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**Level 6 – 26th October, 2020**

## **Britain to return 5,000 ancient artefacts to Iraq**

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201026-iraqi-antiquities.html>

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**Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201026-iraqi-antiquities.html>

Great Britain has promised to return more than 5,000 ancient artefacts to Iraq over the next few months. The announcement was made by the British government during the visit of the Iraqi Prime Minister to London earlier this week. The repatriation marks the largest ever return of antiquities by the UK. Many of the items set to return to Iraq were stolen and smuggled out of Iraq over the past century, particularly after the Iraqi wars at the beginning of the century. There is a lucrative trade in stolen artefacts. Iraq's ambassador to the UK was appreciative of the UK's help. He said: "We extend our gratitude to the British Museum staff for their efforts and cooperation with us."

Many of the artefacts that will soon be on their way back to Iraq were unearthed by British archaeologists a century ago. One valuable item is a rare Sumerian plaque that dates back to around 2400BC. It was illegally smuggled out of Iraq and put up for auction in 2019. It was discovered and seized by police in London. The plaque will be put on public display at the museum before its repatriation. The British Museum said it would continue, "to work with our Iraqi colleagues to research these important collections, and in the fight against the illicit trade in antiquities". It added: "It is vital that we preserve and protect the world's cultural heritage for future generations to appreciate and enjoy."

SPELLING NOTE: artefacts = UK English; artifacts = USA English

Sources: <https://www.thenationalnews.com/world/mena/britain-to-return-5-000-ancient-iraqi-artefacts-1.1098462>  
<https://www.arabnews.com/node/1741376/lifestyle>  
<https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20200929-britain-to-return-stolen-artefact-to-iraq/>

# WARM-UPS

**1. ANTIQUITIES:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about antiquities. 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?

promise / ancient / artefacts / visit / antiquities / smuggled / lucrative / ambassador / archaeologists / valuable / plaque / museum / repatriation / colleagues / heritage

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

**3. RETURN:** Students A **strongly** believe all antiquities should be returned to their country of origin; Students B **strongly** believe otherwise. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. CULTURAL HERITAGE:** What are examples of your cultural heritage? How important are they to you? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Examples	Importance
Art		
Dance		
Music		
Architecture		
Stories		
Monuments		

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

**6. ANCIENT ARTEFACTS:** Rank these with your partner. Put the most important at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- The Pyramids
- Machu Picchu
- Angkor Wat
- Stonehenge
- Pompeii
- Petra
- Easter Island Moai
- Great Wall of China

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                 |                                                                        |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. ancient      | a. Moved goods illegally into or out of a country.                     |
| 2. repatriation | b. Belonging to the very distant past.                                 |
| 3. antiquities  | c. Objects, buildings, or works of art from the ancient past.          |
| 4. smuggled     | d. Feeling or showing gratitude or pleasure.                           |
| 5. lucrative    | e. The quality of being thankful.                                      |
| 6. appreciative | f. The return of someone or something to their / its original country. |
| 7. gratitude    | g. Producing a great deal of profit.                                   |

## Paragraph 2

- |                |                                                                                     |
|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8. unearthed   | h. An ornamental tablet, typically of stone, metal, porcelain, or wood.             |
| 9. auction     | i. All of the people born and living at about the same time, regarded collectively. |
| 10. seized     | j. Maintain something in its original or existing state.                            |
| 11. plaque     | k. Taken hold of suddenly and forcibly.                                             |
| 12. vital      | l. Absolutely necessary; essential.                                                 |
| 13. preserve   | m. Found something in the ground by digging.                                        |
| 14. generation | n. A public sale in which goods or property are sold to the highest bidder.         |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201026-iraqi-antiquities.html>

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

- a. The UK will return artefacts to Iraq that are over 5,000 years old. **T / F**
- b. The announcement was made when the UK Prime Minister visited Iraq. **T / F**
- c. Many of the items were smuggled out of Iraq. **T / F**
- d. The article said the trade in stolen artefacts is very lucrative. **T / F**
- e. British archaeologists discovered the artefacts 300 years ago. **T / F**
- f. A Sumerian plaque dated back 2,400 years. **T / F**
- g. The plaque will be in storage until it returns to Iraq. **T / F**
- h. The British Museum will fight against the illicit antiquities trade. **T / F**

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- |                        |               |
|------------------------|---------------|
| 1. <b>promised</b>     | a. value      |
| 2. <b>announcement</b> | b. profitable |
| 3. <b>items</b>        | c. discovered |
| 4. <b>lucrative</b>    | d. thanks     |
| 5. <b>gratitude</b>    | e. statement  |
| 6. <b>unearthed</b>    | f. taken away |
| 7. <b>valuable</b>     | g. vowed      |
| 8. <b>seized</b>       | h. coworkers  |
| 9. <b>colleagues</b>   | i. articles   |
| 10. <b>appreciate</b>  | j. precious   |

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

- |                                        |                              |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. over the                            | a. trade in stolen artefacts |
| 2. The repatriation marks              | b. generations               |
| 3. stolen and smuggled                 | c. next few months           |
| 4. There is a lucrative                | d. to the British Museum     |
| 5. We extend our gratitude             | e. on public display         |
| 6. artefacts that will soon be on      | f. out of Iraq               |
| 7. unearthed by British archaeologists | g. the largest ever return   |
| 8. dates back                          | h. a century ago             |
| 9. The plaque will be put              | i. their way back to Iraq    |
| 10. for future                         | j. to around 2400BC          |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201026-iraqi-antiquities.html>

Great Britain has promised to (1) \_\_\_\_\_ more than 5,000 ancient artefacts to Iraq over the next (2) \_\_\_\_\_ months. The announcement was made by the British government (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the visit of the Iraqi Prime Minister to London earlier this week. The repatriation (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the largest ever return of antiquities by the UK. Many of the items set to return to Iraq were stolen and (5) \_\_\_\_\_ out of Iraq over the past century, particularly after the Iraqi wars at the beginning of the (6) \_\_\_\_\_. There is a lucrative trade in stolen artefacts. Iraq's ambassador to the UK was (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of the UK's help. He said: "We extend our (8) \_\_\_\_\_ to the British Museum staff for their efforts and cooperation with us."

*few*  
*marks*  
*appreciative*  
*during*  
*century*  
*return*  
*gratitude*  
*smuggled*

Many of the artefacts that will soon be on their way back to Iraq were (9) \_\_\_\_\_ by British archaeologists a century ago. One valuable item is a (10) \_\_\_\_\_ Sumerian plaque that dates back to around 2400BC. It was illegally smuggled out of Iraq and put up for (11) \_\_\_\_\_ in 2019. It was discovered and seized by police in London. The plaque will be put on public (12) \_\_\_\_\_ at the museum before its (13) \_\_\_\_\_. The British Museum said it would continue, "to work with our Iraqi colleagues to research these important (14) \_\_\_\_\_, and in the fight against the illicit trade in antiquities". It added: "It is (15) \_\_\_\_\_ that we preserve and protect the world's cultural heritage for future generations to (16) \_\_\_\_\_ and enjoy."

*display*  
*rare*  
*appreciate*  
*collections*  
*auction*  
*vital*  
*unearthed*  
*repatriation*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201026-iraqi-antiquities.html>

- 1) Great Britain has promised to return more than 5,000 \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. ancient artefacts
  - b. ancient art facts
  - c. ancient arty facts
  - d. ancient are tea facts
- 2) Many of the items set to return to Iraq were stolen \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. and smuggled out
  - b. and struggled out
  - c. and smuggled out
  - d. and snuffed out
- 3) over the past century, particularly after the Iraqi wars at the beginning \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. off the century
  - b. of the century
  - c. oft the century
  - d. aft the century
- 4) Iraq's ambassador to the UK \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. was appreciate
  - b. was a precious tiff
  - c. was app receiving
  - d. was appreciative
- 5) We extend our gratitude to the British Museum staff \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. for them efforts
  - b. for they efforts
  - c. for their efforts
  - d. for fair efforts
- 6) Many of the artefacts that will soon be on their way back to Iraq \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. weren't earth
  - b. were on earth
  - c. were unearthed
  - d. were unearth
- 7) One valuable item is a rare Sumerian plaque that dates \_\_\_\_\_ 2400BC
  - a. back to our end
  - b. back to a rind
  - c. back to abound
  - d. back to around
- 8) The plaque will be put on public display at the museum \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. before its reap repetition
  - b. before its repatriation
  - c. before its reap attrition
  - d. before its repair traction
- 9) to research these important collections, and in the fight against \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the illicit trade
  - b. the ill sit traded
  - c. the ill-lit trade
  - d. the ills sit trade
- 10) It is vital that we preserve and protect the world's \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. culturally heritage
  - b. cultural heritage
  - c. culture all heritage
  - d. cultural all heritage

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201026-iraqi-antiquities.html>

Great Britain has (1) \_\_\_\_\_ more than 5,000 ancient artefacts to Iraq over the next few months. The announcement was made by the British government during the visit of the Iraqi Prime Minister to London earlier this week. The repatriation (2) \_\_\_\_\_ ever return of antiquities by the UK. Many of the items set to return to Iraq were stolen and smuggled out of Iraq over (3) \_\_\_\_\_, particularly after the Iraqi wars at the beginning of the century. There is (4) \_\_\_\_\_ in stolen artefacts. Iraq's ambassador to the UK was appreciative of the UK's help. He said: "We (5) \_\_\_\_\_ to the British Museum staff for their (6) \_\_\_\_\_ with us."

Many of the artefacts that will soon be on their way back to Iraq (7) \_\_\_\_\_ British archaeologists a century ago. One valuable item is a rare Sumerian plaque (8) \_\_\_\_\_ to around 2400BC. It was illegally smuggled out of Iraq and put (9) \_\_\_\_\_ in 2019. It was discovered and seized by police in London. The plaque will be put on (10) \_\_\_\_\_ the museum before its repatriation. The British Museum said it would continue, "to work with our Iraqi colleagues to research these important collections, and in the fight against (11) \_\_\_\_\_ in antiquities". It added: "It is vital that we preserve and protect the world's cultural heritage for future generations to (12) \_\_\_\_\_."



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201026-iraqi-antiquities.html>

1. When will the UK return the ancient artefacts?
2. Who visited London earlier this week?
3. When were many of the items smuggled out of Iraq?
4. What did the article say there was a lucrative trade in?
5. What did the Iraqi ambassador extend to the British Museum?
6. Who discovered the artefacts a century ago?
7. What dated back to 2400BC?
8. Where will a plaque be put on public display?
9. Who will the British Museum work with?
10. Who does the British Museum want to preserve artefacts for?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201026-iraqi-antiquities.html>

- 1) When will the UK return the ancient artefacts?
  - a) next week
  - b) the next few months
  - c) 2022
  - d) next year
- 2) Who visited London earlier this week?
  - a) students
  - b) an archaeology expert
  - c) an auctioneer
  - d) Iraq's Prime Minister
- 3) When were many of the items smuggled out of Iraq?
  - a) over the past century
  - b) 1,000 years ago
  - c) in the 1960s
  - d) in the 15th century
- 4) What did the article say there was a lucrative trade in?
  - a) old coins
  - b) plaques
  - c) stolen artefacts
  - d) stones
- 5) What did the Iraqi ambassador extend to the British Museum?
  - a) a ladder
  - b) gratitude
  - c) an invitation
  - d) ancient coins
- 6) Who discovered the artefacts a century ago?
  - a) a team of builders
  - b) Iraqi farmers
  - c) British archaeologists
  - d) playing children
- 7) What dated back to 2400BC?
  - a) a tomb
  - b) old coins
  - c) a statue
  - d) a plaque
- 8) Where will a plaque be put on public display?
  - a) the British Museum
  - b) Baghdad
  - c) a museum at the UN
  - d) Paris
- 9) Who will the British Museum work with?
  - a) colleagues
  - b) archaeologists
  - c) IT experts
  - d) auctioneers
- 10) Who does the British Museum want to preserve artefacts for?
  - a) museumgoers
  - b) future generations
  - c) Iraq's Prime Minister
  - d) historians

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201026-iraqi-antiquities.html>

## **Role A – The Pyramids**

You think the Pyramids is the best cultural site. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sites. Also, tell the others which is the least impressive of these (and why): Angkor Wat, Petra or the Great Wall of China.

## **Role B – Angkor Wat**

You think Angkor Wat is the best cultural site. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sites. Also, tell the others which is the least impressive of these (and why): the Pyramids, Petra or the Great Wall of China.

## **Role C – Petra**

You think Petra is the best cultural site. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sites. Also, tell the others which is the least impressive of these (and why): Angkor Wat, the Pyramids or the Great Wall of China.

## **Role D – Great Wall of China**

You think the Great Wall of China is the best cultural site. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sites. Also, tell the others which is the least impressive of these (and why): Angkor Wat, Petra or the Pyramids.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201026-iraqi-antiquities.html>

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

<b>cultural</b>	<b>heritage</b>
-----------------	-----------------

- 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>• promised</li><li>• during</li><li>• marks</li><li>• past</li><li>• trade</li><li>• staff</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• soon</li><li>• item</li><li>• auction</li><li>• continue</li><li>• fight</li><li>• enjoy</li></ul>
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

# ANTIQUITIES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201026-iraqi-antiquities.html>

Write five GOOD questions about antiquities 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.

# ANTIQUITIES DISCUSSION

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

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'Iraq'?
3. How important are antiquities?
4. What do you think of Britain returning the antiquities to Iraq?
5. Should all countries return antiquities to their country of origin?
6. What do you think of the return of the artefacts?
7. Should the British Museum return everything to its original country?
8. How can police stop the smuggling of antiquities?
9. What do you think of archaeology?
10. What do you think of museums?

*Britain to return 5,000 ancient artefacts to Iraq – 26th October, 2020*  
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# ANTIQUITIES DISCUSSION

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

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'antiquity'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What valuable antiquities does your country have?
15. How important are your country's antiquities to you?
16. What can we learn from antiquities?
17. Is looking at an antiquity in a museum better than looking at it online?
18. How much do you value your cultural heritage?
19. What parts of today's culture do you want future generations to see?
20. What questions would you like to ask the British Museum?

## **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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201026-iraqi-antiquities.html>

Great Britain has promised to return more than 5,000 (1) \_\_\_\_\_ artefacts to Iraq over the next few months. The announcement was made by the British government (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the visit of the Iraqi Prime Minister to London earlier this week. The repatriation (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the largest ever return of antiquities by the UK. Many of the items set to return to Iraq were stolen and (4) \_\_\_\_\_ out of Iraq over the past century, particularly after the Iraqi wars at the beginning of the century. There is a (5) \_\_\_\_\_ trade in stolen artefacts. Iraq's ambassador to the UK was appreciative of the UK's help. He said: "We (6) \_\_\_\_\_ our gratitude to the British Museum staff for their efforts and cooperation with us."

Many of the artefacts that will soon be on their way back to Iraq were (7) \_\_\_\_\_ by British archaeologists a century ago. One valuable item is a rare Sumerian plaque that (8) \_\_\_\_\_ back to around 2400BC. It was illegally smuggled out of Iraq and put (9) \_\_\_\_\_ for auction in 2019. It was discovered and seized by police in London. The plaque will be put on public (10) \_\_\_\_\_ at the museum before its repatriation. The British Museum said it would continue, "to work with our Iraqi colleagues to research these important (11) \_\_\_\_\_, and in the fight against the illicit trade in antiquities". It added: "It is (12) \_\_\_\_\_ that we preserve and protect the world's cultural heritage for future generations to appreciate and enjoy."

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

- |     |              |                 |               |               |
|-----|--------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1.  | (a) ancestry | (b) ancestors   | (c) ancient   | (d) ancestral |
| 2.  | (a) during   | (b) thorough    | (c) though    | (d) between   |
| 3.  | (a) marks    | (b) peaks       | (c) bakes     | (d) wakes     |
| 4.  | (a) smuggled | (b) struggled   | (c) snuggled  | (d) sparkled  |
| 5.  | (a) obscure  | (b) lucrative   | (c) plucked   | (d) referred  |
| 6.  | (a) lengthen | (b) broad       | (c) elongate  | (d) extend    |
| 7.  | (a) planted  | (b) tilled      | (c) unearthed | (d) digging   |
| 8.  | (a) before   | (b) times       | (c) years     | (d) dates     |
| 9.  | (a) up       | (b) down        | (c) in        | (d) at        |
| 10. | (a) viewer   | (b) display     | (c) look      | (d) watching  |
| 11. | (a) sets     | (b) collections | (c) series    | (d) stuff     |
| 12. | (a) virtual  | (b) viral       | (c) vital     | (d) vicious   |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201026-iraqi-antiquities.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. more than 5,000 aeinctn artefacts
2. the largest ever return of taeniquits
3. There is a ricvtelua trade in stolen artefacts
4. cpativeapier of the UK's help
5. We extend our tuartdgie to the British Museum
6. for their efforts and otpnaooeir

## Paragraph 2

7. One luableva item
8. a rare Sumerian qeupal
9. discovered and edzies by police in London
10. at the museum before its ntrraioatepi
11. for future eeroitasngn
12. rpitaaecpe and enjoy

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201026-iraqi-antiquities.html>

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

- ( ) ago. One valuable item is a rare Sumerian plaque that dates back to around 2400BC. It was illegally
- ( ) London earlier this week. The repatriation marks the largest ever return of antiquities
- ( ) trade in stolen artefacts. Iraq's ambassador to the UK was appreciative of the UK's help. He said: "We extend
- ( ) continue, "to work with our Iraqi colleagues to research these important collections, and in the fight
- ( **1** ) Great Britain has promised to return more than 5,000 ancient artefacts to Iraq over the next
- ( ) past century, particularly after the Iraqi wars at the beginning of the century. There is a lucrative
- ( ) against the illicit trade in antiquities". It added: "It is vital that we preserve and protect
- ( ) the world's cultural heritage for future generations to appreciate and enjoy."
- ( ) smuggled out of Iraq and put up for auction in 2019. It was discovered and seized by police in London. The plaque will be
- ( ) our gratitude to the British Museum staff for their efforts and cooperation with us."
- ( ) by the UK. Many of the items set to return to Iraq were stolen and smuggled out of Iraq over the
- ( ) Many of the artefacts that will soon be on their way back to Iraq were unearthed by British archaeologists a century
- ( ) few months. The announcement was made by the British government during the visit of the Iraqi Prime Minister to
- ( ) put on public display at the museum before its repatriation. The British Museum said it would

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201026-iraqi-antiquities.html>

1. ancient 5,000 to artefacts . Promised than return more
2. government . was British The announcement made by the
3. repatriation marks return . ever the The largest
4. to stolen . return Iraq Items to set were
5. lucrative in trade stolen artefacts . There a is
6. back . will their Artefacts be on soon way
7. on be will plaque put display . public The
8. these . Work Iraqi our to with colleagues research
9. fight The against trade illicit antiquities . in the
10. world's for Protect the heritage generations . future cultural

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201026-iraqi-antiquities.html>

Great Britain has *promised / promissory* to return more than 5,000 *ancient / ancestor* artefacts to Iraq over the next few months. The announcement was made by the British government *thorough / during* the visit of the Iraqi Prime Minister to London earlier this week. The *expatriates / repatriation* marks the largest ever return of antiquities by the UK. *Many / Much* of the items set to return to Iraq were stolen and *smuggled / snuggled* out of Iraq over the past century, *particular / particularly* after the Iraqi wars at the beginning of the century. There is a *laxative / lucrative* trade in stolen artefacts. Iraq's ambassador to the UK was *appreciation / appreciative* of the UK's help. He said: "We extend our *gravity / gratitude* to the British Museum staff for their efforts and cooperation with us."

Many of the artefacts that will *soonish / soon* be on their way back to Iraq were *unearthed / earthed* by British archaeologists a century ago. One valuable item is a *rare / rarity* Sumerian plaque that *years / dates* back to around 2400BC. It was illegally smuggled out of Iraq and put *down / up* for auction in 2019. It was discovered and seized *to / by* police in London. The plaque will be put on *public / publicly* display at the museum before its repatriation. The British Museum said it would continue, "to work with our Iraqi colleagues to research these important *sets / collections*, and in the fight against the illicit trade in antiquities". It added: "It is *viral / vital* that we preserve and protect the world's cultural heritage for future generations to *appreciate / depreciate* and enjoy."

**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)

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Gr\_\_t Br\_t\_\_n h\_s pr\_m\_s\_d t\_ r\_t\_rn m\_r\_ th\_n 5,000  
\_nc\_\_nt \_rt\_f\_cts t\_ \_r\_q \_v\_r th\_ n\_xt f\_w m\_nths.  
Th\_ \_nn\_\_nc\_m\_nt w\_s m\_d\_ by th\_ Br\_t\_sh  
g\_v\_rnm\_nt d\_r\_ng th\_ v\_s\_t \_f th\_ \_r\_q\_ Pr\_m\_  
M\_n\_st\_r t\_ L\_nd\_n \_\_rl\_\_r th\_s w\_\_k. Th\_  
r\_p\_tr\_\_t\_\_n m\_rks th\_ l\_rg\_st \_v\_r r\_t\_rn \_f  
\_nt\_q\_\_t\_\_s by th\_ \_K. M\_ny \_f th\_ \_t\_ms s\_t t\_  
r\_t\_rn t\_ \_r\_q w\_r\_ st\_l\_n \_nd sm\_ggl\_d \_\_t \_f \_r\_q  
\_v\_r th\_ p\_st c\_nt\_ry, p\_rt\_c\_l\_rly \_ft\_r th\_ \_r\_q\_  
w\_rs \_t th\_ b\_g\_nng \_f th\_ c\_nt\_ry. Th\_r\_ \_s \_  
l\_cr\_t\_v\_ tr\_d\_ \_n st\_l\_n \_rt\_f\_cts. \_r\_q's \_mb\_ss\_d\_r  
t\_ th\_ \_K w\_s \_ppr\_c\_\_t\_v\_ \_f th\_ \_K's h\_lp. H\_  
s\_\_d: "W\_ \_xt\_nd \_\_r gr\_t\_t\_d\_ t\_ th\_ Br\_t\_sh  
M\_s\_\_m st\_ff f\_r th\_\_r \_ff\_rts \_nd c\_\_p\_r\_t\_\_n w\_th  
\_s."

M\_ny \_f th\_ \_rt\_f\_cts th\_t w\_ll s\_\_n b\_ \_n th\_\_r w\_y  
b\_ck t\_ \_r\_q w\_r\_ \_n\_\_rth\_d by Br\_t\_sh \_rch\_\_l\_g\_sts  
\_ c\_nt\_ry \_g\_. \_n\_ v\_l\_\_bl\_ \_t\_m \_s \_ r\_r\_ S\_m\_r\_\_n  
pl\_q\_\_ th\_t d\_t\_s b\_ck t\_ \_r\_\_nd 2400BC. \_t w\_s  
\_ll\_g\_lly sm\_ggl\_d \_\_t \_f \_r\_q \_nd p\_t \_p f\_r \_\_ct\_\_n  
\_n 2019. \_t w\_s d\_sc\_v\_r\_d \_nd s\_\_z\_d by p\_l\_c\_ \_n  
L\_nd\_n. Th\_ pl\_q\_\_ w\_ll b\_ p\_t \_n p\_bl\_c d\_spl\_y \_t  
th\_ m\_s\_\_m b\_f\_r\_ \_ts r\_p\_tr\_\_t\_\_n. Th\_ Br\_t\_sh  
M\_s\_\_m s\_\_d \_t w\_\_ld c\_nt\_n\_\_, "t\_ w\_rk w\_th \_\_r  
\_r\_q\_ c\_ll\_\_g\_\_s t\_ r\_s\_\_rch th\_s\_ \_mp\_r\_t\_nt  
c\_ll\_ct\_\_ns, \_nd \_n th\_ f\_ght \_g\_\_nst th\_ \_ll\_c\_t tr\_d\_  
\_n \_nt\_q\_\_t\_\_s". \_t \_dd\_d: "t\_ \_s v\_t\_l th\_t w\_  
pr\_s\_rv\_ \_nd pr\_t\_ct th\_ w\_rld's c\_lt\_r\_l h\_r\_t\_g\_ f\_r  
f\_t\_r\_ g\_n\_r\_t\_\_ns t\_ \_ppr\_c\_\_t\_ \_nd \_nj\_y."

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201026-iraqi-antiquities.html>

great britain has promised to return more than 5000 ancient artefacts to iraq over the next few months the announcement was made by the british government during the visit of the iraqi prime minister to london earlier this week the repatriation marks the largest ever return of antiquities by the uk many of the items set to return to iraq were stolen and smuggled out of iraq over the past century particularly after the iraqi wars at the beginning of the century there is a lucrative trade in stolen artefacts iraq's ambassador to the uk was appreciative of the uk's help he said we extend our gratitude to the british museum staff for their efforts and cooperation with us

many of the artefacts that will soon be on their way back to iraq were unearthed by british archaeologists a century ago one valuable item is a rare sumerian plaque that dates back to around 2400bc it was illegally smuggled out of iraq and put up for auction in 2019 it was discovered and seized by police in london the plaque will be put on public display at the museum before its repatriation the british museum said it would continue to work with our iraqi colleagues to research these important collections and in the fight against the illicit trade in antiquities it added it is vital that we preserve and protect the world's cultural heritage for future generations to appreciate and enjoy

## PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2010/201026-iraqi-antiquities.html>

Great Britain has promised to return more than 5,000 ancient artefacts to Iraq over the next few months. The announcement was made by the British government during the visit of the Iraqi Prime Minister to London earlier this week. The repatriation marks the largest ever return of antiquities by the UK. Many of the items set to return to Iraq were stolen and smuggled out of Iraq over the past century, particularly after the Iraqi wars at the beginning of the century. There is a lucrative trade in stolen artefacts. Iraq's ambassador to the UK was appreciative of the UK's help. He said: "We extend our gratitude to the British Museum staff for their efforts and cooperation with us." Many of the artefacts that will soon be on their way back to Iraq were unearthed by British archaeologists a century ago. One valuable item is a rare Sumerian plaque that dates back to around 2400 BC. It was illegally smuggled out of Iraq and put up for auction in 2019. It was discovered and seized by police in London. The plaque will be put on public display at the museum before its repatriation. The British Museum said it would continue, "to work with our Iraqi colleagues to research these important collections, and in the fight against the illicit trade in antiquities". It added: "It is vital that we preserve and protect the world's cultural heritage for future generations to appreciate and enjoy."







# 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 this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

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

**4. RETURN:** Write a magazine article about all countries returning all antiquities to their country of origin. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

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 antiquities. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your opinions on the importance of antiquities. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. b    2. f    3. c    4. a    5. g    6. d    7. e  
8. m    9. n    10. k    11. h    12. l    13. j    14. i

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. g	2. e	3. i	4. b	5. d
6. c	7. j	8. f	9. h	10. a

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Over the next few months
- Iraq's Prime Minister
- Over the past century
- Stolen artefacts
- Gratitude
- British archaeologists
- A Sumerian plaque
- The British Museum
- Colleagues
- Future generations

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

- Promised to return more than 5,000 ancient artefacts.
- The announcement was made by the British government.
- The repatriation marks the largest ever return.
- Items set to return to Iraq were stolen.
- There is a lucrative trade in stolen artefacts.
- Artefacts will soon be on their way back.
- The plaque will be put on public display.
- Work with our Iraqi colleagues to research these.
- The fight against the illicit trade in antiquities.
- Protect the world's cultural heritage for future generations.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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