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Level 5

Japan recession may hurt global economy

19th November, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1411/141119-recession-5.html>

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Please try Level 4 (easier) and the 26–page Level 6 (harder).

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1411/141119-recession-5.html>

Japan has slipped back into recession. Financial analysts are thinking about how this will affect the global economy. Japan's economy unexpectedly shrank for the second quarter in a row, meaning it is officially in recession. The slide in the last quarter took economists by surprise. Figures showed that Japan's economy would grow by 2.1% in the last quarter. Instead, gross domestic product (GDP) fell by 1.6%. Many economists say the fall is because of April's increase in sales tax from five to eight per cent. Japanese consumers have to budget more and are simply not spending.

World leaders are worried the Japanese recession could be bad for the global economy. British leader David Cameron said the world was on the brink of a second economic disaster. He said he saw "red warning lights" for the global economy because of "instability and uncertainty". Mr Cameron said the problems were "plain to see". He added: "The Eurozone is teetering on the brink of a possible third recession, with high unemployment, falling growth and the real risk of falling prices." He added that emerging markets were slowing down and this was hurting growth.

Sources: <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/david-cameron-warns-of-new-global-economic-crisis-9864307.html>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-30077122>
<http://the-japan-news.com/news/article/0001724963>

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1411/141119-recession-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Japan has slipped | a. would grow by 2.1% |
| 2. Financial | b. increase in sales tax |
| 3. for the second quarter | c. budget more |
| 4. The slide in the last quarter took | d. in a row |
| 5. Figures showed that Japan's economy | e. back into recession |
| 6. gross domestic | f. economists by surprise |
| 7. the fall is because of April's | g. analysts |
| 8. Japanese consumers have to | h. product |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. worried the Japanese recession could be | a. growth |
| 2. the world was on the brink of a | b. uncertainty |
| 3. red warning lights for | c. second economic disaster. |
| 4. instability and | d. to see |
| 5. the problems were plain | e. bad for the global economy |
| 6. the real risk | f. markets were slowing down |
| 7. emerging | g. of falling prices |
| 8. this was hurting | h. the global economy |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1411/141119-recession-5.html>

Japan has (1) _____ recession. Financial analysts are thinking about (2) _____ the global economy. Japan's economy unexpectedly shrank for the (3) _____, meaning it is officially in recession. The (4) _____ quarter took economists by surprise. Figures showed that Japan's economy would grow by 2.1% in the last quarter. Instead, (5) _____ (GDP) fell by 1.6%. Many economists say the fall is because of April's increase in sales tax from five to eight per cent. Japanese consumers (6) _____ and are simply not spending.

World leaders are worried the Japanese recession (7) _____ the global economy. British leader David Cameron said the world was on the brink of a (8) _____. He said he saw "red warning lights" for the global economy because of "(9) _____. Mr Cameron said the problems (10) _____. He added: "The Eurozone is teetering on the brink of a possible third recession, with high unemployment, falling growth and (11) _____ falling prices." He added that emerging markets were slowing down and (12) _____.

RECESSION SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1411/141119-recession-5.html>

Write five GOOD questions about recession 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) _____
- g) _____
- h) _____

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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) _____
- g) _____
- h) _____

