

Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

**"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"**

breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html

**Thousands more free lessons
from Sean's other websites**

www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html

Level 1 – 8th May, 2021

Farmer accidentally moves Belgium-France border

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2105/210508-borders-1.html>

Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

Twitter



twitter.com/SeanBanville

Facebook



www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176

THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2105/210508-borders-1.html>

Governments spend years or even decades making borders. A farmer in Belgium did not need so long. He changed the border between Belgium and France in a few minutes. He made Belgium about 1,000 square meters bigger and France smaller. He moved a border stone 2.29 metres inside France. The stone he moved was put there in 1819. The farmer moved it so he could drive his tractor around his field more easily.

Moving a border between two countries can lead to war. Luckily, Belgian and French diplomats saw the funny side and avoided a crisis. The mayor of the Belgian town said: "The stone was placed there in 1819 following the defeat of Napoleon....We will find the person who moved the stone....I still have to verify who [he] is." The mayor added: "We know exactly where the stone was before. It was right next to a tree."

Sources: <https://edition.cnn.com/travel/article/belgium-farmer-moves-french-border/index.html>
<https://www.euronews.com/2021/05/04/belgium-gains-territory-after-farmer-moves-french-border>
<https://www.brusselstimes.com/belgium/167925/belgian-farmer-moves-accidentally-french-border-erquelines-napoleon-boundary-marker-aurelie-welonek-mayor-bousignies-sur-roc-david-lavaux/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2105/210508-borders-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. years or even | a. stone |
| 2. A farmer in Belgium did | b. the border |
| 3. He changed | c. meters |
| 4. in a | d. tractor |
| 5. about 1,000 square | e. decades |
| 6. He moved a border | f. few minutes |
| 7. 2.29 metres | g. not need so long |
| 8. drive his | h. inside France |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. lead | a. to a tree |
| 2. diplomats saw the funny | b. moved the stone |
| 3. The stone was placed | c. side |
| 4. in 1819 following the defeat | d. the stone was |
| 5. We will find the person who | e. there |
| 6. I still have to verify who | f. of Napoleon |
| 7. know exactly where | g. to war |
| 8. It was right next | h. he is |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2105/210508-borders-1.html>

Governments spend years (1) _____ making borders. A farmer in Belgium did (2) _____ long. He changed the border between Belgium and France in a few minutes. He made Belgium about 1,000 (3) _____ and France smaller. He (4) _____ stone 2.29 metres inside France. The stone (5) _____ put there in 1819. The farmer moved it so he could (6) _____ around his field more easily.

Moving a border between two countries can (7) _____. Luckily, Belgian and French diplomats saw the funny side and (8) _____. The mayor of the Belgian town said: "The stone (9) _____ in 1819 following (10) _____ Napoleon....We will find the person who moved the stone....I still have (11) _____ [he] is." The mayor added: "We know exactly where the stone was before. It was (12) _____ a tree."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2105/210508-borders-1.html>

Governmentsspendyearsorevendecadesmakingborders.Afarmerin
Belgiumdidnotneedsolong.HechangedtheborderbetweenBelgiuman
dFranceinafewminutes.HemadeBelgiumabout1,000squaremetersbi
ggerandFrancesmaller.Hemovedaborderstone2.29metresinsideFra
nce.Thestonehemovedwasputtherein1819.Thefarmermoveditsohe
coulddrivehistractoraroundhisfieldmoreeasily.Movingaborderbetwe
entwocountriestocanleadtoawar.Luckily,BelgianandFrenchdiplomats
awthefunnysideandavoidedacrisis.ThemayoroftheBelgiantownsaid:
"Thestonewasplacedtherein1819followingthedefeatofNapoleon....
Wewillfindthepersonwhomovedthestone....Istillhavetoverifywho[h
e]is."Themayoradded:"Weknowexactlywherethestonewasbefore.It
wasrightnexttoatree."

BORDERS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2105/210508-borders-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about borders 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) _____

Farmer accidentally moves Belgium-France border – 8th May, 2021
More free lessons at breakingnewsenglish.com

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

