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**Level 5** – 13th December

## 'Yellow Vests' protests to continue in France

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181213-yellow-vests-protests-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181213-yellow-vests-protests-5.html>

France is experiencing unrest it has not seen for decades. France is famous for revolution and has now been rocked by violent nationwide protests. Hundreds of thousands of people have taken to the streets and have brought chaos to businesses, transport and the French economy. The protests are led by the Yellow Vests Movement, so called because protestors wear high-visibility jackets. The protests started because of rising fuel prices, the high cost of living, and claims that new tax reforms are unfair for the working and middle classes.

France's President Emmanuel Macron has declared "a state of social and economic emergency". The violence has caused over a billion dollars in damages so far and this figure is set to rise. Paris has seen the worst of the protests. To make people happier, Mr Macron will cancel his proposed fuel-price rise, deliver tax relief for the poor, and cancel a retirement tax. He called for the chaos to end and for calm to return. He said: "No anger justifies attacking a police officer...or damaging a shop or public building. When violence is unleashed, freedom ends."

Sources: <https://www.npr.org/2018/12/10/675425153/macron-promises-minimum-wage-hike-and-tax-cuts-to-end-yellow-vest-protests>  
<https://www.thelocal.fr/20181210/bank-of-france-yellow-vest-violence-wipes>  
<https://www.liberationnews.org/french-mass-rebellion-grows-and-deepens/>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181213-yellow-vests-protests-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                    |                        |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. rocked by violent               | a. jackets             |
| 2. Hundreds of                     | b. middle classes      |
| 3. brought chaos                   | c. nationwide protests |
| 4. protestors wear high-visibility | d. of living           |
| 5. rising fuel                     | e. are unfair          |
| 6. the high cost                   | f. to businesses       |
| 7. tax reforms                     | g. thousands of people |
| 8. the working and                 | h. prices              |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                   |                               |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. a state of social and economic | a. attacking a police officer |
| 2. a billion dollars in           | b. relief for the poor        |
| 3. Paris has seen the worst       | c. emergency                  |
| 4. cancel his proposed fuel-      | d. chaos to end               |
| 5. deliver tax                    | e. of the protests            |
| 6. He called for the              | f. unleashed, freedom ends    |
| 7. No anger justifies             | g. damages                    |
| 8. When violence is               | h. price rise                 |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181213-yellow-vests-protests-5.html>

France is experiencing unrest it has (1) \_\_\_\_\_ decades. France is famous for revolution and has now (2) \_\_\_\_\_ violent nationwide protests. Hundreds of thousands of people have taken to the streets and have (3) \_\_\_\_\_ businesses, transport and the French economy. The (4) \_\_\_\_\_ by the Yellow Vests Movement, so called because protestors wear high-visibility jackets. The protests started (5) \_\_\_\_\_ fuel prices, the high cost of living, and claims that (6) \_\_\_\_\_ are unfair for the working and middle classes.

France's President Emmanuel Macron (7) \_\_\_\_\_ state of social and economic emergency". The violence has caused over a billion dollars in (8) \_\_\_\_\_ and this figure is set to rise. Paris has seen the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ protests. To make people happier, Mr Macron will cancel his proposed fuel-price rise, (10) \_\_\_\_\_ for the poor, and cancel a retirement tax. He called for (11) \_\_\_\_\_ end and for calm to return. He said: "No anger justifies attacking a police officer...or damaging a shop or public building. When (12) \_\_\_\_\_, freedom ends."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181213-yellow-vests-protests-5.html>

France is experiencing unrest it has not seen for decades. France is famous for revolution and has now been rocked by violent nationwide protests. Hundreds of thousands of people have taken to the streets and have brought chaos to businesses, transport and the French economy. The protests are led by the Yellow Vests Movement, so called because protestors wear high-visibility jackets. The protests started because of rising fuel prices, the high cost of living, and claims that new tax reforms are unfair for the working and middle classes. France's President Emmanuel Macron has declared "a state of social and economic emergency". The violence has caused over a billion dollars in damages so far and this figure is set to rise. Paris has seen the worst of the protests. To make people happier, Mr Macron will cancel his proposed fuel-price rise, deliver tax relief for the poor, and cancel retirement tax. He called for the chaos to end and for calm to return. He said: "No anger justifies attacking a police officer... or damaging a shop or public building. When violence is unleashed, freedom ends."

# STREET PROTESTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181213-yellow-vests-protests-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about street protests in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

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More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

