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Level 2 – 1st February 2024

French farmers cut off Paris with tractors

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240201-siege-of-paris-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240201-siege-of-paris-2.html>

Farmers in France are angry. They are blocking roads around the capital city of Paris. There are many reasons for their anger. It is becoming more difficult to live. Inflation is increasing because of high energy prices. The Ukraine War is causing higher prices, especially for fertilizer. Farmers are also angry because the government is not protecting them from cheaper food coming from Eastern Europe. Finally, they are very angry with European Union climate decisions, which are adding to paperwork and the costs of doing business.

The farmers blocked highways around Paris. Their tractors stopped traffic going in and out of the city. They also dumped smelly animal waste outside government offices. One farmer told the AP news agency: "We've come to defend French agriculture. We go from crisis to crisis." Another farmer said: "Parisians are going to be hungry. The goal is to starve Parisians." Farmers carried messages that said: "No food without farmers" and "The end of us would mean famine for you." A farmers union said it is pressuring the government to find a solution and a way out of the crisis.

Sources: <https://www.foxnews.com/world/protesting-french-farmers-plan-siege-capital-paris-rejecting-government-concessions>
<https://thehill.com/policy/international/4436517-french-farmers-blockade-paris-in-heated-protest/>
<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/1/29/french-farmers-block-major-motorways-around-paris-as-dispute-escalates>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240201-siege-of-paris-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. French farmers are | a. Eastern Europe |
| 2. They are blocking roads | b. business |
| 3. it is becoming more | c. around Paris |
| 4. the government is not | d. to paperwork |
| 5. cheaper | e. difficult to live |
| 6. coming from | f. food |
| 7. decisions that are adding | g. angry |
| 8. the costs of doing | h. protecting them |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. The farmers blocked highways | a. French agriculture |
| 2. traffic going in | b. starve Parisians |
| 3. animal | c. around Paris |
| 4. We've come to defend | d. famine for you |
| 5. We go from | e. waste |
| 6. The goal is to | f. crisis to crisis |
| 7. The end of us would mean | g. of the crisis |
| 8. a way out | h. and out of the city |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240201-siege-of-paris-2.html>

Farmers in France are angry. They (1) _____ around the capital city of Paris. There are many reasons (2) _____. It is becoming more difficult to live. Inflation is increasing because of (3) _____. The Ukraine War is (4) _____, especially for fertilizer. Farmers are also angry because the government is not protecting them from (5) _____ from Eastern Europe. Finally, they are very angry with European Union climate decisions, which are adding to paperwork and the (6) _____ business.

The (7) _____ around Paris. Their tractors stopped traffic going in and out of the city. They also (8) _____ waste outside government offices. One farmer told the AP news agency: "We've (9) _____ French agriculture. We go from (10) _____." Another farmer said: "Parisians are going to be hungry. The goal is to starve Parisians." Farmers carried messages that said: "No food without farmers" and "The end of us would mean (11) _____." A farmers union said it is pressuring the government to find a solution and a (12) _____ the crisis.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240201-siege-of-paris-2.html>

Farmers in France are angry. They are blocking roads around the capital city of Paris. There are many reasons for their anger. It is becoming more difficult to live. Inflation is increasing because of high energy prices. The Ukraine War is causing higher prices, especially for fertilizer. Farmers are really so angry because the government is not protecting them from cheaper food coming from Eastern Europe. Finally, they are very angry with European Union climate decisions, which are adding to paperwork and the costs of doing business. The farmers blocked highways around Paris. Their tractors stopped traffic going in and out of the city. They also dumped smelly animal waste outside government offices. One farmer told the AP news agency: "We've come to defend French agriculture. We go from crisis to crisis." Another farmer said: "Parisians are going to be hungry. The goal is to starve Parisians." Farmers carried messages that said: "No food without farmers" and "The end of us would mean famine for you." A farmers union said it is pressuring the government to find a solution and a way out of the crisis.

PARIS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240201-siege-of-paris-2.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Paris 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) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2402/240201-siege-of-paris-2.html>

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