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Level 3

France to help make Saudi Arabia's first opera house

12th April, 2018

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera.html>

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

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera.html>

Saudi Arabia will soon have its very first national orchestra and opera. France will help Saudi to set up the musical groups. The two countries signed a series of agreements on Monday to boost cultural ties, and cooperation through the arts. France's Culture Minister said: "Today, an agreement was signed with the Paris Opera to help Saudi Arabia set up a national orchestra and an opera." The world-famous Paris Opera will help Saudi Arabia produce its own classical music performances and operas. Plans are already under way for the country's first opera house to be built in the kingdom's second largest city, Jeddah. Saudi Arabia will invest \$64 billion in developing its entertainment industry over the next decade.

The agreement is part of a plan created by Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, called Vision 2030. He wants to modernize many areas of Saudi life. There were other projects included in the cultural agreements between France and Saudi Arabia. French archaeologists will work on developing Saudi Arabia's Al-Ula region in the northwest of the country. The area is rich in ancient archaeological sites. French experts will help to preserve the area. Another key part of the agreement is the translation of literature. France's Culture Minister stressed, "the importance of translating books in both directions, from Arabic into French and French into Arabic".

Sources: <http://www.arabnews.com/node/1281546/saudi-arabia>
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-43703236>
<http://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/gulf/2018/04/09/Saudi-French-agreement-to-launch-opera-house-and-orchestra.html>

WARM-UPS

1. OPERA: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about opera. 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?

Saudi Arabia / orchestra / agreement / opera / classical music / entertainment / decade
France / vision / modernize / archaeologists / key / literature / translation / books

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

3. CLASSICAL MUSIC: Students A **strongly** believe classical music is the best kind of music; Students B **strongly** believe it isn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. THE ARTS: What do you know about the arts in your country? What do you like and dislike about them? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Your country	Like?	Dislike?
Opera			
Music			
Theatre			
Painting			
Dance			
Sculpture			

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

6. MUSIC: Rank these with your partner. Put the best music at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- opera
- folk
- rock
- jazz
- hip-hop
- electro
- country
- pop

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 1. national | a. A number of things, events, or people of a similar kind coming one after another. |
| 2. orchestra | b. About a whole country. |
| 3. series | c. Make better or stronger. |
| 4. boost | d. Things that join people or countries; links. |
| 5. ties | e. A group of people who play violins, flutes, clarinets, trumpets, drums, etc., usually for classical music. |
| 6. invest | f. A period of ten years. |
| 7. decade | g. Put money into a project, house, financial plan, etc. to make that money grow for the future. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 8. agreement | h. Bring up to date. |
| 9. modernize | i. People who know everything about a topic or area. |
| 10. archaeologists | j. Something decided between people, companies, countries, etc. that they must follow. |
| 11. ancient | k. People who study human history by digging at old sites to look for old things or buildings. |
| 12. experts | l. Very, very important. |
| 13. key | m. Very, very, very old. |
| 14. translation | n. The action of changing words, sentences, paragraphs, books, etc. from one language to another. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera.html>

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

- a. Saudi Arabia already has a classical orchestra but has no opera. **T / F**
- b. Saudi Arabia signed agreements to boost business ties between them. **T / F**
- c. Saudi's first opera house will be built in the capital city of Riyadh. **T / F**
- d. Saudi will spend \$64bn on its entertainment industry in the next 10 years. **T / F**
- e. The Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia has a plan called Vision 2030. **T / F**
- f. The Crown Prince wants to make Saudi a more modern country. **T / F**
- g. French architects will help to preserve ancient Saudi sites. **T / F**
- h. Books will be translated from Arabic into French. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1. set up | a. ten years |
| 2. series | b. written works |
| 3. boost | c. set |
| 4. ties | d. made |
| 5. decade | e. help |
| 6. created | f. very old |
| 7. modernize | g. start |
| 8. ancient | h. ways |
| 9. literature | i. update |
| 10. directions | j. links |

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

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. signed a series | a. of Saudi life |
| 2. Plans are already under | b. directions |
| 3. the kingdom's second largest | c. decade |
| 4. invest | d. of the country |
| 5. over the next | e. way |
| 6. modernize many areas | f. sites |
| 7. cultural | g. of agreements |
| 8. the northwest | h. \$64 billion |
| 9. rich in ancient archaeological | i. agreements |
| 10. translating books in both | j. city |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera.html>

Saudi Arabia will soon have its (1) _____ first national orchestra and opera. France will help Saudi to (2) _____ up the musical groups. The two countries signed a series of agreements on Monday to boost cultural (3) _____, and cooperation through the arts. France's Culture Minister said: "Today, an agreement was (4) _____ with the Paris Opera to help Saudi Arabia set up a national orchestra and an opera." The world-famous Paris Opera will help Saudi Arabia produce its (5) _____ classical music performances and operas. Plans are already under (6) _____ for the country's first opera house to be built in the kingdom's (7) _____ largest city, Jeddah. Saudi Arabia will invest \$64 billion in developing its entertainment industry over the next (8) _____.

signed
way
set
decade
ties
second
very
own

The agreement is part of a (9) _____ created by Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, called Vision 2030. He wants to modernize many (10) _____ of Saudi life. There were other projects included in the (11) _____ agreements between France and Saudi Arabia. French archaeologists will work on developing Saudi Arabia's Al-Ula (12) _____ in the northwest of the country. The area is rich in ancient archaeological sites. French (13) _____ will help to preserve the area. Another (14) _____ part of the agreement is the translation of (15) _____. France's Culture Minister stressed, "the importance of translating books in both (16) _____, from Arabic into French and French into Arabic".

region
plan
key
cultural
directions
areas
literature
experts

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera.html>

- 1) Saudi Arabia will soon have its very first national _____
 - a. orchestral and opera
 - b. orchestra and operatic
 - c. orchestra and opera
 - d. orchestral and operatic
- 2) The two countries signed a series of agreements on Monday to _____
 - a. boast cultural ties
 - b. best cultural ties
 - c. beast cultural ties
 - d. boost cultural ties
- 3) The world-famous Paris Opera will help Saudi Arabia produce _____ music
 - a. it sown classical
 - b. it's own classical
 - c. its own classical
 - d. its sown classical
- 4) for the country's first opera house to be built in the kingdom's _____
 - a. second largest city
 - b. secondly largest city
 - c. seconded largest city
 - d. seconds largest city
- 5) invest \$64 billion in developing its entertainment industry over _____
 - a. the next decade
 - b. the next decadence
 - c. a nest decade
 - d. the nest decade
- 6) He wants to modernize many areas _____
 - a. of Saudi live
 - b. of Saudi life
 - c. of Saudi lively
 - d. of Saudi lifetime
- 7) developing Saudi Arabia's Al-Ula region in the _____ country
 - a. northwestern of the
 - b. northwest off the
 - c. northwest of the
 - d. northwest of a
- 8) French experts will help to _____
 - a. pressure the area
 - b. preserve the area
 - c. reverse the area
 - d. reserve the area
- 9) Another key part of the agreement is the _____ literature
 - a. translated of
 - b. translate of
 - c. translates of
 - d. translation of
- 10) stressed the importance of translating books in _____
 - a. both direction
 - b. both directions
 - c. both directional
 - d. both directed

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera.html>

Saudi Arabia will soon have (1) _____ national orchestra and opera. France will help Saudi to (2) _____ musical groups. The two countries signed a series of agreements on Monday to boost cultural ties, and cooperation (3) _____. France's Culture Minister said: "Today, an agreement was signed with the Paris Opera to help Saudi Arabia set up a national orchestra and an opera." The world-famous Paris Opera will help Saudi Arabia (4) _____ classical music performances and operas. Plans are already under way for the country's first opera house to (5) _____ the kingdom's second largest city, Jeddah. Saudi Arabia will invest \$64 billion in developing its entertainment industry (6) _____ decade.

The agreement is part of a (7) _____ Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, called Vision 2030. He wants to modernize (8) _____ Saudi life. There were other projects included in the cultural agreements between France and Saudi Arabia. French archaeologists (9) _____ developing Saudi Arabia's Al-Ula region in the northwest of the country. The (10) _____ in ancient archaeological sites. French experts will help to preserve the area. Another (11) _____ the agreement is the translation of literature. France's Culture Minister stressed, "the importance of translating books (12) _____, from Arabic into French and French into Arabic".

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera.html>

1. What will France help set up, besides the opera?
2. What kind of ties do the two countries want to boost?
3. What is the name of the opera company that will help Saudi Arabia?
4. Where will Saudi's first opera house be built?
5. How much will Saudi spend on its entertainment industry?
6. What is the name of the plan created by the Saudi Crown Prince?
7. Where in Saudi Arabia is the Al-Ula region?
8. What is the Al-Ula region rich in?
9. What is another key part of the agreement between Saudi and France?
10. In what direction will the translation of books happen?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera.html>

- 1) What will France help set up, besides the opera?
 - a) a music museum
 - b) a dance company
 - c) a jazz workshop
 - d) a national orchestra
- 2) What kind of ties do the two countries want to boost?
 - a) away ties
 - b) cultural ties
 - c) plastic ties
 - d) neckties
- 3) What is the name of the opera company that will help Saudi Arabia?
 - a) France Opera
 - b) RNO
 - c) Metropolitan
 - d) Paris Opera
- 4) Where will Saudi's first opera house be built?
 - a) Khobar
 - b) Damman
 - c) Jeddah
 - d) Riyadh
- 5) How much will Saudi spend on its entertainment industry?
 - a) \$60 billion
 - b) \$46 billion
 - c) \$60 billion
 - d) \$64 billion
- 6) What is the name of the plan created by the Saudi Crown Prince?
 - a) Vision 2080
 - b) Vision 2050
 - c) Vision 2030
 - d) Vision 2020
- 7) Where in Saudi Arabia is the Al-Ula region?
 - a) the northwest
 - b) the northeast
 - c) the southeast
 - d) the southwest
- 8) What is the Al-Ula region rich in?
 - a) musical talent
 - b) oil
 - c) ancient sites
 - d) minerals
- 9) What is another key part of the agreement between Saudi and France?
 - a) food
 - b) translation
 - c) fashion
 - d) weapons
- 10) In what direction will the translation of books happen?
 - a) both directions
 - b) one way
 - c) left
 - d) up

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera.html>

Role A – Opera

You think opera is the best kind of music. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their kinds. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): hip-hop, jazz or folk.

Role B – Hip-Hop

You think hip-hop is the best kind of music. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their kinds. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): opera, jazz or folk.

Role C – Jazz

You think jazz is the best kind of music. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their kinds. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): hip-hop, opera or folk.

Role D – Folk

You think folk is the best kind of music. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their kinds. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): hip-hop, jazz or opera.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera.html>

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

opera	orchestra
--------------	------------------

- 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">• soon• boost• arts• own• already• decade	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• plan• life• region• rich• key• both
--	--

OPERA SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera.html>

Write five GOOD questions about opera 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.

OPERA 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 'opera'?
3. What do you think of opera?
4. Why do so many people prefer pop music to classical music?
5. Why didn't Saudi Arabia have an opera house before?
6. What arts are important in your country?
7. What do you know about the culture of Saudi Arabia?
8. Why is Saudi investing so much money in entertainment?
9. Which is better, classical music or opera?
10. What kind of performance art do you like best?

France to help make Saudi Arabia's first opera house – 12th April, 2018
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OPERA 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 'orchestra'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. How important is classical music?
15. Is classical music better than rock music?
16. How important are the arts?
17. What would you do to modernize your country?
18. What could you do on a holiday in Saudi Arabia?
19. What is the benefit of translating French and Arabic books?
20. What questions would you like to ask the culture ministers?

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/1804/180412-opera.html>

Saudi Arabia will soon have its (1) _____ first national orchestra and opera. France will help Saudi to set up the musical groups. The two countries (2) _____ a series of agreements on Monday to (3) _____ cultural ties, and cooperation through the arts. France's Culture Minister said: "Today, an agreement was signed with the Paris Opera to help Saudi Arabia (4) _____ up a national orchestra and an opera." The world-famous Paris Opera will help Saudi Arabia produce its own classical music performances and operas. Plans are already (5) _____ way for the country's first opera house to be built in the kingdom's second largest city, Jeddah. Saudi Arabia will invest \$64 billion in developing (6) _____ entertainment industry over the next decade.

The agreement is part of a plan created (7) _____ Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, called Vision 2030. He wants to modernize many areas (8) _____ Saudi life. There were other projects included in the cultural agreements between France and Saudi Arabia. French archaeologists will work on (9) _____ Saudi Arabia's Al-Ula region in the northwest of the country. The area is rich in ancient archaeological (10) _____. French experts will help to preserve the area. Another (11) _____ part of the agreement is the translation of literature. France's Culture Minister stressed, "the importance of translating books in (12) _____ directions, from Arabic into French and French into Arabic".

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. | (a) really | (b) very | (c) totally | (d) so |
| 2. | (a) singer | (b) sang | (c) singed | (d) signed |
| 3. | (a) best | (b) boost | (c) beast | (d) boast |
| 4. | (a) get | (b) let | (c) set | (d) wet |
| 5. | (a) under | (b) over | (c) through | (d) around |
| 6. | (a) its | (b) that | (c) this | (d) them |
| 7. | (a) from | (b) of | (c) at | (d) by |
| 8. | (a) of | (b) to | (c) on | (d) at |
| 9. | (a) develops | (b) developing | (c) developed | (d) development |
| 10. | (a) sights | (b) sighs | (c) sites | (d) styles |
| 11. | (a) chain | (b) lock | (c) key | (d) padlock |
| 12. | (a) every | (b) both | (c) up | (d) over |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera.html>

Paragraph 1

1. its very first national srtcoraeh and opera
2. signed a series of gesatreemn
3. tnoopicear through the arts
4. classical music enfmprraocse
5. entertainment ytnsdiru
6. over the next eceadd

Paragraph 2

7. He wants to odezemrni many areas
8. French asoslhetrcigoa
9. developing Saudi Arabia's Al-Ula nrioeg
10. French etepsxr
11. help to preeervs the area
12. the translation of uitrraelte

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () famous Paris Opera will help Saudi Arabia produce its own classical music performances and operas. Plans are already under
- (**1**) Saudi Arabia will soon have its very first national orchestra and opera. France will help Saudi to set
- () up the musical groups. The two countries signed a series of agreements on Monday to boost cultural
- () Vision 2030. He wants to modernize many areas of Saudi life. There were other projects included in the cultural
- () translating books in both directions, from Arabic into French and French into Arabic".
- () invest \$64 billion in developing its entertainment industry over the next decade.
- () sites. French experts will help to preserve the area. Another key part of the agreement is
- () signed with the Paris Opera to help Saudi Arabia set up a national orchestra and an opera." The world-
- () ties, and cooperation through the arts. France's Culture Minister said: "Today, an agreement was
- () developing Saudi Arabia's Al-Ula region in the northwest of the country. The area is rich in ancient archaeological
- () The agreement is part of a plan created by Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, called
- () way for the country's first opera house to be built in the kingdom's second largest city, Jeddah. Saudi Arabia will
- () agreements between France and Saudi Arabia. French archaeologists will work on
- () the translation of literature. France's Culture Minister stressed, "the importance of

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera.html>

1. national very its have Soon orchestra . first
2. series of The signed a two agreements . countries
3. Today, with opera . the signed an agreement was
4. second largest in city . the kingdom's Built
5. in its entertainment industry . Invest billion \$64 developing
6. modernize to Saudi . many of areas wants He
7. the Other cultural included agreements . in projects
8. sites . ancient area archaeological The rich is in
9. part key literature . Another translation is of the
10. importance of books The directions . both translating in

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera.html>

Saudi Arabia will soon have its *really* / *very* first national orchestra and opera. France will help Saudi to set *down* / *up* the musical groups. The two countries signed a series of agreements on Monday to *boast* / *boost* cultural ties, and *cooperation* / *cooperate* through the arts. France's Culture Minister said: "Today, an agreement was *singed* / *signed* with the Paris Opera to help Saudi Arabia set up a national orchestra and *a* / *an* opera." The world-famous Paris Opera will help Saudi Arabia produce its *own* / *town* classical music performances and operas. Plans are already *under* / *over* way for the country's first opera house to be *built* / *build* in the kingdom's second largest city, Jeddah. Saudi Arabia will invest \$64 billion in developing its entertainment industry over the *next* / *past* decade.

The agreement is part of a plan *creation* / *created* by Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, called Vision 2030. He wants to *modern* / *modernize* many areas of Saudi *live* / *life*. There were other projects included in the *cultural* / *culturally* agreements between France and Saudi Arabia. French archaeologists will work on *developing* / *develop* Saudi Arabia's Al-Ula region *on* / *in* the northwest of the country. The area is rich in ancient archaeological *sights* / *sites*. French experts will help to preserve the area. Another *key* / *lock* part of the agreement is the translation of literature. France's Culture Minister *stressed* / *worried*, "the importance of translating books in both directions, from Arabic into French and French *onto* / *into* Arabic".

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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera.html>

S__ d_ A r_b__ w_l l s__ n h_v_ _t s v_r y f_r s t
n_t__ n_l _r c h_s t r_ _n d _p_r_. F r_n c_ w_l l h_l p
S__ d_ t_ s_t _p t h_ m_s_c_l g r__ p s. T h_ t w_
c__ n t r__ s s_g n_d _ s_r__ s _f _g r__ m_n t s _n
M_n d_y t_ b__ s t c_l t_r_l t__ s, _n d c__ p_r_t__
n t h r__ g h t h_ _r t s. F r_n c_' s C_l t_r_ M_n s
t_r s__ d: " T_d_y, _n _g r__ m_n t w_s s_g n_d
w_t h t h_ P_r_s O_p_r_ t_ h_l p S__ d_ A r_b__ s_t
_p _ n_t__ n_l _r c h_s t r_ _n d _n _p_r_. " T h_ w_r
l d - f_m__ s P_r_s O_p_r_ w_l l h_l p S__ d_ A r_b__
p_r_d_c_ _t s _w n c_l s_s_c_l m_s_c p_r f_r m_n c_s
_n d _p_r_s. P_l_n s _r_ _l_r__ d_y _n d_r w_y f_r t
h_ c__ n t r_y ' s f_r s t _p_r_ h__ s_ t_ b_ b__ l t _n
t h_ k_n g d_m ' s s_c_n d l_r g_s t c_t y, J_d d_h.
S__ d_ A r_b__ w_l l _n v_s t \$ 6 4 b_l l__ n _n
d_v_l_p_n g _t s _n t_r t__ n m_n t _n d_s t r_y _v_r t
h_ n_x t d_c_d_.

T h_ _g r__ m_n t _s p_r t _f _ p_l_n c_r__ t_d b y
S__ d_ A r_b__ ' s C_r_w_n P_r_n c_ M_h_m_m_d b_n
S_l_m_n, c_l l_d V_s__ n 2 0 3 0. H_ w_n t s t_
m_d_r_n_z_ m_n y _r__ s _f S__ d_ l_f_. T h_r_ w_r_
_t h_r p_r_j_c_t s _n c_l_d_d _n t h_ c_l t_r_l _g r__
m_n t s b_t w__ n F r_n c_ _n d S__ d_ A r_b__. F
r_n c h _r c h__ _l_g_s t s w_l l w_r k _n d_v_l_p_n g
S__ d_ A r_b__ ' s A l - U l_ r_g__ n _n t h_ n_r t h
w_s t _f t h_ c__ n t r_y. T h_ _r__ _s r_c h _n _n
c__ n t _r c h__ _l_g_c_l s_t s. F r_n c h _x_p_r_t s
w_l l h_l p t_ p_r_s_r_v_ t h_ _r__. A n_t h_r k_y
p_r t _f t h_ _g r__ m_n t _s t h_ t_r_n s_l_t__ n _f
l_t_r_t_r_. F r_n c_' s C_l t_r_ M_n s t_r s t r_s s_d,
" t h_ _m_p_r_t_n_c_ _f t_r_n s_l_t_n g b__ k_s _n b_t h
d_r_c_t__ n s, f_r_m A r_b_c _n t F r_n c h _n d F
r_n c h _n t_ A r_b_c " .

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera.html>

saudi arabia will soon have its very first national orchestra and opera france will help saudi to set up the musical groups the two countries signed a series of agreements on monday to boost cultural ties and cooperation through the arts frances culture minister said today an agreement was signed with the paris opera to help saudi arabia set up a national orchestra and an opera the worldfamous paris opera will help saudi arabia produce its own classical music performances and operas plans are already under way for the countrys first opera house to be built in the kingdoms second largest city jeddah saudi arabia will invest 64 billion in developing its entertainment industry over the next decade

the agreement is part of a plan created by saudi arabias crown prince mohammed bin salman called vision 2030 he wants to modernize many areas of saudi life there were other projects included in the cultural agreements between france and saudi arabia french archaeologists will work on developing saudi arabias alula region in the northwest of the country the area is rich in ancient archaeological sites french experts will help to preserve the area another key part of the agreement is the translation of literature frances culture minister stressed the importance of translating books in both directions from arabic into french and french into arabic.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera.html>

SaudiArabia will soon have its very first national orchestra and opera. France will help Saudi to set up the musical groups. The two countries signed a series of agreements on Monday to boost cultural ties, and cooperation through the arts. France's Culture Minister said: "Today, an agreement was signed with the Paris Opera to help Saudi Arabia set up a national orchestra and an opera." The world-famous Paris Opera will help Saudi Arabia reproduce its own classical music performances and operas. Plans are already underway for the country's first opera house to be built in the kingdom's second largest city, Jeddah. Saudi Arabia will invest \$64 billion in developing its entertainment industry over the next decade. The agreement is part of a plan created by Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, called Vision 2030. He wants to modernize many areas of Saudi life. There were other projects included in the cultural agreements between France and Saudi Arabia. French archaeologists will work on developing Saudi Arabia's Al-Ula region in the northwest of the country. The area is rich in ancient archaeological sites. French experts will help to preserve the area. Another key part of the agreement is the translation of literature. France's Culture Minister stressed, "the importance of translating books in both directions, from Arabic into French and French into Arabic".

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. OPERA: Make a poster about opera. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. CULTURE: Write a magazine article about more countries signing agreements with each other. 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 opera. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to make it more popular. 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. e 3. a 4. c 5. d 6. g 7. f
8. j 9. h 10. k 11. m 12. i 13. l 14. n

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. set up | a. start |
| 2. series | b. set |
| 3. boost | c. help |
| 4. ties | d. links |
| 5. decade | e. ten years |
| 6. created | f. made |
| 7. modernize | g. update |
| 8. ancient | h. very old |
| 9. literature | i. written works |
| 10. directions | j. ways |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. A national orchestra
2. Cultural ties
3. Paris Opera
4. Jeddah
5. \$64 billion
6. Vision 2030
7. The northwest
8. Ancient archaeological sites
9. The translation of literature
10. Both directions

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. Soon have its very first national orchestra.
2. The two countries signed a series of agreements.
3. Today, an agreement was signed with the opera.
4. Built in the kingdom's second largest city.
5. Invest \$64 billion in developing its entertainment industry.
6. He wants to modernize many areas of Saudi.
7. Other projects included in the cultural agreements.
8. The area is rich in ancient archaeological sites.
9. Another key part is the translation of literature.
10. The importance of translating books in both directions.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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