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Level 5 – 9th January 2023

France may have to increase price of baguettes

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2301/230109-baguettes-prices-5.html>

Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2301/230109-baguette-prices-5.html>

France is synonymous with baguettes and croissants. The baguette is currently facing a problem. Soaring energy costs are forcing bakers to close their bakeries or raise baguette prices. Wheat supply issues caused by the Ukraine War are also reducing profits for many in the baguette-making industry. One baker expressed fears for his livelihood. He may have to raise his baguette prices from one to four euros. He said: "I cannot pay an electricity bill of 12,000 euros with a turnover of 20,000 euros." He is worried because supermarkets can sell baguettes for less than a euro.

The baguette is on the UN List of Intangible Cultural Heritage. France's President Macron is worried about the baguette. He recently described it as being "250 grams of magic and perfection". France's Ministry for the Economy introduced an "electricity damper" to limit how much bakers' electricity bills can rise by. The ministry said: "Aid for bakers has been reinforced and eligible bakeries can benefit from it." Consumers are also facing tough choices. One said she didn't want to pay higher prices, but she may have to "because there is no equivalent to a baguette".

Sources: <https://www.hurriyetaidailynews.com/fears-for-french-baguettes-as-power-prices-burn-bakers-179888>
<https://www.cnbc.com/2023/01/04/french-bakers-allowed-to-renegotiate-bills-as-high-bills-bring-pain.html>
<https://abcnews.go.com/International/frances-bakers-forced-close-shops-raise-baguette-prices/story>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2301/230109-baguette-prices-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. France is synonymous | a. close their bakeries |
| 2. The baguette is currently | b. of 20,000 euros |
| 3. soaring | c. facing a problem |
| 4. forcing bakers to | d. less than a euro |
| 5. supply | e. for his livelihood |
| 6. One baker expressed fears | f. energy costs |
| 7. with a turnover | g. with baguettes |
| 8. sell baguettes for | h. issues |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. The baguette is on | a. pay higher prices |
| 2. 250 grams of magic | b. bills can rise by |
| 3. limit how much bakers' electricity | c. to a baguette |
| 4. Aid for bakers has | d. can benefit from it |
| 5. eligible bakeries | e. and perfection |
| 6. Consumers are also facing | f. the UN list |
| 7. she didn't want to | g. been reinforced |
| 8. there is no equivalent | h. tough choices |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2301/230109-baguette-prices-5.html>

France (1) _____ baguettes and croissants. The baguette is currently facing a problem. (2) _____ are (3) _____ close their bakeries or raise baguette prices. Wheat (4) _____ by the Ukraine War are also reducing profits for many in the baguette-making industry. One baker expressed fears (5) _____. He may have to raise his baguette prices from one to four euros. He said: "I cannot pay an electricity bill of 12,000 euros (6) _____ of 20,000 euros." He is worried because supermarkets can sell baguettes for less than a euro.

The baguette is on the UN List of Intangible Cultural Heritage. France's President Macron is worried about the baguette. He recently described it as being "250 grams of (7) _____". France's Ministry for the Economy introduced an "electricity damper" to (8) _____ bakers' electricity bills can rise by. The ministry said: "Aid for bakers (9) _____ and eligible bakeries (10) _____ it." Consumers are also (11) _____. One said she didn't want to pay higher prices, but she may have to "because there is (12) _____ a baguette".

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2301/230109-baguette-prices-5.html>

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BREAD SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2301/230109-baguette-prices-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about bread 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) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2301/230109-baguette-prices-5.html>

Write about **bread** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.
