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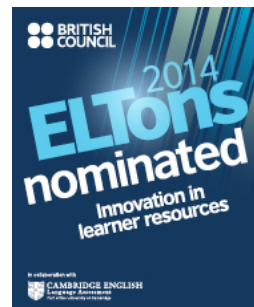
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## Level 5

### MERS virus spreading

17th May, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1405/140517-mers-5.html>



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Please try Level 4 (easier) and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1405/140517-mers.html>

The WHO (World Health Organisation) has said the virus MERS (Middle East Respiratory Syndrome) is now serious and urgent. The WHO's spokesman for health security Dr Keiji Fukuda said MERS is not currently a global health emergency but needs to be carefully monitored. Dr Fukuda said declaring an emergency is "a major act" that can unnecessarily "raise anxieties." He added that there is no "evidence of person-to-person transmissibility". The virus has been reported in 18 countries since starting in Saudi Arabia in 2012. There have been 571 confirmed cases and 171 deaths.

The USA's Center for Disease Control said MERS is a viral respiratory illness. It said: "Most people who have been confirmed to have the MERS infection developed severe acute respiratory illness. They had fever, cough, and shortness of breath. About 30 per cent of these people died." Researchers believe it came from camels in Saudi Arabia. Everyone who got it had very close contact with other sufferers. Doctors said it does not spread like a flu virus. U.S. airports are advising those travelling to the Middle East to wash their hands often and "avoid close contact with sick people".

Sources: <http://edition.cnn.com/2014/05/14/health/mers-outbreak/>  
<http://www.latimes.com/travel/la-trb-mers-cdc-airport-signs-20140513-story.html>  
<http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/mers/index.html>

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1405/140517-mers.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                  |                             |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. serious and                   | a. anxieties                |
| 2. not currently a global health | b. no evidence              |
| 3. needs to be                   | c. reported in 18 countries |
| 4. raise                         | d. emergency                |
| 5. there is                      | e. and 171 deaths           |
| 6. person-to-person              | f. carefully monitored      |
| 7. The virus has been            | g. urgent                   |
| 8. 571 confirmed cases           | h. transmissibility         |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                |                     |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. a viral respiratory         | a. of breath        |
| 2. Most people who have        | b. infection        |
| 3. have the MERS               | c. other sufferers  |
| 4. fever, cough, and shortness | d. like a flu virus |
| 5. believe it came             | e. illness          |
| 6. very close contact with     | f. with sick people |
| 7. it does not spread          | g. been confirmed   |
| 8. avoid close contact         | h. from camels      |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1405/140517-mers.html>

The WHO (World Health Organisation) (1) \_\_\_\_\_ MERS (Middle East Respiratory Syndrome) is now (2) \_\_\_\_\_. The WHO's spokesman for health security Dr Keiji Fukuda said MERS is not currently a global health emergency but needs (3) \_\_\_\_\_. Dr Fukuda said (4) \_\_\_\_\_ is "a major act" that can unnecessarily "(5) \_\_\_\_\_." He added that there is no "evidence of person-to-person transmissibility". The virus has been reported in 18 countries since starting in Saudi Arabia in 2012. There have been 571 (6) \_\_\_\_\_ 171 deaths.

The USA's Center for Disease Control said MERS (7) \_\_\_\_\_ illness. It said: "Most people who have been confirmed to have the MERS infection (8) \_\_\_\_\_ respiratory illness. They had fever, cough, and (9) \_\_\_\_\_. About 30 per cent of these people died." Researchers believe it (10) \_\_\_\_\_ Saudi Arabia. Everyone who got it had very close contact with other sufferers. Doctors said it does not (11) \_\_\_\_\_ virus. U.S. airports are advising those travelling to the Middle East to (12) \_\_\_\_\_ often and "avoid close contact with sick people".

# VIRUSES SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1405/140517-mers.html>

Write five GOOD questions about viruses 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) \_\_\_\_\_
- g) \_\_\_\_\_
- h) \_\_\_\_\_

*MERS virus spreading – 17th May, 2014*  
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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) \_\_\_\_\_
- g) \_\_\_\_\_
- h) \_\_\_\_\_

## FREE WRITING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1405/140517-mers.html>

Write about **viruses** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

[illegible]