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Level 4 – 16th June, 2019

Tensions over oil-tanker attacks in Gulf of Oman

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190616-oil-tanker-4.html>

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Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190616-oil-tanker-4.html>

Tensions are high after attacks on two oil tankers in the Gulf of Oman. The USA is blaming Iran. The vessels were hit near the strategically important Strait of Hormuz, which divides Iran and the United Arab Emirates. Ships carry about a fifth of the world's oil through it. The US said Iran was behind the "blatant assault". It said the US would defend its allies against "Iranian aggression". However, it gave no proof that Iran was responsible.

The US says the tankers were hit by mines. It showed a video of supposed Iranian forces removing a mine from one of the ships. Iran called the attacks "suspicious". Its navy is investigating them. Iran said the US accusations were "unfounded" and "Iranophobic". The Japanese owner of one of the tankers said some kind of missile, not a mine, hit his ship. The UN said the truth needed to be "clearly established".

Sources: [https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/oil-tankers-attacked-in-gulf-of-oman-us-navy-says/2019/06/13/d59b784c-8db0-11e9-b162-8f6f41ec3c04_story.html?](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/oil-tankers-attacked-in-gulf-of-oman-us-navy-says/2019/06/13/d59b784c-8db0-11e9-b162-8f6f41ec3c04_story.html?hpid=hp_hp-top-table-main-oil-tanker-attacks%3Ahomepage%2Fstory&hpid=hp_hp-top-table-main-oil-tanker-attacks%3Ahomepage%2Fstory)
<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/06/iran-calls-tanker-explosions-suspicious-global-concern-grows-190613150655075.html>
<https://www.tehrantimes.com/news/436925/Iran-warns-U-S-over-blame-game-through-suspicious-attacks>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190616-oil-tanker-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Tensions are | a. defend its allies |
| 2. oil tankers in | b. blaming Iran |
| 3. The USA is | c. was responsible |
| 4. the strategically important | d. the world's oil |
| 5. Ships carry about a fifth of | e. blatant assault |
| 6. Iran was behind the | f. high |
| 7. It said the US would | g. Strait of Hormuz |
| 8. it gave no proof that Iran | h. the Gulf of Oman |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. the tankers were hit | a. were "unfounded" |
| 2. removing a mine from | b. mine, hit his ship |
| 3. Iran called the attacks | c. one of the ships |
| 4. Its navy is investigating | d. established |
| 5. Iran said the US accusations | e. "suspicious" |
| 6. The Japanese owner of one | f. them |
| 7. some kind of missile, not a | g. by mines |
| 8. the truth needed to be clearly | h. of the tankers |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190616-oil-tanker-4.html>

Tensions are high (1) _____ two oil tankers in the Gulf of Oman. The USA is blaming Iran. The (2) _____ near the strategically important Strait of Hormuz, which divides Iran and the United Arab Emirates. Ships (3) _____ fifth of the world's (4) _____. The US said Iran was behind the "blatant assault". It said the US would (5) _____ against "Iranian aggression". However, it (6) _____ that Iran was responsible.

The US says the tankers were (7) _____. It showed a video of supposed Iranian (8) _____ mine from one of the ships. Iran called the attacks "suspicious". Its navy (9) _____. Iran said the US accusations were "unfounded" and "Iranophobic". The Japanese (10) _____ of the tankers said some (11) _____, not a mine, hit his ship. The UN said the (12) _____ be "clearly established".

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190616-oil-tanker-4.html>

Tensions are high after attacks on two oil tankers in the Gulf of Oman. The USA is blaming Iran. The vessels were hit near the strategically important Strait of Hormuz, which divides Iran and the United Arab Emirates. Ship owners worry about a fifth of the world's oil through it. The US said Iran was behind the "blatant assault". It said the US would defend its allies against "Iranian aggression". However, it gave no proof that Iran was responsible. The US says the tankers were hit by mines. It showed a video of supposed Iranian forces removing a mine from one of the ships. Iran called the attacks "suspicious". Its navy is investigating them. Iran said the US accusations were "unfounded" and "Iranophobic". The Japanese owner of one of the tankers said some kind of missile, not a mine, hit his ship. The UN said the truth needed to be "clearly established".

GULF OF OMAN CRISIS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190616-oil-tanker-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Gulf of Oman Crisis 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) _____

