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Level 2 – 12th December 2024

Millions of Syrian refugees ready to go home

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241212-syrian-refugees-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/2412/241212-syrian-refugees-2.html>

Millions of Syrian refugees could soon go home. They want to return after the fall of former president Bashar al-Assad. He ruled Syria for 24 years. Rebels took control of parts of Syria on Friday. Thousands of refugees in Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Egypt want to go back to their hometowns. The U.N. believes there are around 5 million refugees in the Middle East. This includes two million school-aged children. Another 1.3 million refugees are in other countries, mostly in Europe. Turkey's president said: "God willing, voluntary, safe...returns will increase."

Many refugees have spoken to journalists. Muhammed Zin, 28, told the AP news agency: "Assad was...killing us. I will return to Syria now. Thank God, the war is over." He left Syria in 2016, five years after civil war broke out. Another returnee, Malak Matar, told reporters he has waited for 14 years to return. He said: "We feel...we can express ourselves. The country is free, and the barriers have been broken down." He was hopeful for the future. He added: "Syrians have to create a country that is well organized and takes care of its people. It's a new phase."

Sources: <https://apnews.com/article/turkey-syrian-refugees-return-border-crossing-b0559be5103a7ef505e7206477f9db04>
<https://www.timesofisrael.com/hundreds-of-syrian-refugees-start-returning-from-turkey-lebanon-after-assads-fall/>
<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-14171809/thousands-Syrians-home-end-civil-war-Families-reunited.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241212-syrian-refugees-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Syrian refugees could | a. willing |
| 2. They want | b. president Bashar al-Assad |
| 3. the fall of former | c. to return |
| 4. He ruled | d. of parts of Syria |
| 5. Rebels took control | e. aged children |
| 6. go back to | f. soon go home |
| 7. two million school- | g. their hometowns |
| 8. God | h. Syria |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. refugees have spoken | a. ourselves |
| 2. the AP news | b. to Syria now |
| 3. I will return | c. war broke out |
| 4. Thank | d. agency |
| 5. five years after civil | e. broken down |
| 6. we can express | f. to journalists |
| 7. the barriers have been | g. phase |
| 8. It's a new | h. God |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241212-syrian-refugees-2.html>

Millions of Syrian (1) _____ go home. They want to return after the fall of former president Bashar al-Assad. He ruled Syria for 24 years. Rebels took (2) _____ of Syria on Friday. Thousands of refugees in Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq and Egypt want to go back (3) _____. The U.N. believes there are around 5 million refugees in the Middle East. (4) _____ million school-aged children. Another 1.3 million refugees are in other countries, (5) _____. Turkey's president said: "God (6) _____...returns will increase."

Many refugees have (7) _____. Muhammed Zin, 28, told the AP news agency: "Assad was...killing us. I will return to Syria now. Thank God, the (8) _____." He left Syria in 2016, five years after (9) _____ out. Another returnee, Malak Matar, told reporters he has waited for 14 years to return. He said: "We feel...we (10) _____. The country is free, and the barriers have been broken down." He was hopeful for the future. He added: "Syrians have to create a country that (11) _____ and takes care of its people. It's (12) _____."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241212-syrian-refugees-2.html>

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REFUGEES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2412/241212-syrian-refugees-2.html>

Write five GOOD questions about refugees 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) _____

