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Level 6 – 25th December, 2018

U.S. government shutdown over border wall

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181225-border-wall.html>

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

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181225-border-wall.html>

The U.S. government will partially shut down over the Christmas period due to a lack of agreement over funding for the proposed wall along the Mexico border. Politicians say it is likely that the federal closures will continue until after Christmas. It is the third government shutdown of the year. U.S. President Donald Trump has promised a "very long" government shutdown if Democrats do not fund the border wall. Mr Trump wants the Senate to authorize \$5.7 billion to finance the wall, which was one of the President's major election promises in 2016. He said: "I hope we don't, but we are totally prepared for a very long shutdown." He tweeted: "Shutdown today if Democrats do not vote for border security."

The shutdown has affected Mr Trump's holiday plans. The White House press secretary Sarah Sanders confirmed this in a statement. She said: "Due to the shutdown, President Trump will remain in Washington, D.C. and the First Lady will return from Florida so they can spend Christmas together." The shutdown means there is gridlock in large parts of the federal government's operations. Funding has expired for departments that operate national parks, homeland security, law enforcement, tax collection and transportation. Around 400,000 federal workers have to stay at home without pay until a deal is reached. Many government services have been halted until the Senate reaches a deal.

Sources: https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/shutdown-day-1-trump-warns-it-could-be-a-long-stay-amid-impasse-over-border-wall/2018/12/22/006ff10c-060b-11e9-9122-82e98f91ee6f_story.html
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-46637638>
<https://edition.cnn.com/2018/12/22/politics/government-shutdown-day-1/index.html>

WARM-UPS

1. WALLS AND FENCES: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about walls and fences. 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?

government / shut down / lack / agreement / federal / border wall / finance / security
holiday plans / press secretary / Washington / gridlock / national parks / deal / pay

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

3. THE WALL: Students A **strongly** believe the USA should build a wall along the Mexico border; Students B **strongly** believe it shouldn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. GOVERNMENT: How are these governments in your country? How can they be made better? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How are these departments?	Improvements
National security		
Employment		
Health		
Education		
Transportation		
Law Enforcement		

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

6. SHUTDOWN: Rank these with your partner. Put the worst things to shut down at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Law enforcement
- Health
- Schools
- Border security
- Transport
- The Internet
- Electricity
- Social security

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 1. partially | a. Money provided, especially by an organization or government, for a particular purpose. |
| 2. due to | b. Only in part; to a limited extent. |
| 3. lack | c. The state of being without or not having enough of something. |
| 4. funding | d. Give official permission for or approval to an undertaking or agent. |
| 5. proposed | e. A formal choice between two or more candidates or courses of action, usually via putting a cross in a box on a paper or a show of hands. |
| 6. authorize | f. Because of. |
| 7. vote | g. Put forward an idea or plan for consideration or discussion by others. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 8. confirmed | h. A government department responsible for the police and order on the streets. |
| 9. gridlock | i. Stopped or brought to a sudden end or finish. |
| 10. expired | j. An agreement between two or more parties for their mutual benefit, especially in a business or political context. |
| 11. law enforcement | k. Of a document, authorization, or agreement that has ceased to be valid, usually after a fixed period of time. |
| 12. federal | l. Relating to the central government of the USA. |
| 13. deal | m. States with confidence that a report or fact is true. |
| 14. halted | n. A situation in which no progress can be made between two or more people or groups. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181225-border-wall.html>

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

- a. The U.S. government will totally shut down over Christmas. **T / F**
- b. This is the first time this year that the U.S. government has shut down. **T / F**
- c. Donald Trump wants \$5.7 billion to build a border wall. **T / F**
- d. Donald Trump said he is prepared for a very long shutdown. **T / F**
- e. The shutdown means Donald Trump won't be in Florida for Xmas. **T / F**
- f. The article says Mr and Mrs Trump will spend Christmas together. **T / F**
- g. There is currently no federal funding for national parks. **T / F**
- h. Over half-a-million federal workers are at home without pay. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

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

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| 1. partially | a. impacted |
| 2. lack | b. shutdown |
| 3. closure | c. functions |
| 4. finance | d. ready |
| 5. prepared | e. agreement |
| 6. affected | f. fund |
| 7. operations | g. partly |
| 8. expired | h. stopped |
| 9. halted | i. run out |
| 10. deal | j. absence |

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

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. shut down over | a. to finance the wall |
| 2. due to a lack | b. Christmas together |
| 3. authorize \$5.7 billion | c. security |
| 4. one of the President's major | d. enforcement |
| 5. border | e. halted |
| 6. Sanders confirmed this in | f. of agreement |
| 7. they can spend | g. collection |
| 8. law | h. election promises |
| 9. tax | i. a statement |
| 10. Many government services have been | j. the Christmas period |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181225-border-wall.html>

The U.S. government will (1) _____ shut down over the Christmas period due to a lack of agreement over funding for the proposed wall (2) _____ the Mexico border. Politicians say it is likely that the federal (3) _____ will continue until after Christmas. It is the third government shutdown of the year. U.S. President Donald Trump has (4) _____ a "very long" government shutdown if Democrats do not fund the border wall. Mr Trump wants the Senate to authorize \$5.7 billion to (5) _____ the wall, which was one of the President's (6) _____ election promises in 2016. He said: "I hope we don't, but we are (7) _____ prepared for a very long shutdown." He tweeted: "Shutdown today if Democrats do not vote for border (8) _____."

major
along
promised
security
partially
totally
finance
closures

The shutdown has (9) _____ Mr Trump's holiday plans. The White House press secretary Sarah Sanders (10) _____ this in a statement. She said: "Due to the shutdown, President Trump will (11) _____ in Washington, D.C. and the First Lady will return from Florida so they can spend Christmas together." The shutdown means there is (12) _____ in large parts of the federal government's operations. Funding has (13) _____ for departments that operate national parks, homeland (14) _____, law enforcement, tax collection and transportation. Around 400,000 federal workers have to stay at home without pay until a (15) _____ is reached. Many government services have been halted until the Senate (16) _____ a deal.

gridlock
affected
security
reaches
remain
expired
deal
confirmed

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181225-border-wall.html>

- 1) partially shut down over the Christmas period due to _____ agreement
 - a. a luck of
 - b. a lack of
 - c. a lack off
 - d. all lack off
- 2) promised a very long government shutdown if Democrats do _____ border wall
 - a. not find the
 - b. not fend the
 - c. not fund the
 - d. not fond the
- 3) \$5.7 billion to finance the wall, which was one of the President's _____ promises
 - a. majors election
 - b. major election
 - c. majorly election
 - d. majority election
- 4) He said: "I hope we don't, but we are totally prepared for a very _____."
 - a. long shuts down
 - b. long shut it down
 - c. longer shutdown
 - d. long shutdown
- 5) He tweeted: "Shutdown today if Democrats do not vote _____."
 - a. for border security
 - b. for border securities
 - c. for borders security
 - d. four border security
- 6) The White House press secretary Sarah Sanders confirmed this _____
 - a. in a state meant
 - b. in a straight meant
 - c. in a stale mend
 - d. in a statement
- 7) the First Lady will return from Florida so they can _____ together
 - a. spent Christmas
 - b. spends Christmas
 - c. spend Christmas
 - d. splendid Christmas
- 8) Funding has expired for departments that operate _____
 - a. nationally parks
 - b. national park
 - c. national parks
 - d. national sparks
- 9) 400,000 federal workers have to stay at home without pay until a _____
 - a. deal is reach
 - b. deal is retched
 - c. deal is wretched
 - d. deal is reached
- 10) Many government services have _____
 - a. been halted
 - b. been halt it
 - c. being halted
 - d. bean halted

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181225-border-wall.html>

The U.S. government will (1) _____ over the Christmas period due (2) _____ of agreement over funding for the proposed wall along the Mexico border. Politicians say it is likely that the (3) _____ continue until after Christmas. It is the third government shutdown of the year. U.S. President Donald Trump has promised a "very long" government shutdown if Democrats (4) _____ the border wall. Mr Trump wants the Senate to authorize \$5.7 billion to (5) _____, which was one of the President's major election promises in 2016. He said: "I hope we don't, but we are totally prepared for a very long shutdown." He tweeted: "Shutdown today if Democrats do not vote (6) _____."

The (7) _____ Mr Trump's holiday plans. The White House press secretary Sarah Sanders confirmed this in a statement. She said: "Due to the shutdown, President Trump (8) _____ Washington, D.C. and the First Lady will return from Florida so they can spend Christmas together." The shutdown means there (9) _____ large parts of the federal government's operations. Funding has expired for departments (10) _____ parks, homeland security, law enforcement, tax collection and transportation. Around 400,000 federal (11) _____ stay at home without pay until a deal is reached. Many government services have been halted until the Senate (12) _____.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181225-border-wall.html>

1. To what extent will the U.S. government shut down?
2. How many times has the government now shut down this year?
3. How much does President Donald Trump want to build a border wall?
4. What did President Trump say he was prepared for?
5. Who does President Trump want to vote for border security?
6. Which of Mr Trump's plans did the article say the shutdown has affected?
7. Who will return from Florida?
8. What has expired in many parts of the federal government?
9. How many workers have to stay at home without pay?
10. What must the Senate reach so workers can go back to work?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181225-border-wall.html>

- 1) To what extent will the U.S. government shut down?
 - a) totally
 - b) fifty per cent
 - c) partially
 - d) a slight extent
- 2) How many times has the government now shut down this year?
 - a) 3
 - b) 2
 - c) 4
 - d) 1
- 3) How much does President Donald Trump want to build a border wall?
 - a) \$5.7 billion
 - b) \$5.7 million
 - c) \$57 billion
 - d) \$7.5 million
- 4) What did President Trump say he was prepared for?
 - a) 2019
 - b) a very long shutdown
 - c) to help build the wall
 - d) a Christmas dinner
- 5) Who does President Trump want to vote for border security?
 - a) the White House
 - b) Mexicans
 - c) Republicans
 - d) Democrats
- 6) Which of Mr Trump's plans did the article say the shutdown has affected?
 - a) his budgetary plans
 - b) his holiday plans
 - c) his foreign policy plans
 - d) his New Year plans
- 7) Who will return from Florida?
 - a) the First Lady
 - b) Senators
 - c) President Trump's children
 - d) the Vice-President
- 8) What has expired in many parts of the federal government?
 - a) passwords
 - b) deadlines
 - c) funding
 - d) a subscription
- 9) How many workers have to stay at home without pay?
 - a) exactly 400,000
 - b) over 400,000
 - c) under 400,000
 - d) around 400,000
- 10) What must the Senate reach so workers can go back to work?
 - a) a deal
 - b) a place
 - c) out
 - d) over

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181225-border-wall.html>

Role A – Law Enforcement

You think law enforcement is the worst thing to shut down. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things shutting down aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least damaging of these shutting down (and why): transport, the Internet or healthcare.

Role B – Transport

You think transport is the worst thing to shut down. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things shutting down aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least damaging of these shutting down (and why): law enforcement, the Internet or healthcare.

Role C – The Internet

You think the Internet is the worst thing to shut down. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things shutting down aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least damaging of these shutting down (and why): transport, law enforcement or healthcare.

Role D – Healthcare

You think healthcare is the worst thing to shut down. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things shutting down aren't as bad. Also, tell the others which is the least damaging of these shutting down (and why): transport, the Internet or law enforcement.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181225-border-wall.html>

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

shut	down

- 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">• partially• proposed• third• fund• totally• vote	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• plans• remain• return• large• law• until
--	---

WALLS AND FENCES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181225-border-wall.html>

Write five GOOD questions about walls and fences 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.

WALLS AND FENCES 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 'border'?
3. What do you think of your government?
4. What are the worst things about working for the government?
5. What do you think of a government shutting down?
6. What are your country's borders like?
7. What happens if a government shuts down?
8. What do you think of the border wall with Mexico?
9. Do politicians always keep their promises?
10. How worried are you about the security of your country?

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WALLS AND FENCES 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 'wall'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What are the best things about working for the government?
15. What good things do governments do?
16. What will President Trump do in the White House over Christmas?
17. What happens if government services are in gridlock?
18. Do you agree with the saying: "Fences make good neighbors"?
19. Who should pay for the building of the Mexico wall?
20. What questions would you like to ask President Trump?

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/1812/181225-border-wall.html>

The U.S. government will partially shut (1) _____ over the Christmas period due to a lack of agreement over funding for the (2) _____ wall along the Mexico border. Politicians say it is (3) _____ that the federal closures will continue until after Christmas. It is the third government shutdown of the year. U.S. President Donald Trump has promised a "very long" government shutdown if Democrats do not (4) _____ the border wall. Mr Trump wants the Senate to authorize \$5.7 billion to finance the wall, (5) _____ was one of the President's major election promises in 2016. He said: "I hope we don't, but we are totally prepared (6) _____ a very long shutdown." He tweeted: "Shutdown today if Democrats do not vote for border security."

The shutdown has affected Mr Trump's holiday plans. The White House (7) _____ secretary Sarah Sanders confirmed this in a statement. She said: "(8) _____ to the shutdown, President Trump will remain in Washington, D.C. and the First Lady will return from Florida (9) _____ they can spend Christmas together." The shutdown means there is gridlock in large parts of the federal government's operations. Funding has expired (10) _____ departments that operate national parks, homeland security, law enforcement, tax (11) _____ and transportation. Around 400,000 federal workers have to stay at home without pay until a deal is reached. Many government services have been (12) _____ until the Senate reaches a deal.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) up | (b) away | (c) in | (d) down |
| 2. | (a) props | (b) proposal | (c) prosper | (d) proposed |
| 3. | (a) likelihood | (b) likely | (c) liked | (d) likes |
| 4. | (a) find | (b) fend | (c) fund | (d) fond |
| 5. | (a) what | (b) such | (c) which | (d) as |
| 6. | (a) for | (b) to | (c) of | (d) on |
| 7. | (a) dress | (b) press | (c) cress | (d) tress |
| 8. | (a) Due | (b) Because | (c) As | (d) Such |
| 9. | (a) to | (b) so | (c) for | (d) from |
| 10. | (a) to | (b) so | (c) for | (d) from |
| 11. | (a) relation | (b) deduction | (c) collection | (d) salvation |
| 12. | (a) halt | (b) halting | (c) halts | (d) halted |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181225-border-wall.html>

Paragraph 1

1. atpairlly shut down
2. due to a lack of rameeeegnt
3. the poporesd wall
4. dfreeal closures
5. tohurazie \$5.7 billion to finance the wall
6. major lectieon promises

Paragraph 2

7. facefted Mr Trump's holiday plans
8. The White House press ceretsray
9. Funding has xpireed
10. law nfremeceont
11. tax olectclion
12. government services have been lahted

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181225-border-wall.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () in 2016. He said: "I hope we don't, but we are totally prepared for a very long
- () \$5.7 billion to finance the wall, which was one of the President's major election promises
- () until after Christmas. It is the third government shutdown of the year. U.S. President Donald Trump has
- () Lady will return from Florida so they can spend Christmas together." The shutdown means there is
- () shutdown." He tweeted: "Shutdown today if Democrats do not vote for border security."
- () 400,000 federal workers have to stay at home without pay until a deal is reached. Many
- () gridlock in large parts of the federal government's operations. Funding has expired for departments that operate national
- () The shutdown has affected Mr Trump's holiday plans. The White House press secretary Sarah Sanders confirmed
- () promised a "very long" government shutdown if Democrats do not fund the border wall. Mr Trump wants the Senate to authorize
- () parks, homeland security, law enforcement, tax collection and transportation. Around
- () this in a statement. She said: "Due to the shutdown, President Trump will remain in Washington, D.C. and the First
- () for the proposed wall along the Mexico border. Politicians say it is likely that the federal closures will continue
- () government services have been halted until the Senate reaches a deal.
- (**1**) The U.S. government will partially shut down over the Christmas period due to a lack of agreement over funding

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181225-border-wall.html>

1. of Due lack over a agreement to funding .
2. federal closures until continue The will after Christmas .
3. of President's One 2016 major the election promises .
4. prepared totally We for are long a shutdown .
5. do If vote not Democrats for border security .
6. shutdown has affected Mr Trump's The holiday plans .
7. in of parts large the Gridlock government's operations .
8. expired departments Funding operate that for national parks .
9. have workers Around to 400,000 at stay home .
10. the Halted reaches Senate until a deal .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181225-border-wall.html>

The U.S. government will *partially / party* shut down over the Christmas period due to a lack of agreement *under / over* funding for the proposed wall along the Mexico border. Politicians say it is *likelihood / likely* that the federal closures will continue *until / for* after Christmas. It is the third government *shut / shutdown* of the year. U.S. President Donald Trump has promised a "very long" government shutdown if Democrats do not *find / fund* the border wall. Mr Trump wants the Senate to *authorize / authority* \$5.7 billion to finance the wall, which was *one / once* of the President's major election promises in 2016. He said: "I hope we don't, but we are totally *prepared / prepare* for a very long shutdown." He tweeted: "Shutdown today if Democrats do not *voting / vote* for border security."

The shutdown has *affected / effected* Mr Trump's holiday plans. The White House press secretary Sarah Sanders *conformed / confirmed* this in a statement. She said: "Due *of / to* the shutdown, President Trump will *remain / remnant* in Washington, D.C. and the First Lady will return from Florida so they can *spend / purchase* Christmas together." The shutdown means there is gridlock in *largely / large* parts of the federal government's *operatives / operations*. Funding has expired for departments *that / what* operate national parks, homeland security, law enforcement, tax collection and *transportation / transporting*. Around 400,000 federal workers have to stay at home without pay until a *dealt / deal* is reached. Many government services have been halted until the Senate reaches a deal.

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/1812/181225-border-wall.html>

T h _ U . S . g _ v _ r _ n _ m _ n _ t w _ l _ l p _ r _ t _ _ l _ l y s h _ t
d _ w _ n _ v _ r _ t h _ C h r _ s _ t _ m _ s p _ r _ _ d _ d _ _ t _ _ l _ c _ k
_ f _ g _ r _ _ m _ n _ t _ v _ r _ f _ n _ d _ n _ g _ f _ r _ t h _ p _ r _ p _ s _ d
w _ l _ l _ l _ n _ g _ t h _ M _ x _ c _ b _ r _ d _ r . P _ l _ t _ c _ _ n _ s _ s _ y
_ t _ s _ l _ k _ l _ y _ t h _ t _ t h _ f _ d _ r _ l _ c _ l _ s _ r _ s _ w _ l _ l _ c _ n
t _ n _ _ _ n _ t _ l _ f _ t _ r _ C h r _ s _ t _ m _ s . I t _ s _ t h _ t h _ r _ d
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n _ t _ f _ n _ d _ t h _ b _ r _ d _ r _ w _ l _ l . M r _ T r _ m _ p _ w _ n _ t _ s
t h _ S _ n _ t _ t _ _ _ t h _ r _ z _ \$ 5.7 _ b _ l _ l _ _ n _ t _ f _ n _ n _ c _
t h _ w _ l _ l , _ w h _ c h _ w _ s _ _ n _ _ f _ t h _ P _ r _ s _ d _ n _ t ' s
m _ j _ r _ l _ c _ t _ _ n _ p _ r _ m _ s _ s _ _ n _ 2 0 1 6 . H _ s _ _ d : "
I _ h _ p _ w _ d _ n ' t , _ b _ t _ w _ _ r _ t _ t _ l _ l _ y _ p _ r _ p _ r _ d
f _ r _ _ v _ r _ y _ l _ n _ g _ s h _ t _ d _ w _ n . " H _ t _ w _ _ t _ d : " S
h _ t _ d _ w _ n _ t _ d _ y _ _ f _ D _ m _ c _ r _ t _ s _ d _ n _ t _ v _ t _ f _ r _ b _ r
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T h _ s h _ t _ d _ w _ n _ h _ s _ _ f _ f _ c _ t _ d _ M r _ T r _ m _ p ' s
h _ l _ d _ y _ p _ l _ n _ s . T h _ W h _ t _ H _ _ s _ p _ r _ s _ s _ s _ c _ r _ t _ r
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r _ s _ d _ n _ t _ T r _ m _ p _ w _ l _ l _ r _ m _ _ n _ _ n _ W _ s _ h _ n _ g _ t _ n ,
D . C . _ n _ d _ t h _ F _ r _ s _ t _ L _ d _ y _ w _ l _ l _ r _ t _ r _ n _ f _ r _ m
F _ l _ r _ d _ s _ t h _ y _ c _ n _ s _ p _ n _ d _ C h r _ s _ t _ m _ s _ t _ g _ t _ h _ r
." T h _ s h _ t _ d _ w _ n _ m _ _ n _ s _ t h _ r _ _ s _ g _ r _ d _ l _ c _ k _ n
l _ r _ g _ _ p _ r _ t _ s _ _ f _ t h _ f _ d _ r _ l _ g _ v _ r _ n _ m _ n _ t ' s
_ p _ r _ t _ _ n _ s . F _ n _ d _ n _ g _ h _ s _ _ x _ p _ r _ d _ f _ r _ d _ p _ r _ t _ m _ n
t _ s _ t h _ t _ _ p _ r _ t _ _ n _ t _ _ n _ l _ p _ r _ k _ s , _ h _ m _ l _ n _ d
s _ c _ r _ t _ y , _ l _ w _ _ n _ f _ r _ c _ m _ n _ t , _ t _ x _ c _ l _ l _ c _ t _ _ n _ _ n _ d
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w _ r _ k _ r _ s _ h _ v _ _ t _ s _ t _ y _ t _ h _ m _ w _ t h _ _ t _ p _ y _ _ n _ t _ l
_ d _ _ l _ s _ r _ _ c _ h _ d . M _ n _ y _ g _ v _ r _ n _ m _ n _ t _ s _ r _ v _ c _ s
h _ v _ _ b _ _ n _ h _ l _ t _ d _ _ n _ t _ l _ t h _ S _ n _ t _ r _ _ c _ h _ s _ _
d _ _ l .

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181225-border-wall.html>

the us government will partially shut down over the christmas period due to a lack of agreement over funding for the proposed wall along the mexico border politicians say it is likely that the federal closures will continue until after christmas it is the third government shutdown of the year us president donald trump has promised a very long government shutdown if democrats do not fund the border wall mr trump wants the senate to authorize 57 billion to finance the wall which was one of the presidents major election promises in 2016 he said i hope we dont but we are totally prepared for a very long shutdown he tweeted shutdown today if democrats do not vote for border security

the shutdown has affected mr trumps holiday plans the white house press secretary sarah sanders confirmed this in a statement she said due to the shutdown president trump will remain in washington dc and the first lady will return from florida so they can spend christmas together the shutdown means there is gridlock in large parts of the federal governments operations funding has expired for departments that operate national parks homeland security law enforcement tax collection and transportation around 400000 federal workers have to stay at home without pay until a deal is reached many government services have been halted until the senate reaches a deal

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1812/181225-border-wall.html>

The U.S. government will partially shut down over the Christmas period due to a lack of agreement over funding for the proposed wall along the Mexican border. Politicians say it is likely that the federal closures will continue until after Christmas. It is the third government shutdown of the year. U.S. President Donald Trump has promised a "very long" government shutdown if Democrats do not fund the border wall. Mr Trump wants the Senate to authorize \$5.7 billion to finance the wall, which was one of the President's major election promises in 2016. He said: "I hope we don't, but we are totally prepared for a very long shutdown." He tweeted: "Shutdown today if Democrats do not vote for border security." The shutdown has affected Mr Trump's holiday plans. The White House press secretary Sarah Sanders confirmed this in a statement. She said: "Due to the shutdown, President Trump will remain in Washington, D.C. and the First Lady will return from Florida so they can spend Christmas together." The shutdown means there is gridlock in large parts of the federal government's operations. Funding has expired for departments that operate national parks, homeland security, law enforcement, tax collection and transportation. Around 400,000 federal workers have to stay at home without pay until a deal is reached. Many government services have been halted until the Senate reaches a deal.

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. WALLS AND FENCES: Make a poster about walls and fences. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. THE MEXICO BORDER WALL: Write a magazine article about the Mexico border wall. 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 walls and fences. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on the saying, "Fences make good neighbors". 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 F d T e T f T g T h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. partially | a. partly |
| 2. lack | b. absence |
| 3. closure | c. shutdown |
| 4. finance | d. fund |
| 5. prepared | e. ready |
| 6. affected | f. impacted |
| 7. operations | g. functions |
| 8. expired | h. stopped |
| 9. halted | i. run out |
| 10. deal | j. agreement |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Partially
2. Three
3. \$5.7 billion
4. A very long shutdown
5. The Democrats
6. His holiday plans
7. The First Lady
8. Funding
9. Around 400,000
10. A deal

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. Due to a lack of agreement over funding.
2. The federal closures will continue until after Christmas.
3. One of the President's major 2016 election promises.
4. We are totally prepared for a long shutdown.
5. If Democrats do not vote for border security.
6. The shutdown has affected Mr Trump's holiday plans.
7. Gridlock in large parts of the government's operations.
8. Funding expired for departments that operate national parks.
9. Around 400,000 workers have to stay at home.
10. Halted until the Senate reaches a deal.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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