



BBC RADIO 4 NEWS
Tuesday, 21st February 2012
10.00am

ELEMENTARY: FILL IN THE MISSING WORDS

1. The chancellor, _____ Osborne, has welcomed the decision by eurozone ministers to _____ a second _____ bail-out to Greece,
2. The agreement was struck in the _____.
3. Mr Osborne said the agreement was a significant _____ towards resolving the eurozone crisis.
4. Under the deal, Greece _____ receive _____ billion euros.
5. It has agreed to _____ of austerity measures.
6. Alistair _____ used to be a Labour chancellor.
7. He's very sceptical about the chances of _____.
8. The ex-chancellor said 'In _____ years' time they will _____ have a debt of _____% of their _____.'
9. The ex-chancellor said there were no policies to encourage growth and without growth you don't get _____.

10. The Office _____ National Statistics has recorded the _____ surplus in Britain's public finances since 2007.
11. Last month's figure was £_____ billion.
12. The January 2011 figure was £_____ billion.
13. Officials say the _____ performance resulted from a _____ in government borrowing and a rise in tax _____.

14. Syrian tanks and artillery are bombarding the rebel-held _____ of Baba Amr in the _____ of Homs.
15. Activists say at least _____ people, including two _____, have been killed.

16. More than _____ Afghans have been protesting _____ the Bagrum air base _____ of the Afghan _____, Kabul.
17. This is a response to reports that US troops _____ copies of the Koran.
18. The US commander in Afghanistan has _____ and ordered _____ investigation.

19. The former _____ of the IMF, Dominique Strauss-Kahn, is being _____ by police.
20. The police are investigating an alleged prostitution _____ in France and Belgium.
21. A prosecutor in the _____ _____ of Lille says Mr Strauss-Kahn is being treated as a suspect rather _____ a witness.



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ELEMENTARY: ANSWERS

1. The chancellor, **George** Osborne, has welcomed the decision by eurozone ministers to **give** a second **huge** bail-out to Greece,
2. The agreement was struck in the **early hours**.
3. Mr Osborne said the agreement was a significant **step** towards resolving the eurozone crisis.
4. Under the deal, Greece **will** receive **130** billion euros.
5. It has agreed to **years** of austerity measures.
6. Alistair **Darling** used to be a Labour chancellor.
7. He's very sceptical about the chances of **success**.
8. The ex-chancellor said 'In **eight** years' time they will **still** have a debt of **120%** of their **GDP**.'
9. The ex-chancellor said there were no policies to encourage growth and without growth you don't get **income**.

10. The Office **for** National Statistics has recorded the **biggest** surplus in Britain's public finances since 2007.
11. Last month's figure was **£7.8** billion.
12. The January 2011 figure was **£5.3** billion. (*The £7.8 billion figure is 'up £2.5 billion on January last year', which means the January 2011 figure was £5.3 billion.*)
13. Officials say the **good** performance resulted from a **fall** in government borrowing and a rise in tax **receipts**.

14. Syrian tanks and artillery are bombarding the rebel-held **area** of Baba Amr in the **city** of Homs.
15. Activists say at least **12** people, including two **children**, have been killed.

16. More than **2,000** Afghans have been protesting **outside** the Bagrum air base **north** of the Afghan **capital**, Kabul.
17. This is a response to reports that US troops **burned/burnt** copies of the Koran.
18. The US commander in Afghanistan has **apologised** and ordered **an** investigation.

19. The former **head** of the IMF, Dominique Strauss-Kahn, is being **questioned** by police.
20. The police are investigating an alleged prostitution **ring** in France and Belgium.
21. A prosecutor in the **northern city** of Lille says Mr Strauss-Kahn is being treated as a suspect rather **than** a witness.



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INTERMEDIATE: TRUE/FALSE

1. The chancellor is James Osborne.
2. He's welcomed the decision by eurozone ministers to give Greece another bail-out.
3. The agreement was reached yesterday evening.
4. Under the deal, Greece will receive £130 billion to save it from bankruptcy.
5. Greece has agreed to a year of austerity measures.
6. Alistair Darling used to be a Labour chancellor.
7. He's very optimistic about the chances of success.
8. Mr Darling said in eight years' time Greece could still have a debt of 120% of their GDP.
9. He used the word 'fragile' to describe Greece's economy.
10. Mr Darling said there were no policies to generate growth under the agreement.

11. The Office for National Statistics has recorded the biggest surplus for Britain's public finances since 2008.
12. Last month's figure, excluding bank bail-outs, was £8.7 billion.
13. This is £2.5 billion higher than the January 2011 figure.
14. There has been a rise in local government borrowing.
15. The Government has received more money from taxpayers.

16. Syrian tanks and artillery are bombarding the rebel-held area of Baba Amr in the town of Homs.
17. Activists say at least 12 people, including two pensioners, have been killed.

18. More than 2,000 Afghans have been protesting outside the Bagram air base in central Kabul.
19. There are reports that US troops set fire to copies of the Koran.
20. The US commander in Afghanistan has apologised.

21. The newsreader says 'The former head of the IMF, Dominique Strauss-Kahn, has been questioned by police.'
22. The police are investigating an alleged prostitution ring in France and Belgium.
23. A prosecutor said Mr Strauss-Kahn was being treated as a witness.



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INTERMEDIATE: ANSWERS

1. The chancellor is James Osborne. (F 'George Osborne')
2. He's welcomed the decision by eurozone ministers to give Greece another bail-out. (T 'to give a second huge bail-out to Greece')
3. The agreement was reached yesterday evening. (F 'the agreement, struck in the early hours' i.e. not long after midnight)
4. Under the deal, Greece will receive £130 billion to save it from bankruptcy. (F 130 billion euros)
5. Greece has agreed to a year of austerity measures. (F 'it's agreed to years of austerity measures')
6. Alistair Darling used to be a Labour chancellor. (T 'The former Labour chancellor, Alistair Darling')
7. He's very optimistic about the chances of success. (F 'he's very sceptical about the chances of success')
8. Mr Darling said in eight years' time Greece could still have a debt of 120% of their GDP. (T)
9. He used the word 'fragile' to describe Greece's economy. (F 'frail')
10. Mr Darling said there were no policies to generate growth under the agreement. (T 'Where are the policies that are going to get growth?')
11. The Office for National Statistics has recorded the biggest surplus for Britain's public finances since 2008. (T)
12. Last month's figure, excluding bank bail-outs, was £8.7 billion. (F £7.8 billion)
13. This is £2.5 billion higher than the January 2011 figure. (T 'up £2.5 billion on January last year')
14. There has been a rise in local government borrowing. (F 'a fall,' not a rise)
15. The Government has received more money from taxpayers. (T 'a rise in tax receipts')
16. Syrian tanks and artillery are bombarding the rebel-held area of Baba Amr in the town of Homs. (F 'the city of Homs')
17. Activists say at least 12 people, including two pensioners, have been killed. (F 'including two children')
18. More than 2,000 Afghans have been protesting outside the Bagram air base in central Kabul. (F 'north of the capital, Kabul')
19. There are reports that US troops set fire to copies of the Koran. (T There are reports that American troops 'burned/burnt copies of the Koran'.)
20. The US commander in Afghanistan has apologised. (T)
21. The newsreader says 'The former head of the IMF, Dominique Strauss-Kahn, has been questioned by police.' (F 'is being questioned by police')
22. The police are investigating an alleged prostitution ring in France and Belgium. (T)
23. A prosecutor said Mr Strauss-Kahn was being treated as a witness. (F 'A prosecutor in the northern city of Lille said he was being treated as a suspect rather than a witness.')



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ADVANCED: QUESTIONS

1. What have eurozone ministers decided to give Greece?
2. When did ministers agree on the deal?
3. How much money will Greece receive under the deal?
4. How long will the austerity measures last?
5. What is the former Labour chancellor's surname?
6. What will Greece's debt level be in eight years' time, according to the ex-chancellor?
7. Which word does the former chancellor use to describe the state of Greece's economy?
8. What should new policies stimulate in Greece, according to the ex-chancellor?
9. What does economic growth generate for a government, according to the ex-chancellor?

10. What has the Office for National Statistics recorded?
11. What is the Government hoping it will meet?
12. Which bail-outs did last month's borrowing figures exclude?
13. What was the budget surplus in January 2011?
14. What has fallen since last year?
15. What have risen?

16. Who hold the area of Baba Amr in the Syrian city of Homs?
17. How many people were killed in the recent bombardment of Baba Amr by government forces?

18. Who have been protesting outside the Bagram air base?
19. Where is the air base in relation to the capital, Kabul?
20. What did US troops reportedly do?
21. What has the US commander in Afghanistan done, as well as ordering an investigation?

22. Who is Dominique Strauss-Kahn?
23. What are police investigating in France and Belgium?
24. Is Mr Strauss-Kahn being questioned as a witness or a suspect?



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ADVANCED: ANSWERS

1. What have eurozone ministers decided to give Greece? **a second huge bail-out**
2. When did ministers agree on the deal? **in the early hours**
3. How much money will Greece receive under the deal? **130 billion euros**
4. How long will the austerity measures last? **for years**
5. What is the former Labour chancellor's surname? **Darling**
6. What will Greece's debt level be in eight years' time, according to the ex-chancellor? **120% of GDP (Gross Domestic Product)**
7. Which word does the former chancellor use to describe the state of Greece's economy? **'frail'**
8. What should new policies stimulate in Greece, according to the ex-chancellor? **growth**
9. What does economic growth generate for a government, according to the ex-chancellor? **income**

10. What has the Office for National Statistics recorded? **the biggest surplus in Britain's public finances for four years**
11. What is the Government hoping it will meet? **this year's borrowing forecasts**
12. Which bail-outs did last month's borrowing figures exclude? **bank bail-outs**
13. What was the budget surplus in January 2011? **£5.3 billion (It was £7.8 billion last month 'up £2.5 billion on January last year'.)**
14. What has fallen since last year? **local government borrowing**
15. What have risen? **tax receipts**

16. Who hold the area of Baba Amr in the Syrian city of Homs? **rebels**
17. How many people were killed in the recent bombardment of Baba Amr by government forces? **at least 12 people, including two children**

18. Who have been protesting outside the Bagram air base? **more than 2,000 Afghans**
19. Where is the air base in relation to the capital, Kabul? **It's north of Kabul.**
20. What did US troops reportedly do? **They burned/burnt copies of the Koran.**
21. What has the US commander in Afghanistan done, as well as ordering an investigation? **He has apologised.**

22. Who is Dominique Strauss-Kahn? **He's the former head of the IMF. (International Monetary Fund)**
23. What are police investigating in France and Belgium? **an alleged prostitution ring**
24. Is Mr Strauss-Kahn being questioned as a witness or a suspect? **A suspect ('A prosecutor in the northern city of Lille said he was being treated as a suspect rather than a witness.')**