) \_\_\_\_\_ ceasefire and urgent negotiations. Iran, which (11) \_\_\_\_\_ with both Azerbaijan and Armenia, has offered to (12) \_\_\_\_\_.



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh.html>

1. What kind of fighting did the article say had broken out?
2. What is the major ethnicity of people in Nagorno-Karabakh?
3. Who else did the article say had died, besides soldiers?
4. Who blamed Azerbaijan for starting the conflict?
5. What did Azerbaijan say it had launched?
6. When did the Nagorno-Karabakh War end?
7. Where does the expert on Nagorno-Karabakh work?
8. What did the expert describe the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh as?
9. Which country said it would support Azerbaijan?
10. Who offered to arrange peace talks?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh.html>

- 1) What kind of fighting did the article say had broken out?
  - a) small arms fire
  - b) light fighting
  - c) all-out fighting
  - d) heavy fighting
- 2) What is the major ethnicity of people in Nagorno-Karabakh?
  - a) Azerbaijani
  - b) Armenian
  - c) Nagorn
  - d) Russian
- 3) Who else did the article say had died, besides soldiers?
  - a) bystanders
  - b) journalists
  - c) politicians
  - d) civilians
- 4) Who blamed Azerbaijan for starting the conflict?
  - a) Russia
  - b) the UN
  - c) Armenia
  - d) the USA
- 5) What did Azerbaijan say it had launched?
  - a) a truce
  - b) a peace campaign
  - c) a website
  - d) missiles
- 6) When did the Nagorno-Karabakh War end?
  - a) 1974
  - b) 1984
  - c) 1994
  - d) 2004
- 7) Where does the expert on Nagorno-Karabakh work?
  - a) at Al Jazeera
  - b) the BBC
  - c) CNN
  - d) RT
- 8) What did the expert describe the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh as?
  - a) a flash in the pan
  - b) troubling
  - c) a very serious escalation
  - d) a hotspot
- 9) Which country said it would support Azerbaijan?
  - a) Russia
  - b) Turkey
  - c) Iran
  - d) Armenia
- 10) Who offered to arrange peace talks?
  - a) Iran
  - b) Armenia
  - c) Russia
  - d) Turkey

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh.html>

## **Role A – Religion**

You think religion is the most serious cause of war. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their causes aren't as serious. Also, tell the others which is the least serious of these (and why): borders, independence or money.

## **Role B – Borders**

You think borders is the most serious cause of war. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their causes aren't as serious. Also, tell the others which is the least serious of these (and why): religion, independence or money.

## **Role C – Independence**

You think independence is the most serious cause of war. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their causes aren't as serious. Also, tell the others which is the least serious of these (and why): borders, religion or money.

## **Role D – Money**

You think money is the most serious cause of war. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their causes aren't as serious. Also, tell the others which is the least serious of these (and why): borders, independence or religion.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh.html>

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

<b>fighting</b>	<b>country</b>
-----------------	----------------

- 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"><li>• heavy</li><li>• border</li><li>• majority</li><li>• few</li><li>• both</li><li>• safety</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• end</li><li>• between</li><li>• expert</li><li>• situation</li><li>• backing</li><li>• arrange</li></ul>
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# CONFLICT SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh.html>

Write five GOOD questions about conflict 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.

# CONFLICT DISCUSSION

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

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'fight'?
3. Why do countries go to war?
4. What wars has your country been in?
5. What do you think of war?
6. What do you know about Nagorno-Karabakh?
7. Should the UN decide where borders are?
8. How safe is the region in which you live?
9. Will there be more or fewer wars in the future?
10. What advice do you have for those in Nagorno-Karabakh?

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# CONFLICT DISCUSSION

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

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'country'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. How can we reduce tensions between countries?
15. What was the last flashpoint your country was involved in?
16. How would you feel if you saw armies fighting?
17. Will the actions of Turkey, Russia and Iran help?
18. What should the sides talk about in their negotiations?
19. Would you be good in peace talks?
20. What questions would you like to ask the leaders?

# 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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh.html>

Heavy fighting has broken (1) \_\_\_\_\_ between Armenia and Azerbaijan. There is a danger the fighting could lead (2) \_\_\_\_\_ a bigger conflict between the two countries. Their trouble is over a region that is on their border called Nagorno-Karabakh. This is a disputed territory. It is internationally recognized (3) \_\_\_\_\_ being part of Azerbaijan but it has a majority Armenian ethnic population. It has governed itself for the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ few decades. The recent clashes resulted in the deaths of both civilians and soldiers. Armenia blamed Azerbaijan for starting the (5) \_\_\_\_\_ conflict. It said Azerbaijan launched missiles into the region. Azerbaijan's defence ministry said it launched missiles to "ensure the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of the population" in the region.

There have been tensions (7) \_\_\_\_\_ Armenia and Azerbaijan since the end of the Nagorno-Karabakh War in 1994. There have been many (8) \_\_\_\_\_ between the two countries. The current clashes have seen the worst fighting in many years. An Al Jazeera journalist who is an (9) \_\_\_\_\_ on Nagorno-Karabakh described the situation as, "a very serious escalation". Neighboring countries are now (10) \_\_\_\_\_ involved. Turkey's President said his country would support Azerbaijan. Russia has given its backing to Armenia, but (11) \_\_\_\_\_ for an immediate ceasefire and urgent negotiations. Iran, which shares a border with both Azerbaijan and Armenia, has offered to (12) \_\_\_\_\_ peace talks.

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

- |     |              |                 |                 |                |
|-----|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1.  | (a) in       | (b) out         | (c) up          | (d) over       |
| 2.  | (a) of       | (b) to          | (c) at          | (d) on         |
| 3.  | (a) has      | (b) is          | (c) was         | (d) as         |
| 4.  | (a) parsed   | (b) past        | (c) psst        | (d) passed     |
| 5.  | (a) recently | (b) recent      | (c) recount     | (d) decent     |
| 6.  | (a) safe     | (b) safer       | (c) safety      | (d) save       |
| 7.  | (a) under    | (b) about       | (c) between     | (d) moreover   |
| 8.  | (a) flashed  | (b) flashlights | (c) flashpoints | (d) flash mobs |
| 9.  | (a) army     | (b) endgame     | (c) armour      | (d) expert     |
| 10. | (a) getting  | (b) gets        | (c) get         | (d) gotten     |
| 11. | (a) called   | (b) whispered   | (c) shouted     | (d) talked     |
| 12. | (a) upper    | (b) ask         | (c) arrange     | (d) endanger   |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. lead to a bigger coftlinc
2. a majority Armenian tecihn population
3. for the past few eaeddcs
4. deaths of both iniclivsa and soldiers
5. it launched simslsei
6. nseur the safety of the population

## Paragraph 2

7. There have been ntisoesn
8. many iltpsanfsho between the two countries
9. The current slschea
10. An Al Jazeera journalist who is an teperx
11. a very serious asnciaolet
12. etrugn negotiations

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) seen the worst fighting in many years. An Al Jazeera journalist who is an
- ( ) soldiers. Armenia blamed Azerbaijan for starting the recent conflict. It said Azerbaijan launched
- ( ) There have been tensions between Armenia and Azerbaijan since the end of the Nagorno-Karabakh War in
- ( ) a border with both Azerbaijan and Armenia, has offered to arrange peace talks.
- ( ) lead to a bigger conflict between the two countries. Their trouble is over a
- ( ) few decades. The recent clashes resulted in the deaths of both civilians and
- ( **1** ) Heavy fighting has broken out between Armenia and Azerbaijan. There is a danger the fighting could
- ( ) expert on Nagorno-Karabakh described the situation as, "a very serious escalation". Neighboring countries are now
- ( ) 1994. There have been many flashpoints between the two countries. The current clashes have
- ( ) missiles into the region. Azerbaijan's defence ministry said it launched missiles to "ensure the safety of the population" in the region.
- ( ) getting involved. Turkey's President said his country would support Azerbaijan. Russia has given its
- ( ) backing to Armenia, but called for an immediate ceasefire and urgent negotiations. Iran, which shares
- ( ) recognized as being part of Azerbaijan but it has a majority Armenian ethnic population. It has governed itself for the past
- ( ) region that is on their border called Nagorno-Karabakh. This is a disputed territory. It is internationally

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh.html>

1. The bigger conflict . lead a to fighting could
2. region on their is border . that A
3. majority ethnic has population . It a Armenian
4. the past governed for itself has It decades .
5. into Azerbaijan launched region . missiles said It the
6. the been have There between two flashpoints countries .
7. current have clashes fighting . seen the worst The
8. Described situation the serious as escalation . a very
9. President Azerbaijan . would his country said Turkey's support
10. for urgent immediate an and Called ceasefire negotiations .

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh.html>

Heavy fighting has broken *up / out* between Armenia and Azerbaijan. There is a danger the fighting could lead to a *biggest / bigger* conflict between the two countries. Their trouble is over a region that is on their border called Nagorno-Karabakh. This is a *deputy / disputed* territory. It is internationally recognized as being *part / partner* of Azerbaijan but it has a majority Armenian ethnic *population / populated*. It has governed *itself / themselves* for the past few decades. The recent clashes resulted *on / in* the deaths of both civilians and soldiers. Armenia blamed Azerbaijan for *stated / started* the recent conflict. It said Azerbaijan launched missiles into the *regional / region*. Azerbaijan's defence ministry said it launched missiles to "ensure the *safe / safety* of the population" in the region.

There have been *tensions / tension* between Armenia and Azerbaijan since the end *off / of* the Nagorno-Karabakh War in 1994. There have been many flashpoints between *them / the* two countries. The *current / currency* clashes have seen the worst fighting in many years. An Al Jazeera journalist who is an expert on Nagorno-Karabakh *description / described* the situation as, "a very *serious / seriously* escalation". Neighboring countries are *non / now* getting involved. Turkey's President said his country would support Azerbaijan. Russia has *giving / given* its backing to Armenia, but called for an immediate ceasefire and *urgent / urgency* negotiations. Iran, which shares a border with both Azerbaijan and Armenia, has offered to arrange *piece / peace* talks.

**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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh.html>

H\_\_ v y f\_g h t\_n g h\_s b r\_k\_n \_\_ t b\_t w\_\_ n A r  
m\_n\_\_ \_n d A z\_r b\_\_ j\_n . Th\_r\_\_ s \_ d\_n g\_r th\_  
f\_g h t\_n g c\_\_ l d l\_\_ d t\_\_ b\_g g\_r c\_n f\_l\_c t b\_t  
w\_\_ n th\_ t\_w\_ c\_\_ n t\_r\_\_ s . Th\_\_ r t\_r\_\_ b\_l\_\_ s  
\_v\_r \_ r\_g\_\_ n th\_t \_s \_n th\_\_ r b\_r d\_r c\_l l\_d  
N\_g\_r n\_- K\_r\_b\_k h . Th\_s \_s \_ d\_s p\_t\_d t\_r r\_t\_r y  
. I t \_s \_n t\_r n\_t\_\_ n\_l l y r\_c\_g n\_z\_d \_s b\_\_ n g  
p\_r t \_f A z\_r b\_\_ j\_n b\_t t h\_s \_ m\_j\_r\_t y A r m \_  
n \_ \_ n \_t h n\_c p\_p\_l\_t\_\_ n . I t h\_s g\_v\_r n\_d \_t  
s\_l f \_f\_r th\_ p\_s t \_f\_w d\_c\_d\_s . Th\_ r\_c\_n t c  
l\_s h\_s r\_s\_l t\_d \_n th\_ d\_\_ t\_h s \_f b\_t h c\_v\_l\_\_  
n\_s \_n d s\_l d\_\_ r\_s . A r m\_n\_\_ b\_l\_m\_d A z\_r b\_\_  
j\_n \_f\_r s\_t\_r t\_d th\_ r\_c\_n t c\_n f\_l\_c t . I t s\_\_ d  
A z\_r b\_\_ j\_n l\_\_ n c\_h\_d m\_s s\_l\_s \_n t\_ th\_ r\_g\_\_ n  
. A z\_r b\_\_ j\_n 's d\_f\_n c\_ m\_n\_s t\_r y s\_\_ d \_t l\_\_  
n c\_h\_d m\_s s\_l\_s t\_ " \_n s\_r\_ th\_ s\_f\_t y \_f th\_  
p\_p\_l\_t\_\_ n " \_n th\_ r\_g\_\_ n .

Th\_r\_ h\_v\_ b\_\_ n t\_n s\_\_ n\_s b\_t w\_\_ n A r m\_n\_\_  
\_n d A z\_r b\_\_ j\_n s\_n c\_ th\_ \_n d \_f th\_ N\_g\_r n\_-  
K\_r\_b\_k h W\_r \_n 1994 . Th\_r\_ h\_v\_ b\_\_ n m\_n y  
f\_l\_s h\_p\_\_ n\_t\_s b\_t w\_\_ n th\_ t\_w\_ c\_\_ n t\_r\_\_ s . T  
h\_ c\_r\_r\_n t c\_l\_s h\_s h\_v\_ s\_\_ n th\_ w\_r\_s t f\_g h  
t\_n g \_n m\_n y y\_\_ r\_s . A n A l J\_z\_\_ r\_ j\_\_ r  
n\_l\_s t w h\_ \_s \_n \_x\_p\_r t \_n N\_g\_r n\_- K\_r\_b\_k h  
d\_s\_c\_r\_b\_d th\_ s\_t\_\_ t\_\_ n \_s , " \_v\_r y s\_r\_\_ s \_s  
c\_l\_t\_\_ n " . N\_\_ g\_h b\_r\_n g c\_\_ n t\_r\_\_ s \_r\_ n\_w  
g\_t\_t\_n g \_n v\_l\_v\_d . T\_r\_k\_y 's P\_r\_s\_d\_n t s\_\_ d  
h\_s c\_\_ n t\_r y w\_\_ l d s\_p\_p\_r t A z\_r b\_\_ j\_n . R\_s  
s\_\_ h\_s g\_v\_n \_t\_s b\_c\_k\_n g t\_ A r m\_n\_\_ , b\_t  
c\_l l\_d \_f\_r \_n \_m\_m\_d\_\_ t\_ c\_\_ s\_f\_r\_ \_n d \_r\_g\_n t  
n\_g\_t\_\_ t\_\_ n\_s . I\_r\_n , w\_h\_c\_h s\_h\_r\_s \_ b\_r d\_r  
w\_t\_h b\_t h A z\_r b\_\_ j\_n \_n d A r m\_n\_\_ , h\_s \_f  
f\_r\_d t\_ \_r\_r\_n g\_ p\_\_ c\_ t\_l\_k\_s .

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh.html>

heavy fighting has broken out between armenia and azerbaijan there is a danger the fighting could lead to a bigger conflict between the two countries their trouble is over a region that is on their border called nagornokarabakh this is a disputed territory it is internationally recognized as being part of azerbaijan but it has a majority armenian ethnic population it has governed itself for the past few decades the recent clashes resulted in the deaths of both civilians and soldiers armenia blamed azerbaijan for starting the recent conflict it said azerbaijan launched missiles into the region azerbaijans defence ministry said it launched missiles to ensure the safety of the population in the region

there have been tensions between armenia and azerbaijan since the end of the nagornokarabakh war in 1994 there have been many flashpoints between the two countries the current clashes have seen the worst fighting in many years an al jazeera journalist who is an expert on nagornokarabakh described the situation as a very serious escalation neighboring countries are now getting involved turkeys president said his country would support azerbaijan russia has given its backing to armenia but called for an immediate ceasefire and urgent negotiations iran which shares a border with both azerbaijan and armenia has offered to arrange peace talks

## PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2009/200930-nagorno-karabakh.html>

Heavy fighting has broken out between Armenia and Azerbaijan. There is a danger the fighting could lead to a bigger conflict between the two countries. Their trouble is over a region that is on their border called Nagorno-Karabakh. This is a disputed territory. It is internationally recognized as being part of Azerbaijan but it has a majority Armenian ethnic population. It has governed itself for the past few decades. The recent clashes resulted in the deaths of both civilians and soldiers. Armenia blamed Azerbaijan for starting the recent conflict. It said Azerbaijan launched missiles into the region. Azerbaijan's defence ministry said it launched missiles to "ensure the safety of the population" in the region. There have been tensions between Armenia and Azerbaijan since the end of the Nagorno-Karabakh War in 1994. There have been many flashpoints between the two countries. The current clashes have seen the worst fighting in many years. An Al Jazeera journalist who is an expert on Nagorno-Karabakh described the situation as, "a very serious escalation". Neighboring countries are now getting involved. Turkey's President said his country would support Azerbaijan. Russia has given its backing to Armenia, but called for an immediate cease fire and urgent negotiations. Iran, which shares a border with both Azerbaijan and Armenia, has offered to arrange peace talks.







# 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 this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. NAGORNO-KARABAKH:** Make a poster about Nagorno-Karabakh. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. CONFLICT:** Write a magazine article about making war and conflict illegal. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

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 an expert on conflict. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to prevent it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. e    2. c    3. b    4. f    5. a    6. g    7. d  
8. n    9. h    10. k    11. m    12. i    13. l    14. j

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. g	2. e	3. b	4. i	5. j
6. c	7. a	8. h	9. f	10. d

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Heavy fighting
2. Armenian
3. Civilians
4. Armenia
5. Missiles
6. 1994
7. At Al Jazeera
8. A very serious escalation
9. Turkey
10. Iran

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. The fighting could lead to a bigger conflict.
2. A region that is on their border.
3. It has a majority Armenian ethnic population.
4. It has governed itself for the past decades.
5. It said Azerbaijan launched missiles into the region.
6. There have been flashpoints between the two countries.
7. The current clashes have seen the worst fighting.
8. Described the situation as a very serious escalation.
9. Turkey's President said his country would support Azerbaijan.
10. Called for an immediate ceasefire and urgent negotiations.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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