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Ready-to-use ESL/EFL Lessons by Sean Banville

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

**The Breaking News English.com Resource Book**

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## **World Cup insured for \$9 billion**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1006/100607-insurance.html>

### **Contents**

The Article	2
Warm-ups	3
Before Reading / Listening	4
While Reading / Listening	5
Listening Gap Fill	6
After Reading / Listening	7
Student Survey	8
Discussion	9
Language Work	10
Writing	11
Homework	12
Answers	13

# THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1006/100607-insurance.html>

The BBC [reports](#) the 2010 FIFA World Cup has been insured for more than \$9 billion. Anyone with a stake in the event has taken out insurance. This includes FIFA (the governing body that runs world football), national teams, television companies covering the tournament and advertisers. The insurance cover includes delays to games and injuries to players. An insurance spokeswoman said: "If the opening ceremony is delayed, that will affect the broadcasters, because they've got their advertising slots in place." She also said the final was insured: "If the final has to be delayed, for whatever reason, people might want money back for their tickets." Players are insured for up to \$40 million each if they get injured, depending on how big a star they are.

FIFA decided not to insure the cancellation of the World Cup. Officials said they chose not to cover this risk because "even if the event is delayed for any reason, it is extremely unlikely that it would be called off". South Africa has been working hard to ensure the event takes place safely. There have been several terrorism threats so the government has beefed up its security. South Africa's Minister of Police Nathi Mthethwa said the country is prepared and "will take no chances" with security. "The police force is ready...Police will be everywhere, ready for anything. This is the epitome of our security plan; we will cover every corner because we do not have any no-go areas," he said. He will use 41,000 police officers, 100 BMW patrol cars, 10 water cannons and surveillance equipment.

# WARM-UPS

**1. THE WORLD CUP:** Walk around the class and talk to other students about the World Cup. Change partners often. Sit with your first partner(s) and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

*reports / insurance / TV companies / injuries / delays / opening ceremonies / tickets / officials / risk / terrorism / taking chances / security / BMW patrol cars / surveillance*

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. INSURANCE:** How much insurance would you need to insure these things? Complete this table. Share what you wrote with your partner(s). Change and share again.

Thing	Insured value	Why?
Your teeth		
Your favourite thing		
Your English		
Your singing ability		
Your photos / music		
Your weekends		

**4. FOOTBALL:** Students A **strongly** believe football is the greatest sport in the world; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. VALUABLE:** Which of these are worth most at the 2010 World Cup? Rank them and share your rankings with your partner. Change partners and share your rankings again.

- The players
- The stadia
- The referees
- The trophy
- The fans
- The security officials
- The mascot
- The goals

**6. RISK:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word 'risk'. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1006/100607-insurance.html>

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| a. The World Cup trophy has been insured for almost \$9 billion.            | T / F |
| b. Television companies have taken out insurance for the World Cup.         | T / F |
| c. The timing of the opening ceremony and final is insured.                 | T / F |
| d. Players are insured up to a maximum of \$4 million each.                 | T / F |
| e. The World Cup is not insured for the event being cancelled.              | T / F |
| f. South African police are still waiting for their first terrorist threat. | T / F |
| g. South African police are getting extra beef to make them stronger.       | T / F |
| h. The police will use 100 BMW patrol cars during the World Cup.            | T / F |

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the following synonyms from the article.

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. stake         | a. very          |
| 2. governing     | b. interruptions |
| 3. runs          | c. out of bounds |
| 4. delays        | d. ruling        |
| 5. reason        | e. abandonment   |
| 6. cancellation  | f. monitoring    |
| 7. extremely     | g. interest      |
| 8. beefed up     | h. cause         |
| 9. no-go         | i. strengthened  |
| 10. surveillance | j. manages       |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. insured for                            | a. a star they are       |
| 2. Anyone with a                          | b. every corner          |
| 3. the governing body that                | c. is delayed            |
| 4. If the opening ceremony                | d. stake in the event    |
| 5. depending on how big                   | e. be called off         |
| 6. insure the cancellation                | f. equipment             |
| 7. it is extremely unlikely that it would | g. more than \$9 billion |
| 8. the government has beefed              | h. of the World Cup      |
| 9. we will cover                          | i. runs world football   |
| 10. surveillance                          | j. up its security       |

# WHILE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1006/100607-insurance.html>

**GAP FILL:** Put the words into the gaps in the text.

The BBC reports the 2010 FIFA World Cup has been \_\_\_\_\_ for more than \$9 billion. Anyone with a stake in the \_\_\_\_\_ has taken out insurance. This includes FIFA (the governing body that runs world football), national teams, television companies \_\_\_\_\_ the tournament and advertisers. The insurance cover includes delays to games and \_\_\_\_\_ to players. An insurance spokeswoman said: "If the opening \_\_\_\_\_ is delayed, that will affect the broadcasters, because they've got their advertising \_\_\_\_\_ in place." She also said the final was insured: "If the final has to be delayed, for whatever \_\_\_\_\_, people might want money back for their tickets." Players are insured for up to \$40 million each if they get injured, \_\_\_\_\_ on how big a star they are.

*injuries*  
*insured*  
*slots*  
*covering*  
*depending*  
*event*  
*reason*  
*ceremony*

FIFA decided not to insure the \_\_\_\_\_ of the World Cup. Officials said they chose not to \_\_\_\_\_ this risk because "even if the event is delayed for any reason, it is extremely \_\_\_\_\_ that it would be called off". South Africa has been working hard to ensure the event takes place safely. There have been \_\_\_\_\_ terrorism threats so the government has \_\_\_\_\_ up its security. South Africa's Minister of Police Nathi Mthethwa said the country is prepared and "will take no chances" with security. "The police force is \_\_\_\_\_ ...Police will be everywhere, ready for anything. This is the epitome of our security plan; we will cover every \_\_\_\_\_ because we do not have any \_\_\_\_\_ areas," he said. He will use 41,000 police officers, 100 BMW patrol cars, 10 water cannons and surveillance equipment.

*unlikely*  
*ready*  
*cover*  
*no-go*  
*cancellation*  
*corner*  
*several*  
*beefed*

World Cup insured for \$9 billion – 7th June, 2010

## LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1006/100607-insurance.html>

The BBC reports the 2010 FIFA World Cup has \_\_\_\_\_ more than \$9 billion. Anyone with a \_\_\_\_\_ has taken out insurance. This includes FIFA (the governing body that runs world football), national teams, television companies covering the tournament and advertisers. The insurance cover includes \_\_\_\_\_ and injuries to players. An insurance spokeswoman said: "If the opening ceremony is delayed, \_\_\_\_\_ broadcasters, because they've got their advertising slots in place." She also said the final was insured: "If the final \_\_\_\_\_, for whatever reason, people might want money back for their tickets." Players are insured for up to \$40 million each if they get injured, depending on \_\_\_\_\_ are.

FIFA decided \_\_\_\_\_ cancellation of the World Cup. Officials said they chose not to cover this risk because "even if the event is delayed for any reason, it is \_\_\_\_\_ that it would be called off". South Africa has been working hard to \_\_\_\_\_ takes place safely. There have been several terrorism threats so the government \_\_\_\_\_ security. South Africa's Minister of Police Nathi Mthethwa said the country is prepared and "will take no chances" with security. "The police force is ready...Police will be everywhere, ready for anything. This \_\_\_\_\_ security plan; we will cover every corner because we do not have any no-go areas," he said. He will use 41,000 police officers, 100 BMW patrol cars, 10 water cannons and \_\_\_\_\_.

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# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1006/100607-insurance.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'insurance' and 'cover'.

insurance	cover

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• stake</li><li>• runs</li><li>• delays</li><li>• affect</li><li>• reason</li><li>• big</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• chose</li><li>• extremely</li><li>• ensure</li><li>• beefed</li><li>• ready</li><li>• areas</li></ul>
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# STUDENT THE 2010 WORLD CUP SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1006/100607-insurance.html>

Write five GOOD questions about the 2010 World Cup 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.



# THE 2010 WORLD CUP DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'insurance'?
- c) Do you think the insurance figure of \$9 billion is too high?
- d) What kind of insurance do you have?
- e) Do you think insurance is worth the money?
- f) What could go wrong at the World Cup to make insurance companies pay out?
- g) How do you think insurance companies work out how much to charge for players' injuries?
- h) What do you think of the insurance industry?
- i) Do you think a soccer star is worth \$40 million?
- j) What do you think it'd be like to be at the final?

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# THE 2010 WORLD CUP DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article?
- b) Why do you think there is no insurance for the cancellation of the World Cup?
- c) Do you think South Africa has got everything right for the World Cup?
- d) How likely do you think it is there'll be a terrorist attack?
- e) What do you think will be the biggest problem for South Africa's police?
- f) Will the World Cup be good for South Africans?
- g) How will a World Cup in Africa be different?
- h) Why is football the most popular sport in the world?
- i) Who do you think will win? Who do you want to win?
- j) What questions would you like to ask a player playing at the Finals?

# LANGUAGE – MULTIPLE CHOICE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1006/100607-insurance.html>

The BBC reports the 2010 FIFA World Cup has been insured for more than \$9 billion. Anyone with a (1) \_\_\_\_\_ in the event has taken (2) \_\_\_\_\_ insurance. This includes FIFA (the governing body that (3) \_\_\_\_\_ world football), national teams, television companies covering the tournament and advertisers. The insurance cover includes delays to games and injuries to players. An insurance spokeswoman said: "If the opening ceremony is delayed, that will affect the broadcasters, because they've got their advertising (4) \_\_\_\_\_ in place." She also said the final was insured: "If the final has to be delayed, for (5) \_\_\_\_\_ reason, people might want money back for their tickets." Players are insured for up to \$40 million each if they get injured, depending on (6) \_\_\_\_\_ big a star they are.

FIFA decided not to insure the cancellation of the World Cup. Officials said they chose not to (7) \_\_\_\_\_ this risk because "even if the event is delayed for any reason, it is extremely unlikely that it would be called (8) \_\_\_\_\_". South Africa has been working hard to ensure the event takes place safely. There have been several terrorism threats so the government has (9) \_\_\_\_\_ up its security. South Africa's Minister of Police Nathi Mthethwa said the country is prepared and "will take no chances" (10) \_\_\_\_\_ security. "The police force is ready...Police will be everywhere, ready for anything. This is the epitome of our security plan; we will cover every corner because we do not have any (11)\_\_\_\_\_ -go areas," he said. He will use 41,000 police officers, 100 BMW patrol cars, 10 water cannons and surveillance (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

**Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.**

- |     |               |              |              |                |
|-----|---------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1.  | (a) steak     | (b) stalk    | (c) streak   | (d) stake      |
| 2.  | (a) out       | (b) in       | (c) over     | (d) up         |
| 3.  | (a) ruins     | (b) runs     | (c) rains    | (d) reigns     |
| 4.  | (a) slats     | (b) slits    | (c) salts    | (d) slots      |
| 5.  | (a) what      | (b) what for | (c) whatever | (d) whatsoever |
| 6.  | (a) why       | (b) how      | (c) which    | (d) what       |
| 7.  | (a) close     | (b) wrap     | (c) coat     | (d) cover      |
| 8.  | (a) in        | (b) on       | (c) up       | (d) off        |
| 9.  | (a) chickened | (b) beefed   | (c) fished   | (d) barbecued  |
| 10. | (a) by        | (b) on       | (c) of       | (d) with       |
| 11. | (a) not       | (b) none     | (c) no       | (d) non        |
| 12. | (a) equipment | (b) kit      | (c) thing    | (d) security   |

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# WRITING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1006/100607-insurance.html>

Write about **the 2010 World Cup** for 10 minutes. Correct your partner's paper.

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# HOMework

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about the 2010 World Cup. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. THE 2010 WORLD CUP:** Make a poster about the 2010 World Cup. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. CANCELLED:** Write a magazine article about the World Cup being cancelled. Include imaginary interviews with the head of FIFA and angry fans.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. LETTER:** Write a letter to the head of FIFA. Ask him three questions about the 2010 World Cup. Give him three pieces of advice for the 2014 World Cup in Brazil. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE:

a. F      b. T      c. T      d. F      e. T      f. F      g. F      h. T

## SYNONYM MATCH:

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. stake         | a. interest      |
| 2. governing     | b. ruling        |
| 3. runs          | c. manages       |
| 4. delays        | d. interruptions |
| 5. reason        | e. cause         |
| 6. cancellation  | f. abandonment   |
| 7. extremely     | g. very          |
| 8. beefed up     | h. strengthened  |
| 9. no-go         | i. out of bounds |
| 10. surveillance | j. monitoring    |

## PHRASE MATCH:

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. insured for                            | a. more than \$9 billion |
| 2. Anyone with a                          | b. stake in the event    |
| 3. the governing body that                | c. runs world football   |
| 4. If the opening ceremony                | d. is delayed            |
| 5. depending on how big                   | e. a star they are       |
| 6. insure the cancellation                | f. of the World Cup      |
| 7. it is extremely unlikely that it would | g. be called off         |
| 8. the government has beefed              | h. up its security       |
| 9. we will cover                          | i. every corner          |
| 10. surveillance                          | j. equipment             |

## GAP FILL:

### World Cup insured for \$9 billion

The BBC reports the 2010 FIFA World Cup has been **insured** for more than \$9 billion. Anyone with a stake in the **event** has taken out insurance. This includes FIFA (the governing body that runs world football), national teams, television companies **covering** the tournament and advertisers. The insurance cover includes delays to games and **injuries** to players. An insurance spokeswoman said: "If the opening **ceremony** is delayed, that will affect the broadcasters, because they've got their advertising **slots** in place." She also said the final was insured: "If the final has to be delayed, for whatever **reason**, people might want money back for their tickets." Players are insured for up to \$40 million each if they get injured, **depending** on how big a star they are.

FIFA decided not to insure the **cancellation** of the World Cup. Officials said they chose not to **cover** this risk because "even if the event is delayed for any reason, it is extremely **unlikely** that it would be called off". South Africa has been working hard to ensure the event takes place safely. There have been **several** terrorism threats so the government has **beefed** up its security. South Africa's Minister of Police Nathi Mthethwa said the country is prepared and "will take no chances" with security. "The police force is **ready**...Police will be everywhere, ready for anything. This is the epitome of our security plan; we will cover every **corner** because we do not have any **no-go** areas," he said. He will use 41,000 police officers, 100 BMW patrol cars, 10 water cannons and surveillance equipment.

## LANGUAGE WORK

1 - d    2 - a    3 - b    4 - c    5 - c    6 - b    7 - d    8 - a    9 - b    10 - d    11 - c    12 - a

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