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Level 4 – 31st March, 2021

Suez Canal reopens after stranded ship is freed

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210331-suez-canal-4.html>

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Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210331-suez-canal-4.html>

The Suez Canal is open again after the ship that blocked it is free. The 220,000-ton Ever Given container ship got stuck last week. The blockage disrupted global trade and international markets. It cost Egypt \$100 million in lost revenue. There is now a backlog of 450 ships waiting to go through the canal. They are anchored in the Red Sea and Mediterranean near the ends of the canal. Authorities will try and double the daily average of ships to go through the channel.

There have been big efforts to free the 400-metre-long ship. Dredgers cleared sand underneath it to refloat it. Around 30 tug boats worked to pull it away from the canal's banks. A high tide helped the salvage operation. Egypt's president said it was a "massive technical complexity". He added: "The world can now rest assured about the passage of goods through this pivotal shipping route. Egyptians proved that they are always up to the challenge."

Sources: <https://www.thenationalnews.com/mena/egypt/suez-canal-cleared-as-ever-given-gets-under-way-1.1192868>
<https://www.voanews.com/middle-east/massive-ship-blocking-suez-canal-freed>
<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/3/29/ever-given-turned-80-percent-in-right-direction-live-news>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210331-suez-canal-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. the giant ship that | a. in the Red Sea |
| 2. wedged | b. average |
| 3. disrupted global | c. of 450 ships |
| 4. there is a backlog | d. the channel |
| 5. They are anchored | e. trade |
| 6. near the ends | f. had blocked it |
| 7. double the daily | g. of the canal |
| 8. 50 ships to pass through | h. between the sides |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. a huge effort over | a. tide |
| 2. in an attempt to | b. shipping route |
| 3. pull it away from | c. operation |
| 4. helped by a high | d. to the challenge |
| 5. during the salvage | e. the past week |
| 6. The world can now rest | f. refloat it |
| 7. through this pivotal | g. assured |
| 8. they are always up | h. the canal's banks |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210331-suez-canal-4.html>

The Suez Canal (1) _____ after the ship that blocked it is free. The 220,000-ton Ever Given container ship (2) _____ week. The blockage disrupted global trade and international markets. It cost Egypt \$100 million (3) _____. There is now a backlog of 450 ships waiting to go through the canal. They (4) _____ the Red Sea and Mediterranean near (5) _____ the canal. Authorities will try and double (6) _____ of ships to go through the channel.

There have (7) _____ to free the 400-metre-long ship. Dredgers cleared sand underneath it (8) _____. Around 30 tug boats worked to (9) _____ from the canal's banks. A high tide helped (10) _____. Egypt's president said it was a "massive technical complexity". He added: "The world can now rest assured about the (11) _____ through this pivotal shipping route. Egyptians proved that they are always up (12) _____."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210331-suez-canal-4.html>

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THE SUEZ CANAL SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2103/210331-suez-canal-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about the Suez Canal 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/2103/210331-suez-canal-4.html>

Write about **the Suez Canal** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.
