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**Level 0** – 21st November, 2019

## Onion emergency in Bangladesh

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191121-onions-0.html>

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Please try Levels 1, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191121-onions-0.html>

Onions are important in Bangladesh. It is difficult to buy them.

There is a shortage. Prices have gone up from US36 cents to around \$3.25 a kilo. Bangladesh usually buys them from India.

Recent heavy rain in India damaged its onion harvest. India stopped selling onions to Bangladesh. There may be protests because of this.

The onion crisis is very serious. The Prime Minister has stopped using onions. Hundreds of people waited for hours to buy one kilo. One person said he would wait for longer to save some money. In one area in Dhaka, people stopped eating onions 15 days ago. Street-food sellers cannot make onion-based snacks.

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/nov/18/bangladesh-flies-in-planeloads-of-onions-amid-national-outcry-over-shortage>  
<https://www.dawn.com/news/1517352>  
<https://bdnews24.com/lifestyle/2019/11/18/soaring-onion-prices-force-many-to-twist-their-taste-buds-in-dhaka>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191121-onions-0.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                 |                    |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Onions are important in      | a. shortage        |
| 2. It is difficult to           | b. because of this |
| 3. There is a                   | c. from India      |
| 4. Prices have                  | d. to Bangladesh   |
| 5. Bangladesh usually buys them | e. rain in India   |
| 6. Recent heavy                 | f. buy them        |
| 7. India stopped selling onions | g. gone up         |
| 8. There may be protests        | h. Bangladesh      |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. The onion crisis   | a. some money       |
| 2. Hundreds of people | b. based snacks     |
| 3. save               | c. waited for hours |
| 4. In one area        | d. ago              |
| 5. people stopped     | e. sellers          |
| 6. 15 days            | f. in Dhaka         |
| 7. Street-food        | g. eating onions    |
| 8. make onion-        | h. is very serious  |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191121-onions-0.html>

Onions (1) \_\_\_\_\_ Bangladesh. It is difficult to buy them. There (2) \_\_\_\_\_. Prices have gone up from US\$36 (3) \_\_\_\_\_ \$3.25 a kilo. Bangladesh usually buys them from India. Recent (4) \_\_\_\_\_ India damaged (5) \_\_\_\_\_. India stopped selling onions to Bangladesh. There may be protests (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

(7) \_\_\_\_\_ is very serious. The Prime Minister has (8) \_\_\_\_\_. Hundreds of people waited for hours to (9) \_\_\_\_\_. One person said he would wait for longer to (10) \_\_\_\_\_. In one area in Dhaka, people (11) \_\_\_\_\_ 15 days ago. Street-food sellers (12) \_\_\_\_\_-based snacks.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191121-onions-0.html>

Onions are important in Bangladesh. It is difficult to buy them. There is a shortage. Prices have gone up from US 36 cents to around \$3.25 a kilo. Bangladesh usually buys them from India. Recent heavy rain in India damaged onion harvest. India stopped selling onions to Bangladesh. There may be protests because of this. The onion crisis is very serious. The Prime Minister has stopped using onions. Hundreds of people waited for hours to buy one kilo. One person said he would wait for long to save some money. In one area in Dhaka, people stopped eating onions 15 days ago. Street-food sellers cannot make onion-based snacks.

# ONIONS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191121-onions-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about onions 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/1911/191121-onions-0.html>

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

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