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Level 1

France to help make Saudi Arabia's first opera house

12th April, 2018

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera-1.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera-1.html>

Saudi Arabia will have its first orchestra and opera. France will help to set them up. The two countries signed an agreement on Monday to improve cultural ties. The Paris Opera will help Saudi Arabia produce its own opera and classical performances. There are already plans to build the first opera house. It will be in the kingdom's second largest city, Jeddah. Saudi Arabia will spend \$64 billion on its entertainment industry in the next 10 years.

The agreement is part of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's Vision 2030 plan to modernize Saudi. Other parts of the agreement will see French archaeologists help to develop and preserve Saudi Arabia's region of Al-Ula. This area is rich in ancient sites. Another important part of the agreement is translating books. France's Culture Minister said it was important to translate 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>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. have its first orchestra | a. largest city |
| 2. France will help to set | b. 10 years |
| 3. improve cultural | c. and opera |
| 4. plans to build the first | d. \$64 billion |
| 5. the kingdom's second | e. industry |
| 6. Saudi Arabia will spend | f. ties |
| 7. its entertainment | g. opera house |
| 8. in the next | h. them up |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Prince Mohammed bin Salman's | a. in ancient sites |
| 2. plan to | b. archaeologists |
| 3. Other parts | c. into French |
| 4. French | d. vision |
| 5. preserve Saudi Arabia's region | e. books |
| 6. This area is rich | f. modernize Saudi |
| 7. translating | g. of Al-Ula |
| 8. from Arabic | h. of the agreement |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera-1.html>

Saudi Arabia will (1) _____ orchestra and opera. France will help to (2) _____. The two countries signed an agreement on Monday (3) _____ ties. The Paris Opera will help Saudi Arabia produce (4) _____ and classical performances. There are already plans to (5) _____ opera house. It will be in the kingdom's second largest city, Jeddah. Saudi Arabia will spend \$64 (6) _____ entertainment industry in the next 10 years.

The agreement (7) _____ Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's Vision 2030 (8) _____ Saudi. Other parts of the agreement will see French archaeologists (9) _____ and preserve Saudi Arabia's region of Al-Ula. This (10) _____ in ancient sites. Another important part of the agreement (11) _____. France's Culture Minister said it was important to translate books, "(12) _____, from Arabic into French and French into Arabic".

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera-1.html>

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OPERA SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180412-opera-4.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.

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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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

