



BBC RADIO 4 NEWS

Thursday, 10th May 2012

10.00am

ELEMENTARY: QUESTIONS

1. How many people are reported to have been killed in two large explosions in the Syrian capital, Damascus.
2. How many others were wounded, according to state television?
3. Do we know who carried out the attacks?
4. Which word do you hear in front of 'quality line'?
5. How many metal carcasses of vehicles can the BBC correspondent, Lyse Doucet, see?
6. What colour are the taxis?
7. What kind of buses can Lyse see?
8. What type of cars can she see?
9. What are being used to clear away some of the debris?
10. What are the men who are looking for forensic evidence wearing?
11. Which word means 'enormous' or 'huge'?
12. How many storeys does the Palestine military branch consist of?
13. Which part of the building has been 'completely ripped off'?

14. How many public sector workers have gone on strike today?
15. Name some of the services which will probably be affected: _____ centres, courts, tax _____, airports, _____ and colleges

16. How many police officers from 43 forces are marching today?
17. In which two UK countries are the 43 police forces?
18. Where is the march taking place?
19. When is it taking place?

20. What has Angela Merkel, the German chancellor, refused to do with her handling of the financial crisis in the eurozone? *She's refused to _____ course.*
21. What would 'growth through borrowing' be, according to Mrs Merkel?
22. Which two countries want the austerity measures to be softened?

23. What is about to be lit in Greece?
24. How long will the torch be carried around Greece?
25. How will the flame get to Britain? *It will be _____ there.*
26. How long will the relay in Britain go on for?
27. When are the London Olympic Games taking place?



BBC RADIO 4 NEWS

Thursday, 10th May 2012

10.00am

ELEMENTARY: ANSWERS

1. How many people are reported to have been killed in two large explosions in the Syrian capital, Damascus. **at least 40**
2. How many others were wounded, according to state television? **about 170**
3. Do we know who carried out the attacks? **no** ('It's not clear who carried out the attacks.')
4. Which word do you hear in front of 'quality line'? **'poor'**
5. How many metal carcasses of vehicles can the BBC correspondent, Lyse Doucet, see? **at least 20**
6. What colour are the taxis? **yellow**
7. What kind of buses can Lyse see? **tour buses**
8. What type of cars can she see? **family cars**
9. What are being used to clear away some of the debris? **bulldozers**
10. What are the men who are looking for forensic evidence wearing? **white gloves**
11. Which word means 'enormous' or 'huge'? **'massive'** ('two massive craters')
12. How many storeys does the Palestine military branch consist of? **10**
13. Which part of the building has been 'completely ripped off'? **the front of it**

14. How many public sector workers have gone on strike today? **hundreds of thousands**
15. Name some of the services which will probably be affected: **job centres, courts, tax offices, airports, hospitals and colleges**

16. How many police officers from 43 forces are marching today? **20,000**
17. In which two UK countries are the 43 police forces? **England and Wales**
18. Where is the march taking place? **through central London**
19. When is it taking place? **this lunchtime**

20. What has Angela Merkel, the German chancellor, refused to do with her handling of the financial crisis in the eurozone? **She's refused to change course.**
21. What would 'growth through borrowing' be, according to Mrs Merkel? **a mistake**
22. Which two countries want the austerity measures to be softened? **Greece and France**

23. What is about to be lit in Greece? **the flame for this year's London Olympics**
24. How long will the torch be carried around Greece? **for eight days**
25. How will the flame get to Britain? **It will be flown there.**
26. How long will the relay in Britain go on for? **70 days**
27. When are the London Olympic Games taking place? **at the end of July**



BBC RADIO 4 NEWS

Thursday, 10th May 2012

10.00am

INTERMEDIATE: GAP-FILL

1. At least _____ people are believed to _____ killed in two explosions in Damascus, the _____ of Syria.
2. State television says around _____ others were injured.
3. It's not _____ who _____ the attacks.
4. The BBC correspondent at the _____ describes the damage on a _____ quality line.
5. She says 'I can _____ at least _____ metal carcasses of vehicles - _____ taxis, tour _____, service vans, _____ - they're all now just _____ of twisted metal.'
6. She says 'The bulldozers are _____ away some of the debris.'
7. She can see in _____ of her men with _____ looking for forensic evidence.
8. To her _____ there are two _____ craters caused by the force of the _____ explosions.
9. One of the targets seems to have been the Palestine military _____.
10. The face of this _____-storey concrete structure has been completely _____ off.

11. Hundreds of thousands of public sector workers _____ strike.
12. They are protesting about the Government's plans to _____ their pensions.
13. _____ centres, courts, tax _____, airports, _____ and colleges are likely _____ affected.
14. The Government insists public sector pensions are _____ the _____ available.

15. Twenty thousand off-duty _____ officers from all _____ forces in England and _____ are expected to join a _____ through _____ London this _____.
16. They are protesting about _____ in the service and changes to their _____ and conditions.

17. The _____ chancellor Angela Merkel has refused to _____ course on her handling of the financial crisis in the eurozone.
18. She told the Bundestag that _____ debts and growth were essential.
19. However, she said growth through _____ would be a _____.
20. There have been calls from _____ and _____ to _____ austerity measures.

21. The _____ for this year's London Olympics is about to be _____ in Greece where the ancient _____ were held.
22. The torch will be _____ around Greece for _____.
23. It will then be _____ to Britain for a _____-day relay ahead of the start of the Games at the _____ of _____.



BBC RADIO 4 NEWS

Thursday, 10th May 2012

10.00am

INTERMEDIATE: ANSWERS

1. At least 40 people are believed to have been killed in two explosions in Damascus, the capital of Syria.
2. State television says around 170 others were injured.
3. It's not clear who carried out the attacks.
4. The BBC correspondent at the scene describes the damage on a poor quality line.
5. She says 'I can count at least 20 metal carcasses of vehicles - yellow taxis, tour buses, service vans, family cars - they're all now just bits of twisted metal.'
6. She says 'The bulldozers are clearing away some of the debris.'
7. She can see in front of her men with white gloves looking for forensic evidence.
8. To her right there are two massive craters caused by the force of the two explosions.
9. One of the targets seems to have been the Palestine military branch.
10. The face of this 10-storey concrete structure has been completely ripped off.

11. Hundreds of thousands of public sector workers have gone on strike.
12. They are protesting about the Government's plans to change their pensions.
13. Job centres, courts, tax offices, airports, hospitals and colleges are likely to be affected.
14. The Government insists public sector pensions are among the very best available.

15. Twenty thousand off-duty police officers from all 43 forces in England and Wales are expected to join a march through central London this lunchtime.
16. They are protesting about cuts in the service and changes to their pay and conditions.

17. The German chancellor Angela Merkel has refused to change course on her handling of the financial crisis in the eurozone.
18. She told the Bundestag that cutting debts and growth were essential.
19. However, she said growth through borrowing would be a mistake.
20. There have been calls from Greece and France to soften austerity measures.

21. The flame for this year's London Olympics is about to be lit in Greece where the ancient Games were held.
22. The torch will be carried around Greece for eight days.
23. It will then be flown to Britain for a 70-day relay ahead of the start of the Games at the end of July.



BBC RADIO 4 NEWS
Thursday, 10th May 2012
10.00am

ADVANCED: TRUE/FALSE

1. At least 14 people are reported to have been killed in two large explosions in Damascus, the capital of Syria.
2. State TV says around 170 others were injured.
3. The attacks were carried out by government forces.
4. The BBC correspondent describes what she can see using a bad quality phone line.
5. She says 'I can count at least 20 metal carcasses of vehicles - yellow taxis, work buses, service vans, family cars.'
6. She says all the vehicles are now just bits of burnt metal.
7. She says bulldozers are clearing away some of the debris.
8. In front of her Lyse says she can see men wearing white uniforms looking for forensic evidence.
9. The two explosions caused two small craters.
10. The reporter believes one of the targets to be the Palestine military branch.
11. The face of this 10-storey concrete building has been completely blown off.

12. A hundred thousand public sector workers have gone on strike.
13. They are angry about the Government's planned changes to their pensions.
14. Job centres, courts, taxi offices, airports, hospitals and colleges are likely to be affected.
15. The Government insists public sector pensions are among the very best you can have.

16. Twenty thousand police officers who were supposed to be working are expected to join a protest later today.
17. The officers come from all 43 police forces in the UK.
18. They are expected to join a march through the centre of London this lunchtime.
19. They're protesting about cuts in the service and changes to their pay and condition.

20. The German chancellor Angela Merkel has refused to change course on her handling of the financial crisis in the eurozone.
21. She told the German parliament that cutting deaths and growth were essential.
22. However, she said it would be wrong to stimulate growth by borrowing money.
23. There have been calls from Greece and France to centralise austerity measures.

24. The flame for this year's London Olympics is about to be lit in Greece, home of the ancient Olympic Games.
25. The torch will be carried around Greece until Sunday.
26. The torch will then be taken to Britain by Eurostar for a 70-day relay ahead of the start of the Games at the end of July.



BBC RADIO 4 NEWS
Thursday, 10th May 2012
10.00am

ADVANCED: ANSWERS

1. At least 14 people are reported to have been killed in two large explosions in Damascus, the capital of Syria. (F '40')
2. State TV says around 170 others were injured. (T)
3. The attacks were carried out by government forces. (F 'It's not clear who carried out the attacks.')
4. The BBC correspondent describes what she can see using a bad quality phone line. (T **poor quality = bad quality**)
5. She says 'I can count at least 20 metal carcasses of vehicles - yellow taxis, work buses, service vans, family cars.' (F '**tour buses**')
6. She says all the vehicles are now just bits of burnt metal. (F '**bits of twisted metal**')
7. She says bulldozers are clearing away some of the debris. (T)
8. In front of her Lyse says she can see men wearing white uniforms looking for forensic evidence. (F '**men with white gloves**')
9. The two explosions caused two small craters. (F '**two massive craters**')
10. The reporter believes one of the targets to be the Palestine military branch. (T)
11. The face of this 10-storey concrete building has been completely blown off. (T '**the face of it has been completely ripped off [i.e. blown off]**')

12. A hundred thousand public sector workers have gone on strike. (F '**Hundreds of thousands**')
13. They are angry about the Government's planned changes to their pensions. (T '**the Government's plans to change their pensions**')
14. Job centres, courts, taxi offices, airports, hospitals and colleges are likely to be affected. (F '**tax offices**')
15. The Government insists public sector pensions are among the very best you can have. (T '**are among the very best available**')

16. Twenty thousand police officers who were supposed to be working are expected to join a protest later today. (F '**Twenty thousand off duty police officers**')
17. The officers come from all 43 police forces in the UK. (F '**from all 43 forces in England and Wales**')
18. They are expected to join a march through the centre of London this lunchtime. (T)
19. They're protesting about cuts in the service and changes to their pay and condition. (F '**pay and conditions**')

20. The German chancellor Angela Merkel has refused to change course on her handling of the financial crisis in the eurozone. (T)
21. She told the German parliament that cutting debts and growth were essential. (F '**cutting debts and growth**')
22. However, she said it would be wrong to stimulate growth by borrowing money. (T '**but growth through borrowing would be a mistake**' i.e. wrong)
23. There have been calls from Greece and France to centralise austerity measures. (F '**to soften austerity measures**')

24. The flame for this year's London Olympics is about to be lit in Greece, home of the ancient Olympic Games. (T)
25. The torch will be carried around Greece until Sunday. (F '**The torch will be carried around Greece for eight days.**' i.e. until next Thursday)
26. The torch will then be taken to Britain by Eurostar for a 70-day relay ahead of the start of the Games at the end of July. (F '**before being flown to Britain**' i.e. taken by plane)