

Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

**"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"**

breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html

**Thousands more free lessons
from Sean's other websites**

www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html

Level 3 – 9th November, 2019

Typhoon-damaged bullet trains scrapped in Japan

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains.html>

Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	15
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	16
Vocabulary	4	Spelling	17
Before Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	18
Gap Fill	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	19
Match The Sentences And Listen	7	Circle The Correct Word	20
Listening Gap Fill	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	21
Comprehension Questions	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	22
Multiple Choice - Quiz	10	Put A Slash (/) Where The Spaces Are	23
Role Play	11	Free Writing	24
After Reading / Listening	12	Academic Writing	25
Student Survey	13	Homework	26
Discussion (20 Questions)	14	Answers	27

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

Twitter



twitter.com/SeanBanville

Facebook



www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176

THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains.html>

Ten of Japan's famous bullet trains will be scrapped. They were caught in the floods after Typhoon Hagibis hit eastern Japan in October. The typhoon caused widespread damage and loss of life in Japan. There were many photos and TV footage of the 10 shiny bullet trains lined up next to each other at a train yard near the central city of Nagano. They were deep in floodwater after the nearby Chikuma River burst its banks. The trains used to run between Tokyo and a city on the Sea of Japan coast called Kanazawa. The line is now running 80 per cent of its normal services. The bullet train company said it hopes to be running a full service again by the end of March 2020.

Bullet trains are called Shinkansen in Japan. They started in 1964 in time for the Tokyo Olympics. They became an iconic symbol of Japan and were the world's fastest trains. They currently reach speeds of 320kph. The bullet train rail network has expanded to currently consist of 2,764km. People take around 350 million rides a year on the Shinkansen. A Shinkansen president, Yuji Fukasawa, spoke about the flooded trains. He said the floodwater seriously damaged their motors and braking systems. The total cost of the damage is around \$135 million. He said: "For stability and safety, we [will] replace the trains with newly built ones instead of repairing them."

Sources: https://www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/en/news/20191106_37/
<https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2019/11/4e7dfd267c83-all-10-typhoon-flooded-shinkansen-bullet-trains-to-be-scrapped.html>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-50323239>
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shinkansen>

WARM-UPS

1. BULLET TRAINS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about bullet trains. 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?

bullet train / floods / typhoon / damage / photos / banks / normal / service / March / 1964 / Olympics / iconic / network / president / motors / systems / stability / safety

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

3. FLYING: Students A **strongly** believe flying is better than taking the train; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. ICONIC SYMBOLS: What are the iconic symbols of these countries. Why? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Three Iconic Symbols	Why Are They Symbols?
Japan		
USA		
China		
India		
France		
Brazil		

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

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

- bullet train
- helicopter
- river taxi
- rickshaw
- airplane
- bus
- motorbike
- bicycle

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 1. scrapped | a. An overflowing of a large amount of water above its normal level. |
| 2. flood | b. A length of film made for movies, television or news. |
| 3. widespread | c. Thrown away or remove from service. |
| 4. footage | d. The land that is the sides of a river. |
| 5. shiny | e. Reflecting light, usually because it is very new, clean or polished. |
| 6. banks | f. The part of the land near the sea; the edge of the land where it meets the sea. |
| 7. coast | g. Found or seen over a large area or number of people. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 8. iconic | h. Change one thing with another. |
| 9. symbol | i. A machine that gives power for a vehicle or for some other device with moving parts. |
| 10. expanded | j. The total amount of money for something. |
| 11. motor | k. Making many people think it is really great. |
| 12. cost | l. A thing that represents or stands for something else. |
| 13. stability | m. Being firm and strong and not likely to change. |
| 14. replace | n. Made bigger. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains.html>

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

- a. A dozen bullet trains are going to be scrapped in Japan. **T / F**
- b. The trains were in a train yard in a city called Nagoya in central Japan. **T / F**
- c. The scrapped bullet trains used to run between Tokyo and Osaka. **T / F**
- d. Full service will be resumed on the bullet train line by March 2020. **T / F**
- e. Bullet trains first came into service in Japan in 1964. **T / F**
- f. The bullet train travels at speeds of 320kph. **T / F**
- g. Around 350,000,000 rides a year are taken on the bullet trains. **T / F**
- h. A Shinkansen president said the trains' wheels and seats were damaged. **T / F**

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

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| 1. famous | a. began |
| 2. widespread | b. broke |
| 3. shiny | c. regular |
| 4. burst | d. fixing |
| 5. normal | e. extensive |
| 6. started | f. badly |
| 7. symbol | g. price |
| 8. seriously | h. well-known |
| 9. cost | i. sign |
| 10. repairing | j. gleaming |

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

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1. They were caught | a. up next to each other |
| 2. The typhoon caused widespread | b. instead of repairing them |
| 3. shiny bullet trains lined | c. full service again |
| 4. the nearby Chikuma River burst | d. symbol of Japan |
| 5. it hopes to be running a | e. speeds of 320kph |
| 6. They became an iconic | f. damage |
| 7. They currently reach | g. braking systems |
| 8. The bullet train rail network | h. in the floods |
| 9. damaged their motors and | i. has expanded |
| 10. replace the trains with newly built ones | j. its banks |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains.html>

Ten of Japan's (1) _____ bullet trains will be scrapped. They were caught in the (2) _____ after Typhoon Hagibis hit eastern Japan in October. The typhoon caused widespread damage and (3) _____ of life in Japan. There were many photos and TV footage of the 10 (4) _____ bullet trains lined up next to each other at a train yard near the central city of Nagano. They were (5) _____ in floodwater after the nearby Chikuma River burst its (6) _____. The trains used to run between Tokyo and a city on the Sea of Japan coast called Kanazawa. The line is now running 80 per cent of its (7) _____ services. The bullet train company said it hopes to be (8) _____ a full service again by the end of March 2020.

shiny
floods
banks
famous
running
deep
normal
loss

Bullet trains are called Shinkansen in Japan. They started in 1964 in (9) _____ for the Tokyo Olympics. They became an iconic (10) _____ of Japan and were the world's fastest trains. They currently reach speeds of 320kph. The bullet train rail (11) _____ has expanded to currently consist of 2,764km. People take around 350 million (12) _____ a year on the Shinkansen. A Shinkansen president, Yuji Fukasawa, spoke about the flooded trains. He said the floodwater (13) _____ damaged their motors and braking systems. The total (14) _____ of the damage is around \$135 million. He said: "For stability and (15) _____, we [will] replace the trains with newly built ones instead of (16) _____ them."

network
safety
seriously
time
repairing
symbol
cost
rides

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains.html>

- 1) The typhoon caused widespread damage and _____ in Japan
 - a. lots of live
 - b. loss of live
 - c. lots of life
 - d. loss of life
- 2) There were many photos and TV footage of the _____ trains
 - a. 10 tiny bullet
 - b. 10 shinny bullet
 - c. 10 shimmy bullet
 - d. 10 shiny bullet
- 3) The trains used to run between Tokyo and a city on the Sea _____
 - a. of Japan coast
 - b. of Japan coastal
 - c. of Japan coaster
 - d. of Japan cost
- 4) The line is now running 80 per cent of _____
 - a. its normally services
 - b. its normal services
 - c. its normality services
 - d. its normalcy services
- 5) The bullet train company said it hopes to be running a full service again by _____ March
 - a. the end off
 - b. an end of
 - c. the end of
 - d. an end off
- 6) They became an iconic _____
 - a. symbolic of Japan
 - b. symbols of Japan
 - c. symbol of Japan
 - d. symbolism of Japan
- 7) The bullet train rail network has expanded to currently _____ 2,764km
 - a. cons is of
 - b. coexist of
 - c. persist of
 - d. consist of
- 8) People take around 350 million _____
 - a. ridings a year
 - b. rides a year
 - c. riders a year
 - d. rise a year
- 9) He said the floodwater seriously damaged their motors _____
 - a. and bracken systems
 - b. and broken systems
 - c. and breaking systems
 - d. and braking systems
- 10) we will replace the trains with newly built ones instead _____
 - a. of repairing them
 - b. of repair in them
 - c. of rip air in them
 - d. of rip airing them

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains.html>

Ten of Japan's famous bullet trains will be scrapped. They were caught in (1) _____ Typhoon Hagibis hit eastern Japan in October. The typhoon caused widespread damage and (2) _____ in Japan. There were many photos and TV (3) _____ 10 shiny bullet trains lined up next to each other at a train yard near the central city of Nagano. They were deep in floodwater (4) _____ Chikuma River burst its banks. The trains used to run between Tokyo and a city on the Sea of (5) _____ Kanazawa. The line is now running 80 per cent of its normal services. The bullet train company said it hopes to be running a full service again by (6) _____ March 2020.

Bullet trains are called Shinkansen in Japan. They started in 1964 (7) _____ the Tokyo Olympics. They became (8) _____ of Japan and were the world's fastest trains. They currently reach speeds of 320kph. The bullet train rail network has expanded (9) _____ of 2,764km. People take around 350 million rides a year on the Shinkansen. A Shinkansen president, Yuji Fukasawa, spoke (10) _____ trains. He said the floodwater seriously damaged their motors and braking systems. The (11) _____ the damage is around \$135 million. He said: "For stability and safety, we [will] replace the trains with newly built (12) _____ repairing them."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains.html>

1. How many bullet trains will Japan have to scrap?
2. Where in the city of Nagano were the trains lined up?
3. What happened to the Chikuma River?
4. Where did the trains run to from Kanazawa?
5. When will full service start again?
6. When did the bullet train service begin in Japan?
7. How fast do the bullet trains go?
8. How many rides are taken on the bullet trains every year?
9. Who is Yuji Fukasawa?
10. How much was the damage to the bullet trains?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains.html>

- 1) How many bullet trains will Japan have to scrap?
 - a) 12
 - b) 10
 - c) 20
 - d) 28
- 2) Where in the city of Nagano were the trains lined up?
 - a) a factory
 - b) a repair yard
 - c) a train station
 - d) a train yard
- 3) What happened to the Chikuma River?
 - a) it burst its banks
 - b) it dried up
 - c) it got blocked
 - d) it changed colour
- 4) Where did the trains run to from Kanazawa?
 - a) Nagano
 - b) Osaka
 - c) Tokyo
 - d) Hiroshima
- 5) When will full service start again?
 - a) April 2020
 - b) March 2020
 - c) January 2020
 - d) August 2020
- 6) When did the bullet train service begin in Japan?
 - a) 1976
 - b) 1968
 - c) 1964
 - d) 1970
- 7) How fast do the bullet trains go?
 - a) 600kph
 - b) 440kph
 - c) 380kph
 - d) 320kph
- 8) How many rides are taken on the bullet trains every year?
 - a) about 350 million
 - b) just under 350,000,000
 - c) exactly 350,000,000
 - d) over 350 million
- 9) Who is Yuji Fukasawa?
 - a) a bullet train president
 - b) a flood survivor
 - c) a bullet train driver
 - d) a bullet train passenger
- 10) How much was the damage to the bullet trains?
 - a) \$145 million
 - b) \$135 million
 - c) \$153 million
 - d) \$154 million

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains.html>

Role A – Bullet Train

You think bullet train is the best form of transportation. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their forms. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): helicopter, bicycle or bus.

Role B – Helicopter

You think helicopter is the best form of transportation. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their forms. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): bullet train, bicycle or bus.

Role C – Bicycle

You think bicycle is the best form of transportation. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their forms. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): helicopter, bullet train or bus.

Role D – Bus

You think bus is the best form of transportation. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their forms. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): helicopter, bicycle or bullet train.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains.html>

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

bullet	train

- 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">• famous• loss• shiny• yard• run• 80	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• time• reach• take• spoke• total• newly
---	---

BULLET TRAINS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains.html>

Write five GOOD questions about bullet trains 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.

BULLET TRAINS 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 'bullet'?
3. What do you know about bullet trains?
4. Why are Japan's bullet trains so famous?
5. How can companies better protect trains from weather?
6. How safe is train travel?
7. What do you think of the name 'bullet train'?
8. What is the best train journey you have been on?
9. What will train travel be like in the future?
10. What three adjectives best describe this story?

Typhoon-damaged bullet trains scrapped in Japan – 9th November, 2019
Thousands more free lessons at breakingnewsenglish.com

BULLET TRAINS 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 'train'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you think of trains?
15. What is the train system like in your country?
16. What are the best and worst things about train travel?
17. Should there be a speed limit on trains?
18. How can train travel be improved?
19. Which country has the best trains?
20. What questions would you like to ask the rail company bosses?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Copyright © breakingnewsenglish.com 2019

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/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains.html>

Ten of Japan's famous bullet trains will be (1) _____. They were caught in the floods after Typhoon Hagibis hit eastern Japan in October. The typhoon caused widespread damage and (2) _____ of life in Japan. There were many photos and TV footage of the 10 shiny bullet trains lined (3) _____ next to each other at a train yard near the central city of Nagano. They were (4) _____ in floodwater after the nearby Chikuma River burst its banks. The trains used to run between Tokyo and a city on the Sea of Japan (5) _____ called Kanazawa. The line is now running 80 per cent of its normal services. The bullet train company said it hopes to be (6) _____ a full service again by the end of March 2020.

Bullet trains are called Shinkansen in Japan. They started in 1964 in time for the Tokyo Olympics. They became an (7) _____ symbol of Japan and were the world's fastest trains. They (8) _____ reach speeds of 320kph. The bullet train rail network has expanded to currently (9) _____ of 2,764km. People take around 350 million rides a year on the Shinkansen. A Shinkansen president, Yuji Fukasawa, spoke about the flooded trains. He said the floodwater (10) _____ damaged their motors and braking systems. The total cost (11) _____ the damage is around \$135 million. He said: "For stability and safety, we [will] replace the trains with (12) _____ built ones instead of repairing them."

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1. | (a) scrapped | (b) scraped | (c) scuppered | (d) scooped |
| 2. | (a) lots | (b) lost | (c) loss | (d) lose |
| 3. | (a) down | (b) in | (c) up | (d) out |
| 4. | (a) weep | (b) seep | (c) asleep | (d) deep |
| 5. | (a) coast | (b) wave | (c) tide | (d) ocean |
| 6. | (a) burning | (b) running | (c) furnishing | (d) tracking |
| 7. | (a) sonic | (b) laconic | (c) tonic | (d) iconic |
| 8. | (a) present | (b) currently | (c) recent | (d) past |
| 9. | (a) contrast | (b) contest | (c) consist | (d) combust |
| 10. | (a) series | (b) seriously | (c) severs | (d) serviced |
| 11. | (a) as | (b) at | (c) in | (d) of |
| 12. | (a) dated | (b) newly | (c) modernity | (d) fasten |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains.html>

Paragraph 1

1. They were cutgha in the floods
2. The typhoon caused dwapsdeeir damage
3. many photos and TV ageooft
4. the rclnaet city of Nagano
5. the nearby Chikuma River urtbs its banks
6. on the Sea of Japan scato

Paragraph 2

7. an iconic bymso
8. They cylnrtreu reach speeds of 320kph
9. The bullet train rail etknowr
10. currently ctosnsi of 2,764km
11. aittlysib and safety
12. instead of iepinrgar them

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () Olympics. They became an iconic symbol of Japan and were the world's fastest trains. They currently reach
- () speeds of 320kph. The bullet train rail network has expanded to currently consist of 2,764km. People take around 350
- () called Kanazawa. The line is now running 80 per cent of its normal services. The bullet train company
- (**1**) Ten of Japan's famous bullet trains will be scrapped. They were caught in the floods after Typhoon Hagibis hit
- () million rides a year on the Shinkansen. A Shinkansen president, Yuji Fukasawa, spoke
- () its banks. The trains used to run between Tokyo and a city on the Sea of Japan coast
- () safety, we [will] replace the trains with newly built ones instead of repairing them."
- () photos and TV footage of the 10 shiny bullet trains lined up next to each other at a train
- () eastern Japan in October. The typhoon caused widespread damage and loss of life in Japan. There were many
- () yard near the central city of Nagano. They were deep in floodwater after the nearby Chikuma River burst
- () systems. The total cost of the damage is around \$135 million. He said: "For stability and
- () Bullet trains are called Shinkansen in Japan. They started in 1964 in time for the Tokyo
- () about the flooded trains. He said the floodwater seriously damaged their motors and braking
- () said it hopes to be running a full service again by the end of March 2020.

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains.html>

1. be scrapped . Japan's of trains Ten will bullet
2. of life and Widespread Japan . loss damage in
3. of shiny the TV trains . footage bullet 10
4. nearby its Chikuma River the banks . After burst
5. hopes full be It running a to service .
6. trains Japan . are Bullet in Shinkansen called
7. symbol of iconic Japan . They an became
8. a 350 People around year . take rides million
9. the motors . their floodwater He said seriously damaged
10. the replace trains built with newly We'll ones .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains.html>

Ten of Japan's famous bullet trains will be *scuppered / scrapped*. They were caught in the floods after Typhoon Hagibis *hit / smacked* eastern Japan in October. The typhoon caused *widely / widespread* damage and loss of life in Japan. There were many photos and TV *feet / footage* of the 10 shiny bullet trains *livened / lined* up next to each other at a train yard near the central city of Nagano. They were deep *in / on* floodwater after the nearby Chikuma River *burst / baste* its banks. The trains used to run *among / between* Tokyo and a city on the Sea of Japan coast called Kanazawa. The line is now running 80 per cent of its *normal / normally* services. The bullet train company said it hopes to be running a full service *against / again* by the end of March 2020.

Bullet trains are called Shinkansen in Japan. They started in 1964 in *time / timed* for the Tokyo Olympics. They became an iconic *symbolic / symbol* of Japan and *was / were* the world's fastest trains. They currently *reach / reached* speeds of 320kph. The bullet train rail network has *explained / expanded* to currently consist of 2,764km. People take around 350 million *hides / rides* a year on the Shinkansen. A Shinkansen president, Yuji Fukasawa, spoke about the flooded trains. He said the floodwater *serious / seriously* damaged their motors and *breaking / braking* systems. The total cost of the damage is around \$135 million. He said: "For *stable / stability* and safety, we [will] replace the trains with newly built ones instead *of / for* repairing them."

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/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains.html>

T_n _f J_p_n 's f_m__ s b_ll_t tr__ ns w_ll b_
s cr_pp_d . Th_y w_r_ c__ ght _n th_ fl__ ds _f
t_r Typh__ n H_g_b_s h_t __ str_n J_p_n _n Oc
t_b_r . Th_ typh__ n c__ s_d w_d_s pr__ d
d_m_g_ _n d l_s_s _f l_f_ _n J_p_n . Th_r_ w_r_
m_n y ph_t_s _n d TV f__ t_g_ _f th_ 10 sh_n y
b_ll_t tr__ ns l_n_d _p n_x t t__ ch _t_h_r _t
_ tr__ n y_r d n__ r th_ c_n t_r_l c_t y _f
N_g_n_ . Th_y w_r_ d__ p _n fl__ d w_t_r _f t_r t
h_ n__ r b y Ch_k_m_ R_v_r b_r s t _t s b_n k s . T
h_ tr__ ns _s_d t_r_n b_t w__ n T_k y_ _n d _ c_t
y _n th_ S__ _f J_p_n c__ s t c_l l_d K_n_z_w_ .
Th_ l_n_ _s n_w r_n n_n g 80 p_r c_n t _f _t s
n_r m_l s_r v_c_s . Th_ b_ll_t tr__ n c_m p_n y
s__ d _t h_p_s t_ b_ r_n n_n g _ f_l l s_r v_c_ _g__
n b y th_ _n d _f M_r ch 2020 .

B_ll_t tr__ ns _r_ c_l l_d S_h_n k_n s_n _n J_p_n .
Th_y s_t_r t_d _n 1964 _n t_m_ f_r th_ T_k y_
O_l y m_p_c_s . Th_y b_c_m_ _n _c_n_c s_y m_b_l _f
J_p_n _n d w_r_ th_ w_r l_d 's f_s t_s t tr__ ns .
Th_y c_r r_n t_l y r__ ch s_p__ d_s _f 320 k_p h .
Th_ b_ll_t tr__ n r__ l n_t w_r k h_s _x p_n d_d
t_ c_r r_n t_l y c_n s_s t _f 2,764 k_m . P__ p_l
t_k_ _r__ n_d 350 m_l l__ n r_d_s _ y__ r _n th_
S_h_n k_n s_n . A S_h_n k_n s_n p_r_s_d_n t , Y_j_
F_k_s_w_ , s_p_k_ _b__ t th_ fl__ d_d tr__ ns . H_
s__ d th_ fl__ d w_t_r s_r__ s_l y d_m_g_d th__ r
m_t_r s _n d b_r_k_n g s_y s_t_m_s . Th_ t_t_l c_s t
f th d_m_g_ _s _r__ n_d \$135 m_l l__ n . H_
s__ d : " F_r s_t_b_l_t y _n d s_f_t y , w_ [w_l l]
r_p_l_c_ th_ tr__ ns w_t_h n_w_l y b__ l_t _n_s _n
s_t__ d _f r_p__ r_n g th_m . "

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains.html>

ten of japan's famous bullet trains will be scrapped they were caught in the floods after typhoon hagibis hit eastern japan in october the typhoon caused widespread damage and loss of life in japan there were many photos and tv footage of the 10 shiny bullet trains lined up next to each other at a train yard near the central city of nagano they were deep in floodwater after the nearby chikuma river burst its banks the trains used to run between tokyo and a city on the sea of japan coast called kanazawa the line is now running 80 per cent of its normal services the bullet train company said it hopes to be running a full service again by the end of march 2020

bullet trains are called shinkansen in japan they started in 1964 in time for the tokyo olympics they became an iconic symbol of japan and were the world's fastest trains they currently reach speeds of 320kph the bullet train rail network has expanded to currently consist of 2764km people take around 350 million rides a year on the shinkansen a shinkansen president yuji fukasawa spoke about the flooded trains he said the floodwater seriously damaged their motors and braking systems the total cost of the damage is around 135 million he said for stability and safety we will replace the trains with newly built ones instead of repairing them

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1911/191109-shinkansen-bullet-trains.html>

Ten of Japan's famous bullet trains will be scrapped. They were caught in the floods after Typhoon Hagibis hit eastern Japan in October. The typhoon caused widespread damage and loss of life in Japan. There were many photos and TV footage of the 10 shiny bullet trains lined up next to each other at a train yard near the central city of Nagano. They were deep in flood water after the nearby Chikuma River burst its banks. The trains used to run between Tokyo and a city on the Sea of Japan coast called Kanazawa. The line is now running 80 percent of its normal services. The bullet train company said it hopes to be running a full service again by the end of March 2020. Bullet trains are called Shinkansen in Japan. They started in 1964 in time for the Tokyo Olympics. They became an iconic symbol of Japan and were the world's fastest trains. They currently reach speeds of 320 kph. The bullet train rail network has expanded to currently consist of 2,764 km. People take around 350 million rides a year on the Shinkansen. A Shinkansen president, Yuji Fukasawa, spoke about the flooded trains. He said the flood waters seriously damaged their motors and braking systems. The total cost of the damage is around \$135 million. He said: "For stability and safety, we [will] replace the trains with newly built ones instead of repairing them."

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. BULLET TRAINS: Make a poster about bullet trains. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. SUPER-FAST: Write a magazine article about putting a speed limit on super-fast trains. 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 bullet trains. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your opinions on super-fast trains. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

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

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Ten
2. A train yard
3. It burst its banks
4. Tokyo
5. March 2020
6. 1964
7. 320kph
8. Around 350 million
9. A Shinkansen (bullet train) president
10. Around \$135 million

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. Ten of Japan's bullet trains will be scrapped.
2. Widespread damage and loss of life in Japan.
3. TV footage of the 10 shiny bullet trains.
4. After the nearby Chikuma River burst its banks.
5. It hopes to be running a full service.
6. Bullet trains are called Shinkansen in Japan.
7. They became an iconic symbol of Japan.
8. People take around 350 million rides a year.
9. He said the floodwater seriously damaged their motors.
10. We'll replace the trains with newly built ones.

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 ;-)