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Level 2 – 10th March, 2019

Finland's government resigns

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1903/190310-finland-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/1903/190310-finland-2.html>

All of Finland's government has resigned. It wanted to make welfare and healthcare reforms for Finland's future. However, politicians voted against the reforms. Finland's Prime Minister Juha Sipila said he was "hugely disappointed". He said he would stay on in a "caretaker" government until elections in April. Mr Sipila wanted the reforms because Finland's population is aging - people are getting older. It is under a lot of financial pressure. The government said its planned reforms would save up to \$3.4 billion over the next ten years.

Politicians in Finland think the government resigning is a big mistake. They think the government should stay in power until April's elections. Mr Sipila said resigning was the right thing to do because it had no support. He said: "My government has no choice but to hand in its letter of resignation. I'll shoulder my responsibility." Mr Sipila's colleagues said it was right for the government to resign. One senior member of the Centre Party said: "If anyone asks what political responsibility means, then I would say that this resignation is an example".

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-47496326>
<https://www.foxnews.com/world/finlands-entire-government-resigns-after-breakdown-of-agreement-on-welfare-state-reform>
<http://www.helsinkitimes.fi/finland/finland-news/politics/16248-finnish-government-hands-in-resignation-after-collapse-of-care-reform.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1903/190310-finland-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. make welfare and | a. aging |
| 2. he was hugely | b. reforms |
| 3. he would stay on in a "caretaker" | c. disappointed |
| 4. Finland's population is | d. ten years |
| 5. It is under a lot of | e. healthcare reforms |
| 6. planned | f. to \$3.4 billion |
| 7. save up | g. financial pressure |
| 8. over the next | h. government |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. resigning is a big | a. the Centre Party |
| 2. the government should | b. of resignation |
| 3. resigning was the right | c. is an example |
| 4. hand in its letter | d. stay in power |
| 5. I'll shoulder my | e. responsibility |
| 6. One senior member of | f. thing to do |
| 7. political | g. responsibility |
| 8. this resignation | h. mistake |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1903/190310-finland-2.html>

All of Finland's government has resigned. It (1) _____ welfare and healthcare reforms for Finland's future. However, politicians (2) _____ reforms. Finland's Prime Minister Juha Sipila said he was "hugely disappointed". He (3) _____ stay on in a "caretaker" government until elections in April. Mr Sipila wanted (4) _____ Finland's population is aging - people are getting older. It is (5) _____ of financial pressure. The government said its planned reforms would save up to \$3.4 billion (6) _____ ten years.

Politicians in Finland think the government (7) _____ big mistake. They think the government should stay (8) _____ April's elections. Mr Sipila said resigning was the right thing to do because it had no support. He said: "My government (9) _____ but to hand in its letter of resignation. I'll shoulder my responsibility." Mr Sipila's colleagues said it (10) _____ the government to resign. One senior (11) _____ Centre Party said: "If anyone asks what political responsibility means, then I would say that this resignation (12) _____".

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1903/190310-finland-2.html>

All of Finland's government has resigned. It wanted to make welfare and health care reforms for Finland's future. However, politicians voted against the reforms. Finland's Prime Minister Juha Sipilä said he was "hugely disappointed". He said he would stay on in a "caretaker" government until elections in April. Mr Sipilä wanted the reforms because Finland's population is aging - people are getting older. It is under a lot of financial pressure. The government said its planned reforms would save up to \$3.4 billion over the next ten years. Politicians in Finland think the government resigning is a big mistake. They think the government should stay in power until April's elections. Mr Sipilä said resigning was the right thing to do because he had no support. He said: "My government has no choice but to hand in its letter of resignation. I'll shoulder my responsibility." Mr Sipilä's colleague said it was right for the government to resign. One senior member of the Centre Party said: "If anyone asks what political responsibility means, then I would say that this resignation is an example".

FINLAND SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1903/190310-finland-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Finland 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) _____

