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Level 4

U.S.A. starts air strikes in Iraq

11th August, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1408/140811-yazidis-4.html>

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Please try the harder Level 5 and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1408/140811-yazidis-4.html>

The USA is targeting the Islamic State (IS) in northern Iraq. Air strikes have destroyed weapons that the IS captured from Iraq's army. President Obama said he would protect US residents in Iraq's Kurdistan region. IS changed its name from ISIS. It controls a quarter of Iraq and a third of Syria. Mr Obama promised to support Iraqis but would not send troops to Iraq. He said: "American combat troops will not be returning to fight in Iraq."

Mr Obama also wants to protect Iraq's Yazidi people. The Yazidis are ethnic Kurds. Their religion has elements of Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Thousands of Yazidis are trapped on a mountain without food and water. The IS told them to convert to Islam, pay a tax, or face death. The UN warned of a humanitarian catastrophe and ethnic cleansing. Reports are that the IS have kidnapped hundreds of Yazidi women.

Sources: http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/world/2014-08/09/c_133543405.htm
<http://en.itar-tass.com/world/744142>
<http://www.aawsat.net/2014/08/article55335215>

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1408/140811-yazidis-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. The USA is targeting | a. of Iraq |
| 2. Air strikes have | b. from Iraq's army |
| 3. captured | c. not be returning |
| 4. IS changed its | d. the Islamic State (IS) |
| 5. It controls a quarter | e. name from ISIS |
| 6. American combat troops will | f. destroyed weapons |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Mr Obama also wants to | a. without food and water |
| 2. The Yazidis are | b. humanitarian catastrophe |
| 3. Their religion has elements | c. protect Iraq's Yazidi people |
| 4. trapped on a mountain | d. or face death |
| 5. convert to Islam, pay a tax, | e. ethnic Kurds |
| 6. The UN warned of a | f. of Judaism |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1408/140811-yazidis-4.html>

The USA (1) _____ Islamic State (IS) in northern Iraq. Air strikes have destroyed weapons that the IS (2) _____ army. President Obama said (3) _____ US residents in Iraq's Kurdistan region. IS changed its name from ISIS. (4) _____ of Iraq and a third of Syria. Mr Obama (5) _____ Iraqis but would not send troops to Iraq. He said: "American combat troops will not be (6) _____ in Iraq."

Mr Obama (7) _____ Iraq's Yazidi people. The Yazidis are ethnic Kurds. Their religion (8) _____ Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Thousands of Yazidis (9) _____ mountain without food and water. The IS told (10) _____ Islam, pay a tax, or face death. The UN warned of a (11) _____ and ethnic cleansing. (12) _____ IS have kidnapped hundreds of Yazidi women.

IRAQ SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1408/140811-yazidis-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Iraq 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)

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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)

