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## Level 3

### Somalia postal service back after 20 years

16th October, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1410/141016-postal-service.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141016-postal-service.html>

Somalia's government has restarted its postal system for the first time in over 20 years. Fighting and wars in Somalia over the past two decades stopped all mail deliveries. The postal service collapsed in 1991. Somalia is now enjoying a more peaceful time, so the postal service is returning. The new service also sees the introduction of nationwide postcodes. This will be a first for Somalia. Mohamed Ibrahim, the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, told the BBC that he was very excited about the return of the postal system. He said that at first, Somalis would be able to receive letters from abroad. He said the next step would be for people to post letters to other countries.

The return of the postal service is just one example of Somalia getting back to normal after its long period of trouble. Another recent example is the introduction of a cash machine (an ATM) at a luxury hotel in the capital city Mogadishu. It is the first time Somalia has ever had an ATM. The hotel's manager said he has seen a few people using the new machine. He said: "Most of the customers are not aware there is an ATM in Somalia." He explained that: "Most local residents don't have a debit card or a credit card to use the ATM." Another example of Somalia returning to normal is the reopening of the Chinese embassy for the first time in 23 years. Somalia's president said China was an important partner.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-29606447>  
<http://www.chinatopix.com/articles/15990/20141013/china-officially-reopens-embassy-mogadishu-23-years.htm#ixzz3G5VNYLvb>  
<http://edition.cnn.com/2014/10/09/business/mogadishu-first-ever-atm/>

# WARM-UPS

**1. LETTERS:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about letters (the ones you put in an envelope). Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

*postal system / fighting / two decades / peaceful time / postcodes / excited / abroad / example / back to normal / cash machine / manager / residents / embassy / partner*

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

**3. SERVICES:** How can these be better? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Good points	Bad points	How to make things better
Postal service			
ATMs			
Health service			
Customer service			
Banking services			
Public transport			

**4. E-MAIL:** Students A **strongly** believe e-mail is better than letters by regular mail; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. MAIL:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best things about mail at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- letter (mail) boxes
- writing letters
- getting an e-mail
- SMS (texting)
- getting letters
- sending e-mails
- stamps
- envelopes

**6. NORMAL:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "normal". 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/1410/141016-postal-service.html>

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

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| a. A private company has re-started the postal system in Somalia.     | T / F |
| b. Mail deliveries stopped over 20 years ago because of fighting.     | T / F |
| c. There will be no postcodes with the new postal service.            | T / F |
| d. People won't be able to post letters abroad just yet.              | T / F |
| e. Somalia's only ATM is in the capital city's international airport. | T / F |
| f. A hotel manager said he has seen thousands of people use the ATM.  | T / F |
| g. Most local residents in Mogadishu do not have a credit card.       | T / F |
| h. China recently reopened its embassy in Somalia after 23 years.     | T / F |

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

- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. restarted  | a. last       |
| 2. past       | b. resumed    |
| 3. collapsed  | c. usual      |
| 4. abroad     | d. stage      |
| 5. step       | e. time       |
| 6. example    | f. citizens   |
| 7. period     | g. broke down |
| 8. residents  | h. valuable   |
| 9. normal     | i. overseas   |
| 10. important | j. instance   |

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

- |                                   |                            |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. for the first time             | a. to normal               |
| 2. The postal service collapsed   | b. city Mogadishu          |
| 3. the introduction of nationwide | c. other countries         |
| 4. the next                       | d. in over 20 years        |
| 5. post letters to                | e. don't have a debit card |
| 6. getting back                   | f. hotel                   |
| 7. luxury                         | g. postcodes               |
| 8. in the capital                 | h. embassy                 |
| 9. Most local residents           | i. step                    |
| 10. the reopening of the Chinese  | j. in 1991                 |

# GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141016-postal-service.html>

Somalia's government has restarted its postal system for the (1) \_\_\_\_\_ time in over 20 years. Fighting and wars in Somalia over the past two (2) \_\_\_\_\_ stopped all mail (3) \_\_\_\_\_. The postal service collapsed in 1991. Somalia is now enjoying a more (4) \_\_\_\_\_ time, so the postal service is returning. The new service also sees the introduction of nationwide (5) \_\_\_\_\_. This will be a first for Somalia. Mohamed Ibrahim, the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, told the BBC that he was very excited about the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of the postal system. He said that at first, Somalis would be able to receive letters from (7) \_\_\_\_\_. He said the next step would be for people to (8) \_\_\_\_\_ letters to other countries.

*peaceful*  
*return*  
*decades*  
*first*  
*abroad*  
*post*  
*deliveries*  
*postcodes*

The return of the postal service is just one (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of Somalia getting back to normal after its long (10) \_\_\_\_\_ of trouble. Another recent example is the introduction of a cash machine (an ATM) at a (11) \_\_\_\_\_ hotel in the capital city Mogadishu. It is the first time Somalia has (12) \_\_\_\_\_ had an ATM. The hotel's manager said he has seen a few people using the new machine. He said: "Most of the customers are not (13) \_\_\_\_\_ there is an ATM in Somalia." He explained that: "Most local (14) \_\_\_\_\_ don't have a debit card or a credit card to use the ATM." Another example of Somalia returning to normal is the reopening of the Chinese (15) \_\_\_\_\_ for the first time in 23 years. Somalia's president said China was an important (16) \_\_\_\_\_.

*luxury*  
*aware*  
*period*  
*embassy*  
*example*  
*partner*  
*ever*  
*residents*

## Level 3

Somalia postal service back after 20 years – 16th October  
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# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141016-postal-service.html>

- 1) Somalia's government has restarted \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. its post all system
  - b. its pose tall system
  - c. its post tall system
  - d. its postal system
- 2) Fighting and wars in Somalia over the past two decades stopped \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. all mail delivery
  - b. all mail deliver is
  - c. all mail deliveries
  - d. all mail deliver ease
- 3) The new service also sees the introduction of \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. national wide postcodes
  - b. wide nation postcodes
  - c. nationwide postcodes
  - d. nationally wide postcodes
- 4) Somalis would be able to receive letters \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. for abroad
  - b. from a broad
  - c. for a broad
  - d. from abroad
- 5) He said the next step would be for people to post letters \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. to other countries
  - b. to another country
  - c. to the other countries
  - d. to all other countries
- 6) The return of the postal service is just one example of Somalia getting \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. pack to normal
  - b. back to normal
  - c. pack too normal
  - d. back too normal
- 7) Another recent example is the introduction of a cash machine \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. at a luxury hotelier
  - b. at a luxurious hotel
  - c. at a luxury hotel
  - d. at the luxury hotel
- 8) He said: "Most of the customers are not aware there is an ATM"
  - a. a ware there is
  - b. aware there is
  - c. a where there is
  - d. a way there is
- 9) Another example of Somalia returning to normal is the reopening of \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the Chinese ambassador
  - b. the Chinese embrace sea
  - c. the Chinese ember see
  - d. the Chinese embassy
- 10) Somalia's president said China was \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. an important partner
  - b. an importance partner
  - c. an import ant partner
  - d. an import-export partner

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141016-postal-service.html>

Somalia's government has restarted its postal system (1) \_\_\_\_\_ over 20 years. Fighting and wars in Somalia over the past two decades stopped (2) \_\_\_\_\_. The postal service collapsed in 1991. Somalia is now enjoying a (3) \_\_\_\_\_, so the postal service is returning. The new service also sees the introduction of (4) \_\_\_\_\_. This will be a first for Somalia. Mohamed Ibrahim, the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, told the BBC that he was very (5) \_\_\_\_\_ return of the postal system. He said that at first, Somalis would be able to receive letters from abroad. He said the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ for people to post letters to other countries.

The return of the postal service is (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of Somalia getting back to normal after its long (8) \_\_\_\_\_. Another recent example is the introduction of a cash machine (an ATM) at a luxury hotel (9) \_\_\_\_\_ Mogadishu. It is the first time Somalia has ever had an ATM. The hotel's manager said he (10) \_\_\_\_\_ people using the new machine. He said: "Most of the customers are not aware there is an ATM in Somalia." He explained that: "Most (11) \_\_\_\_\_ have a debit card or a credit card to use the ATM." Another example of Somalia returning to normal (12) \_\_\_\_\_ the Chinese embassy for the first time in 23 years. Somalia's president said China was an important partner.

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141016-postal-service.html>

1. Who has restarted Somalia's postal system?

---

2. What happened to the postal system in 1991?

---

3. What will Somalis have for the first time with the new postal service?

---

4. How does Mohamed Ibrahim feel about the return of the postal service?

---

5. Where will Somalis be able to receive mail from at first?

---

6. Where is Somalia's only ATM?

---

7. How many people did a hotel manager see using the ATM?

---

8. What did the hotel manager say most local residents do not have?

---

9. What reopened for the first time in 23 years?

---

10. What did Somalia's president call China?

---



# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141016-postal-service.html>

1. Who has restarted Somalia's postal system?
  - a) Microsoft
  - b) DHL
  - c) the government
  - d) Kenya Post
2. What happened to the postal system in 1991?
  - a) it collapsed
  - b) it doubled in size
  - c) it went digital
  - d) it changed to parcels only
3. What will Somalis have for the first time with the new postal service?
  - a) stamps
  - b) postcodes
  - c) mailboxes
  - d) email addresses
4. How does Mohamed Ibrahim feel about the return of the postal service?
  - a) proud
  - b) nervous
  - c) numb
  - d) excited
5. Where will Somalis be able to receive mail from at first?
  - a) Africa
  - b) Mogadishu
  - c) abroad
  - d) their home town
6. Where is Somalia's only ATM?
  - a) at the airport
  - b) in a hotel
  - c) Somalia's central bank
  - d) the Somalia Trade Centre
7. How many people did a hotel manager see using the ATM?
  - a) billions
  - b) hundreds
  - c) 47
  - d) a few
8. What did the hotel manager say most local residents do not have?
  - a) mail addresses
  - b) debit or credit cards
  - c) a mail box (letter box)
  - d) time to write letters
9. What reopened for the first time in 23 years?
  - a) KFC
  - b) the Chinese embassy
  - c) the international airport
  - d) Mogadishu Post Office
10. What did Somalia's president call China?
  - a) an important partner
  - b) a great example
  - c) a helpful friend
  - d) a role model

# ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141016-postal-service.html>

## **Role A – E-Mail**

You think e-mail is the best way to tell someone something. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are not so good with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): a letter, SMS (text) or online chat.

## **Role B – A letter**

You think a letter is the best way to tell someone something. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are not so good with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): e-mail, SMS (text) or online chat.

## **Role C – SMS (Text)**

You think SMS (text) is the best way to tell someone something. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are not so good with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): a letter, e-mail or online chat.

## **Role D – Online chat**

You think online chat is the best way to tell someone something. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are not so good with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): a letter, SMS (text) or e-mail.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141016-postal-service.html>

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

postal	service

- 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>• 20</li><li>• 1991</li><li>• introduction</li><li>• excited</li><li>• abroad</li><li>• post</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• long</li><li>• cash</li><li>• manager</li><li>• credit</li><li>• embassy</li><li>• partner</li></ul>
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# MAIL SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141016-postal-service.html>

Write five GOOD questions about mail 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.

## MAIL DISCUSSION

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

- 1) What did you think when you read the headline?
- 2) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'post'?
- 3) How important is the postal service to you?
- 4) Would your life change much without a postal service?
- 5) What do you know about the fighting in Somalia?
- 6) What would it be like to deliver letters in Somalia?
- 7) What's the best word, "zip code" (American English) or "postcode" (British English)?
- 8) How excited are you when you get a letter from abroad?
- 9) Is it better to post a letter or send an email?
- 10) Which do you prefer, getting letters in the post or receiving text messages?

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## MAIL DISCUSSION

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

- 11) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- 12) What is the postal service like in your country?
- 12) How long will it take for Somalia to get back to normal?
- 14) How important are cash machines (ATMs) to you?
- 15) What do you think of there being just one ATM in Somalia?
- 16) How would your life be different without ATMs?
- 17) What experiences do you have with embassies?
- 18) What's more important, a post office or an ATM?
- 19) Which country is your country's most important partner?
- 20) What questions would you like to ask Somalia's president?

# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141016-postal-service.html>

Somalia's government has restarted its postal system for the first time in over 20 years. (1) \_\_\_\_\_ and wars in Somalia over the past two (2) \_\_\_\_\_ stopped all mail deliveries. The postal service (3) \_\_\_\_\_ in 1991. Somalia is now enjoying a more peaceful time, (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the postal service is returning. The new service also sees the introduction of nationwide postcodes. This will be a (5) \_\_\_\_\_ for Somalia. Mohamed Ibrahim, the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, told the BBC that he was very excited about the return of the postal system. He said that at first, Somalis would be able to receive letters from abroad. He said the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ step would be for people to post letters to other countries.

The return of the postal service is (7) \_\_\_\_\_ one example of Somalia getting back to normal after its long period of trouble. Another recent example is the introduction of a cash machine (an ATM) at a (8) \_\_\_\_\_ hotel in the capital city Mogadishu. It is the first time Somalia has ever had an ATM. The hotel's manager said he has seen (9) \_\_\_\_\_ few people using the new machine. He said: "Most of the customers are not aware there is an ATM in Somalia." He explained that: "Most (10) \_\_\_\_\_ residents don't have a debit card or a credit card to use the ATM." Another example of Somalia returning (11) \_\_\_\_\_ normal is the reopening of the Chinese embassy for the first time (12) \_\_\_\_\_ 23 years. Somalia's president said China was an important partner.

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

- |     |              |               |               |              |
|-----|--------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1.  | (a) Fighter  | (b) Fight     | (c) Fought    | (d) Fighting |
| 2.  | (a) decays   | (b) debacles  | (c) decadence | (d) decades  |
| 3.  | (a) relapsed | (b) collapsed | (c) elapsed   | (d) lapsed   |
| 4.  | (a) then     | (b) which     | (c) so        | (d) for      |
| 5.  | (a) primary  | (b) earliest  | (c) first     | (d) top      |
| 6.  | (a) next     | (b) after     | (c) then      | (d) followed |
| 7.  | (a) simple   | (b) just      | (c) exactly   | (d) moment   |
| 8.  | (a) luxury   | (b) treat     | (c) spoil     | (d) upcoming |
| 9.  | (a) the      | (b) a         | (c) many      | (d) just     |
| 10. | (a) locally  | (b) location  | (c) local     | (d) located  |
| 11. | (a) by       | (b) on        | (c) to        | (d) at       |
| 12. | (a) over     | (b) at        | (c) on        | (d) in       |

# SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141016-postal-service.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. restarted its postal syesmt
2. over the past two ecadsed
3. stopped all mail evriliedse
4. The postal service dpesloacl in 1991
5. the introduction of nationwide ceopdsots
6. receive letters from droaab

## Paragraph 2

7. one aplxeem of Somalia getting back to normal
8. long odpire of trouble
9. at a uxyru hotel in the capital city
10. people using the new ihnemca
11. Most of the cousmtsre
12. the reopening of the Chinese smyabes



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141016-postal-service.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) wars in Somalia over the past two decades stopped all mail deliveries. The postal service collapsed
- ( ) card to use the ATM." Another example of Somalia returning to normal is the reopening of the Chinese
- ( ) in 1991. Somalia is now enjoying a more peaceful time, so the postal service is
- ( ) few people using the new machine. He said: "Most of the customers are not aware there is an
- ( ) The return of the postal service is just one example of Somalia getting back to normal after its long period
- ( **1** ) Somalia's government has restarted its postal system for the first time in over 20 years. Fighting and
- ( ) embassy for the first time in 23 years. Somalia's president said China was an important partner.
- ( ) ATM in Somalia." He explained that: "Most local residents don't have a debit card or a credit
- ( ) city Mogadishu. It is the first time Somalia has ever had an ATM. The hotel's manager said he has seen a
- ( ) of trouble. Another recent example is the introduction of a cash machine (an ATM) at a luxury hotel in the capital
- ( ) first for Somalia. Mohamed Ibrahim, the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, told the BBC that he was very
- ( ) abroad. He said the next step would be for people to post letters to other countries.
- ( ) excited about the return of the postal system. He said that at first, Somalis would be able to receive letters from
- ( ) returning. The new service also sees the introduction of nationwide postcodes. This will be a

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141016-postal-service.html>

1. government system its has Somalia's postal restarted .

---

2. wars in Somalia over the past two decades Fighting and .

---

3. more is peaceful now time enjoying a Somalia .

---

4. system postal the of return the about excited very was He .

---

5. be for people to post letters The next step would .

---

6. service is just one example The return of the postal .

---

7. to normal after its long period of trouble Getting back .

---

8. of a cash machine at a luxury hotel The introduction .

---

9. don't have Most a local debit residents card .

---

10. Chinese embassy for the first time The reopening of the .

---

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141016-postal-service.html>

Somalia's government *has / had* restarted its postal system for the first time *in / of* over 20 years. Fighting and wars in Somalia over the *passed / past* two decades stopped all mail deliveries. The postal service collapsed in 1991. Somalia is now *enjoyable / enjoying* a more peaceful time, so the postal service is *returning / returnable*. The new service also sees the introduction of nationwide postcodes. This will be a *second / first* for Somalia. Mohamed Ibrahim, the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, told the BBC that he was very *exciting / excited* about the return of the postal system. He said that at first, Somalis would be *ability / able* to receive letters from abroad. He said the next *step / stair* would be for people to post letters to *another / other* countries.

The return of the postal service is *just / justly* one example of Somalia getting back *to / too* normal after its long period of *troubled / trouble*. Another recent example is the *introduce / introduction* of a cash machine (an ATM) at a luxury hotel in the capital *cities / city* Mogadishu. It is the first time Somalia has ever had an ATM. The hotel's manager said he has *saw / seen* a few people using the new machine. He said: "Most of the customers are not *beware / aware* there is an ATM in Somalia." He explained that: "Most local *residents / residence* don't have a debit card or a credit card to use the ATM." Another example of Somalia *returning / returned* to normal is the reopening of the Chinese embassy for the first time in 23 years. Somalia's president said China was an *importance / important* partner.

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141016-postal-service.html>

S\_m\_l\_'s g\_v\_rnm\_nt h\_s r\_st\_rt\_d \_ts p\_st\_l syst\_m  
f\_r th\_f\_rst t\_m \_n\_v\_r 20 y\_rs. F\_ght\_ng \_nd w\_rs  
\_n S\_m\_l\_ \_v\_r th\_p\_st tw\_d\_c\_d\_s st\_pp\_d \_ll  
m\_l d\_l\_v\_r\_s. Th\_p\_st\_l s\_rv\_c\_ c\_ll\_ps\_d \_n  
1991. S\_m\_l\_ \_s n\_w \_nj\_y\_ng \_m\_r\_p\_c\_f\_l\_t\_m\_,  
s\_th\_p\_st\_l s\_rv\_c\_ \_s r\_t\_rn\_ng. Th\_n\_w s\_rv\_c\_  
\_ls \_s\_s th\_ntr\_d\_ct\_n\_f n\_t\_nw\_d\_p\_stc\_d\_s.  
Th\_s\_w\_ll b\_ \_f\_rst f\_r S\_m\_l\_. M\_h\_m\_d \_br\_h\_m,  
th\_M\_n\_st\_r\_f P\_sts \_nd T\_l\_c\_mm\_n\_c\_t\_ns, t\_ld  
th\_BBC th\_t h\_w\_s v\_ry\_xc\_t\_d\_b\_t th\_r\_t\_rn\_f  
th\_p\_st\_l syst\_m. H\_s\_d th\_t\_t\_f\_rst, S\_m\_l\_s  
w\_ld b\_b\_l\_t\_r\_c\_v\_l\_t\_t\_rs fr\_m\_br\_d. H\_s\_d  
th\_nxt st\_p\_w\_ld b\_f\_r p\_pl\_t\_p\_st l\_t\_t\_rs t\_  
\_th\_r c\_ntr\_s.

Th\_r\_t\_rn\_f th\_p\_st\_l s\_rv\_c\_ \_s j\_st \_n\_xmpl\_  
\_f S\_m\_l\_ g\_t\_t\_ng b\_ck t\_n\_rm\_l\_ft\_r\_ts l\_ng  
p\_r\_d\_f tr\_bl\_. \_n\_th\_r r\_c\_nt\_xmpl\_ \_s th\_  
\_ntr\_d\_ct\_n\_f \_c\_sh\_m\_ch\_n\_ (\_n\_TM) \_t\_l\_x\_ry  
h\_t\_l\_n th\_c\_p\_t\_l\_c\_ty M\_g\_d\_sh\_. \_t\_s th\_f\_rst  
t\_m\_ S\_m\_l\_ h\_s\_v\_r h\_d\_n\_TM. Th\_h\_t\_l's  
m\_n\_g\_r\_s\_d h\_h\_s\_s\_n\_f\_w\_p\_pl\_s\_ng th\_n\_w  
m\_ch\_n\_. H\_s\_d: "M\_st\_f th\_c\_st\_m\_rs\_r\_n\_t  
\_w\_r\_th\_r\_s\_n\_TM\_n\_S\_m\_l\_." H\_xpl\_n\_d  
th\_t: "M\_st\_l\_c\_l\_r\_s\_d\_n't h\_v\_d\_b\_t c\_r\_d\_r  
\_c\_r\_d\_t\_c\_r\_d\_t\_s th\_TM." \_n\_th\_r\_xmpl\_ \_f  
S\_m\_l\_ r\_t\_rn\_ng t\_n\_rm\_l\_s th\_r\_p\_n\_ng \_f th\_  
Ch\_n\_s \_mb\_ssy f\_r th\_f\_rst t\_m \_n 23 y\_rs.  
S\_m\_l\_'s pr\_s\_d\_nt\_s\_d Ch\_n\_w\_s \_n \_mp\_r\_t\_nt  
p\_rtn\_r.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141016-postal-service.html>

somalia's government has restarted its postal system for the first time in over 20 years fighting and wars in somalia over the past two decades stopped all mail deliveries the postal service collapsed in 1991 somalia is now enjoying a more peaceful time so the postal service is returning the new service also sees the introduction of nationwide postcodes this will be a first for somalia mohamed ibrahim the minister of posts and telecommunications told the bbc that he was very excited about the return of the postal system he said that at first somalis would be able to receive letters from abroad he said the next step would be for people to post letters to other countries

the return of the postal service is just one example of somalia getting back to normal after its long period of trouble another recent example is the introduction of a cash machine (an atm) at a luxury hotel in the capital city mogadishu it is the first time somalia has ever had an atm the hotel's manager said he has seen a few people using the new machine he said "most of the customers are not aware there is an atm in somalia" he explained that "most local residents don't have a debit card or a credit card to use the atm" another example of somalia returning to normal is the reopening of the chinese embassy for the first time in 23 years somalia's president said china was an important partner

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141016-postal-service.html>

Somalia's government has restarted its postal system for the first time in over 20 years. Fighting and wars in Somalia over the past two decades stopped all mail deliveries. The postal service collapsed in 1991. Somalia is now enjoying a more peaceful time, so the postal service is returning. The new service also sees the introduction of nationwide postcodes. This will be a first for Somalia. Mohamed Ibrahim, the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications, told the BBC that he was very excited about the return of the postal system. He said that at first, Somalis would be able to receive letters from abroad. He said the next step would be for people to post letters to other countries. The return of the postal service is just one example of Somalia getting back to normal after its long period of trouble. Another recent example is the introduction of a cash machine (an ATM) at a luxury hotel in the capital city Mogadishu. It is the first time Somalia has ever had an ATM. The hotel's manager said he has seen a few people using the new machine. He said: "Most of the customers are not aware there is an ATM in Somalia." He explained that: "Most local residents don't have a debit card or a credit card to use the ATM." Another example of Somalia returning to normal is the reopening of the Chinese embassy for the first time in 23 years. Somalia's president said China was an important partner.







# 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 postal services. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. MAIL:** Make a poster about mail. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. LETTER OR EMAIL?:** Write a magazine article about letters and e-mails. Include imaginary interviews with people who prefer letters and people who prefer email.

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. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on mail services. Ask him/her three questions about mail. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to make them better. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

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

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. restarted  | a. resumed    |
| 2. past       | b. last       |
| 3. collapsed  | c. broke down |
| 4. abroad     | d. overseas   |
| 5. step       | e. stage      |
| 6. example    | f. instance   |
| 7. period     | g. time       |
| 8. residents  | h. citizens   |
| 9. normal     | i. usual      |
| 10. important | j. valuable   |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Somalia's government
2. It collapsed
3. Postcodes
4. Excited
5. Abroad
6. In a luxury hotel
7. A few
8. Credit or debit cards
9. The Chinese embassy
10. An important partner

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. c    2. a    3. b    4. d    5. c    6. b    7. d    8. b    9. b    10. 1.

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)