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## **Level 5 – 19th August**

### **Are countries trying to end US dollar's power?**

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1808/180819-the-dollar-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/1808/180819-the-dollar-5.html>

Russia's foreign minister suggested that the U.S. dollar could lose its status as the world's leading currency. He said that because the U.S. has put sanctions on Iran, Turkey and Russia, these countries could start doing business in their own currencies instead of the dollar. Countries that have had trade tariffs imposed on them by the U.S. could also do trade in their own currencies. This could include the economic superpower China not using the dollar. China is already doing trade deals in its own currency. Experts say the dollar could lose its role as the international reserve currency.

The U.S. dollar became the international reserve currency in the 1920s. Most international trade now takes place using it. If China buys oil from Iran, it pays in dollars. This means billions of dollars flow out of the USA. This gives the USA a currency deficit as its dollars are in other countries. Russia's foreign minister said: "I'm confident that the grave abuse of the role of the U.S. dollar as a global reserve currency will result...in the...demise of its role." China's currency the yuan is emerging as a new trading currency. Africa's most populous nation Nigeria has already started using it.

Sources: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/charleswallace1/2018/08/14/are-russia-and-china-trying-to-kill-king-dollar/#32c9c9c57948>  
<https://www.rt.com/business/436005-dollar-turkey-russia-china-trade/>  
<https://www.presstv.com/Detail/2018/08/15/571242/US-dollar-Nigeria-Iran-Russia-Turkey-China-sanctions>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1808/180819-the-dollar-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                               |                         |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Russia's foreign           | a. superpower           |
| 2. the U.S. dollar could      | b. on Iran              |
| 3. the U.S. has put sanctions | c. tariffs              |
| 4. start doing business in    | d. deals                |
| 5. trade                      | e. their own currencies |
| 6. economic                   | f. minister             |
| 7. doing trade                | g. currency             |
| 8. the international reserve  | h. lose its status      |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                 |                         |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. international                | a. abuse                |
| 2. billions of dollars flow out | b. nation               |
| 3. Russia's foreign             | c. trade                |
| 4. the grave                    | d. started using it     |
| 5. the demise                   | e. of the USA           |
| 6. the yuan is emerging as a    | f. minister             |
| 7. Africa's most populous       | g. new trading currency |
| 8. Nigeria has already          | h. of its role          |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1808/180819-the-dollar-5.html>

Russia's foreign minister suggested that the U.S. dollar could (1) \_\_\_\_\_ as the world's leading currency. He said that because the U.S. has (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Iran, Turkey and Russia, these countries could start doing business in (3) \_\_\_\_\_ instead of the dollar. Countries that have had trade (4) \_\_\_\_\_ them by the U.S. could also do trade in their own currencies. This could include the economic superpower China not using the dollar. China is already (5) \_\_\_\_\_ in its own currency. Experts say the dollar could lose (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the international reserve currency.

The U.S. dollar became the international (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the 1920s. Most international trade now (8) \_\_\_\_\_ it. If China buys oil from Iran, it pays in dollars. This means billions of dollars flow out of the USA. This gives the USA (9) \_\_\_\_\_ as its dollars are in other countries. Russia's foreign minister said: "I'm confident that the (10) \_\_\_\_\_ the role of the U.S. dollar as a global reserve currency will result...in (11) \_\_\_\_\_ its role." China's currency the yuan is emerging as a new trading currency. Africa's most populous nation Nigeria has already (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1808/180819-the-dollar-5.html>

Russia's foreign ministers suggested that the U.S. dollar could lose its status as the world's leading currency. He said that because the U.S. has put sanctions on Iran, Turkey and Russia, these countries could start doing business in their own currencies instead of the dollar. Countries that have had trade tariffs imposed on them by the U.S. could also do trade in their own currencies. This could include the economic superpower China not using the dollar. China is already doing trade deals in its own currency. Experts say the dollar could lose its role as the international reserve currency. The U.S. dollar became the international reserve currency in the 1920s. Most international trade now takes place using it. If China buys oil from Iran, it pays in dollars. This means billions of dollars flow out of the USA. This gives the USA a currency deficit as its dollars are in other countries. Russia's foreign ministers said: "I'm confident that the grave abuse of the role of the U.S. dollar as a global reserve currency will result... in the... demise of its role." China's currency the yuan is emerging as a new trading currency. Africa's most populous nation Nigeria has already started using it.

# THE U.S. DOLLAR SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1808/180819-the-dollar-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about the U.S. dollar 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*Are countries trying to end US dollar's power? – 19th August*  
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) \_\_\_\_\_

