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Level 1

U.N. 'very sorry' as Syria talks end in failure

18th February, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140218-syria-peace-talks-1.html>

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140218-syria-peace-talks-1.html>

Lakhdar Brahimi, the head of Syria's peace talks, has apologised to Syrians. His job was to help end Syria's civil war. Syria's government and rebel leaders are talking to end the war. It is the second time they have talked. There are many difficult problems. Syrians want a peace deal. They are tired of the fighting. Over 140,000 have died in the three-year war and three million need aid. Mr Brahimi told both sides to think about their responsibilities.

Both sides were angry after the talks. Brahimi asked if they really wanted more talks. There is no date for more talks. The UK said the breakdown was very sad and "a serious setback in the search for peace". Syria's opposition said Syria's government was not serious, and that, "there is nothing positive we can take from this". Syria's government blamed the opposition for being "amateurs". Mr Brahimi said: "I very much hope there will be a third round."

Sources: <http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2014/02/16/world/u-n-very-sorry-as-syria-talks-end-in-failure/>
<http://www.dawn.com/news/1087325/un-envoy-sorry-as-syria-talks-break-off-in-failure>
<http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-1-233008-Syria-peace-talks-break-down-as-death-toll-passes-140,000>

VOCABULARY MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140218-syria-peace-talks-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. the head of Syria's | a. they have talked |
| 2. apologised | b. rebel leaders |
| 3. His job was to help end | c. aid |
| 4. Syria's government and | d. problems |
| 5. It is the second time | e. peace talks |
| 6. There are many difficult | f. deal |
| 7. Syrians want a peace | g. Syria's civil war |
| 8. three million need | h. to Syrians |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1. Both sides were angry | a. can take from this |
| 2. Brahimi asked if they really | b. for more talks |
| 3. There is no date | c. was not serious |
| 4. a serious setback in the | d. a third round |
| 5. Syria's opposition said Syria's government | e. after the talks |
| 6. there is nothing positive we | f. wanted more talks |
| 7. Syria's government blamed | g. search for peace |
| 8. I very much hope there will be | h. the opposition |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140218-syria-peace-talks-1.html>

Lakhdar Brahimi, (1) _____ peace talks, has apologised to Syrians. His job (2) _____ Syria's civil war. Syria's government and rebel leaders are talking to end the war. It is (3) _____ they have talked. There are many difficult problems. Syrians (4) _____. They are (5) _____. Over 140,000 have died in the three-year war and three million need aid. Mr Brahimi told both sides to think about (6) _____.

Both sides were (7) _____ talks. Brahimi asked if they really wanted more talks. There (8) _____ more talks. The UK said the (9) _____ sad and "a serious setback in the search for peace". Syria's opposition said Syria's government (10) _____, and that, "there is nothing positive we (11) _____". Syria's government blamed the opposition for being "amateurs". Mr Brahimi said: "I very (12) _____ will be a third round."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140218-syria-peace-talks-1.html>

Lakhdar Brahimi, the head of Syria's peace talks, has apologised to Syrians. His job was to help end Syria's civil war. Syria's government and rebel leaders are talking to end the war. It is the second time they have talked. There are many difficult problems. Syrians want a peace deal. They are tired of the fighting. Over 140,000 have died in the three-year war and three million need aid. Mr Brahimi told both sides to think about their responsibilities. Both sides were angry after the talks. Brahimi asked if they really wanted more talks. There is no date for more talks. The UK said the breakdown was very sad and "a serious setback in the search for peace". Syria's opposition said Syria's government was not serious, and that, "there is nothing positive we can take from this". Syria's government blamed the opposition for being "amateurs". Mr Brahimi said: "I very much hope there will be a third round."

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)

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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)
