U.S. re-imposes sanctions on Iran

7th November, 2018

The USA has re-imposed tough economic sanctions on Iran. The U.S. Secretary of State warned Iran that it would be subject to "relentless" pressure unless it changes its "revolutionary course". The Trump administration reinstated all sanctions that were lifted in 2015 as a result of the Iranian nuclear deal. Most of the sanctions target core parts of Iran's economy. The U.S. Treasury described the new penalties as, "the toughest U.S. sanctions ever imposed on Iran". It added they would, "target critical sectors of Iran's economy, such as the energy, shipping and shipbuilding, and financial sectors". It added: "The USA is engaged in a campaign of maximum financial pressure on the Iranian regime."

Iran's President Hassan Rouhani struck a defiant tone in the face of the renewed sanctions. He told his government: "We will proudly break the sanctions." Rouhani described the administration of President Donald Trump as, "a throwback to the era of Bush junior and a repeat of the same statements as 2003". He said: "The era of such statements has evolved and the Iranian people have heard these statements hundreds of times, and no longer pay attention." The Al Jazeera news agency said the sanctions were a backward step. It wrote: "With one Trump signature, the goodwill that had been built between Iranians and the rest of the world crumbled in a matter of months."

Sources: aljazeera.com / *cnn.com* / *theguardian.com*

Writing

The U.S. sanctions on Iran will be effective. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

tough / sanctions / pressure / result / nuclear deal / economy / critical / regime / defiant / face / government / administration / statements / pay attention / goodwill

True / False

a) The U.S. Secretary of State said pressure on Iran would be relentless. T / F

b) Sanctions were lifted against Iran in 2015. T / F

c) Most of the sanctions on Iran are against its leaders and government. T / F

d) The USA is using a campaign of minimum financial pressure on Iran. T / F

e) Iran's president said the sanctions would probably break his country. T / F

f) Iran's president compared President Trump to President Bush junior. T / F

g) Iran's president said Iranians pay no attention to U.S. statements. T / F

h) Al Jazeera said goodwill with Ian has crumbled in a matter of days. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

1.	re-imposed	a.	feisty
2.	relentless	b.	fell apart
3.	course	c.	areas
4.	deal	d.	put back
5.	sectors	e.	period
6.	defiant	f.	path
7.	administration	g.	move
8.	era	h.	constant
9.	step	i.	government
10.	crumbled	j.	agreement

Discussion – Student A

a) What do you know about these sanctions?

b) How effective will the sanctions be?

c) How will the sanctions affect ordinary Iranians?

d) Why do many European countries disagree with the sanctions?

e) What do you know about the Iran nuclear deal?

f) What is Iran's "revolutionary course"?

g) What advice do you have for Iranians?

h) What do you know about Iran?

Phrase Match

1. The USA has re-imposed tough economic
2. it would be subject
3. all sanctions that were
4. the sanctions target core
5. pressure on the Iranian
6. Iran's President Hassan Rouhani struck
7. a throwback to the era
8. no longer pay
9. the sanctions were a
10. the goodwill that

a. had been built
b. parts of Iran's economy
c. of Bush junior
d. a defiant tone
e. lifted in 2015
f. attention
g. sanctions on Iran
h. backward step
i. regime
j. to "relentless" pressure

Discussion – Student B

a) What do you think about what you read?
b) Why is the USA imposing sanctions on Iran?
c) When have sanctions worked to bring change?
d) Can the USA and Iran ever trust each other?
e) How could Iran "break the sanctions"?
f) What would have happened if the sanctions weren't imposed?
g) Have the sanctions "crumbled" goodwill?
h) What questions would you like to ask Iran's President Rouhani?

Spelling

1. its toeuroivnlray course
2. the Iranian cneluar deal
3. the new lnaptiees
4. target riticcal sectors of Iran's economy
5. maximum financial rspusere
6. the Iranian gerime
7. struck a efidnat tone
8. a rtbwoahck to the era of Bush
9. heard these ttsemenats hundreds of times
10. no longer pay teatntion
11. With one Trump igasutnre
12. the rest of the world mucbreld

Role Play

Role A – Sanctions
You think sanctions are the best way to punish another country. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): fines, military strikes or cutting diplomatic relations.

Role B – Fines
You think fines are the best way to punish another country. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): sanctions, military strikes or cutting diplomatic relations.

Role C – Military Strikes
You think military strikes are the best way to punish another country. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): fines, sanctions or cutting diplomatic relations.
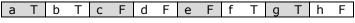
Role D – Cutting Diplomatic Relations
You think cutting diplomatic relations is the best way to punish another country. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): fines, military strikes or sanctions.

Speaking – Penalties

Rank these with your partner. Put the most effective penalties at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- trade tariffs
- blockades
- sporting bans
- military strike
- sanctions
- fines
- closed borders
- cut diplomatic relations

Answers – Synonym Match

1.	d	2.	h	3.	f	4.	j	5.	c
6.	a	7.	i	8.	e	9.	g	10.	b

Answers – True False

a	T	b	T	c	F	d	F	e	F	f	T	g	T	h	F

Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.