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## **Level 5**

### **Central African Republic in chaos, says UN**

**28th November, 2013**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1311/131128-central-african-republic-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/1311/131128-central-african-republic-5.html>

The United Nations has said the Central African Republic needs urgent help. The UN's Jan Eliasson said it was "descending into complete chaos". The nation has been moving towards a state of anarchy since rebels took power in March. Mr Eliasson suggested strengthening the African Union's military presence in the country and turning it into an official peacekeeping operation. Mr Eliasson warned: "If this situation is left to fester, it may develop into a religious and ethnic conflict with long-standing consequences - even a civil war that could spread into neighbouring countries."

Rebels known as the Seleka replaced the former president with their own commander. He later broke up the rebels but they regrouped and formed armed gangs. These now control most of this poor country. Eliasson said the population was "suffering beyond imagination". He said women and children were "bearing the brunt". He also spoke of growing human rights abuses, the use of child soldiers and widespread looting. He listed other crimes, including illegal arrests, torture and summary executions. He warned that the country was becoming "a breeding ground for extremists".

Sources: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-25095471>  
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201311260201.html?viewall=1>  
<http://www.voanews.com/content/un-considers-options-in-central-african-republic/1797673.html>

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1311/131128-central-african-republic-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                       |                           |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. needs urgent                       | a. presence               |
| 2. descending into complete           | b. power                  |
| 3. moving towards a state             | c. chaos                  |
| 4. since rebels took                  | d. neighbouring countries |
| 5. the African Union's military       | e. of anarchy             |
| 6. an official peacekeeping           | f. and ethnic conflict    |
| 7. develop into a religious           | g. help                   |
| 8. a civil war that could spread into | h. operation              |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                    |                          |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. the former                      | a. abuses                |
| 2. they regrouped and formed       | b. ground for extremists |
| 3. suffering beyond                | c. looting               |
| 4. women and children were bearing | d. imagination           |
| 5. growing human rights            | e. president             |
| 6. widespread                      | f. armed gangs           |
| 7. torture and                     | g. the brunt             |
| 8. a breeding                      | h. summary executions    |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1311/131128-central-african-republic-5.html>

The United Nations has said the Central African Republic needs urgent help. The UN's Jan Eliasson said it was "descending (1) \_\_\_\_\_". The nation has been moving towards (2) \_\_\_\_\_ since rebels took power in March. Mr Eliasson suggested strengthening the African Union's (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the country and turning it into an official (4) \_\_\_\_\_. Mr Eliasson warned: "If this situation is left to fester, it may develop into a religious (5) \_\_\_\_\_ with long-standing consequences - (6) \_\_\_\_\_ that could spread into neighbouring countries."

Rebels known as the Seleka (7) \_\_\_\_\_ president with their own commander. He later broke (8) \_\_\_\_\_ but they regrouped and (9) \_\_\_\_\_. These now control most of this poor country. Eliasson said the population was "suffering beyond imagination". He said women and children were "(10) \_\_\_\_\_". He also spoke of growing human rights abuses, the use of child soldiers and (11) \_\_\_\_\_. He listed other crimes, including illegal arrests, torture and summary executions. He warned that the country was becoming "(12) \_\_\_\_\_ for extremists".

# CHAOS SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1311/131128-central-african-republic-5.html>

Write five GOOD questions about chaos 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*Central African Republic in chaos, says UN – 28th November, 2013*  
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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/1311/131128-central-african-republic-5.html>

Write about **chaos** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner’s paper.

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