



**BBC RADIO 4 NEWS**  
Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> February 2012  
10.00am

**ELEMENTARY: CORRECT THE MISTAKE IN EACH SENTENCE**

1. There's been another rise in the annual rate of inflation.
2. The Consumer Prices Index figure for January was 3.6%.
3. It fell by 0.2% between December and January.
4. The API figure includes mortgage payments.
5. The Retail Prices Index fell by 0.6% between December and January.
6. Phil Bading works for the Office for National Statistics.
7. He spoke about the increase in BAT in January last year.
  
8. The chancellor James Osborne has defended the Government's economic strategy.
9. An international credit ratings agency has put the UK on 'negative output'.
10. Moody's said there was a 30% chance Britain could be downgraded in the next eight months.
  
11. The Chinese president Wen Jiabao has said Beijing is ready to do more to help the EU with its debt problems.
12. He has been holding talks with EU leaders in Tokyo.
  
13. The radical Muslim preacher Abu Qatada was released from a low security prison last night.
14. He'll be able to live with his father in London.
15. The Government wants to deport him to Germany on terrorism charges.
16. The European Court of Human Rights has blocked the move.
  
17. The Government's legislation on changes to the welfare system will return to the House of Lords this evening.
18. One proposal is to cap welfare benefits at £26,000 a year for each person.



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**ELEMENTARY: ANSWERS**

1. There's been another rise in the annual rate of inflation. 'There's been another drop [i.e. fall] in the annual rate of inflation.'
2. The Consumer Prices Index figure for January was 3.6%. The Consumer Prices Index
3. It fell by 0.2% between December and January. It fell by 0.6%. (It was 3.6% in January, 'down from 4.2% in December'. So it fell by 0.6% between December and January.)
4. The API figure includes mortgage payments. The RPI figure
5. The Retail Prices Index fell by 0.6% between December and January. 0.9% (It dropped from 4.8% in December to 3.9% in January.)
6. Phil Bading works for the Office for National Statistics. Phil Gooding
7. He spoke about the increase in BAT in January last year. VAT
  
8. The chancellor James Osborne has defended the Government's economic strategy. George Osborne
9. An international credit ratings agency has put the UK on 'negative output'. 'negative outlook'
10. Moody's said there was a 30% chance Britain could be downgraded in the next eight months. in the next 18 months
  
11. The Chinese president Wen Jiabao has said Beijing is ready to do more to help the EU with its debt problems. The Chinese prime minister
12. He has been holding talks with EU leaders in Tokyo. 'in the Chinese capital' i.e. in Beijing
  
13. The radical Muslim preacher Abu Qatada was released from a low security prison last night. a high security prison
14. He'll be able to live with his father in London. with his family
15. The Government wants to deport him to Germany on terrorism charges. to Jordan, not Germany
16. The European Court of Human Rights has blocked the move. The European Court of Human Rights
  
17. The Government's legislation on changes to the welfare system will return to the House of Lords this evening. this afternoon
18. One proposal is to cap welfare benefits at £26,000 a year for each person. for each household, not each person



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**INTERMEDIATE: QUESTIONS**

1. Which word is used instead of 'fall' or 'decrease'?
2. What was the Consumer Prices Index (CPI) figure for inflation in January?
3. How much did inflation fall by between December and January, according to the CPI?
4. How much did the Retail Prices Index (RPI) fall by between December and January?
5. What is Phil's surname?
6. When did VAT (Value Added Tax) go up?
7. When did this put upward pressure on prices?
  
8. What has an international credit ratings agency put the UK on?
9. What is the likelihood of Britain's credit rating being downgraded in the next 18 months, according to Moody's?
  
10. Who is Wen Jiabao?
11. What is China keen to help the EU resolve?
12. Who have been attending talks in Beijing?
  
13. How is Abu Qatada described?
14. What was he released from last night?
15. What will he be able to do while he's under virtual house arrest?
16. Which country does the British government want to deport him to?
17. What charges is Abu Qatada facing?
18. Which court has blocked the move for fear that evidence obtained through torture will be used against him?
  
19. Which system does the Government want to change?
20. When is the Government's proposed legislation returning to the House of Lords?
21. What does the Government want to cap benefits at for each household?



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**INTERMEDIATE: ANSWERS**

1. Which word is used instead of 'fall' or 'decrease'? **'drop'**
2. What was the Consumer Prices Index (CPI) figure for inflation in January? **3.6%**
3. How much did inflation fall by between December and January, according to the CPI? **0.6% (It was down from 4.2% in December to 3.6% in January.)**
4. How much did the Retail Prices Index (RPI) fall by between December and January? **0.9% (It dropped from 4.8% in December to 3.9% in January.)**
5. What is Phil's surname? **Gooding**
6. When did VAT (Value Added Tax) go up? **in January last year/in January 2011**
7. When did this put upward pressure on prices? **between December 2010 and January 2011**
  
8. What has an international credit ratings agency put the UK on? **'negative outlook'**
9. What is the likelihood of Britain's credit rating being downgraded in the next 18 months, according to Moody's? **30%**
  
10. Who is Wen Jiabao? **He's the Chinese prime minister.**
11. What is China keen to help the EU resolve? **its debt problems**
12. Who have been attending talks in Beijing? **EU leaders**
  
13. How is Abu Qatada described? **as 'the radical Muslim preacher'**
14. What was he released from last night? **a high security prison**
15. What will he be able to do while he's under virtual house arrest? **He'll be able to live with his family in London.**
16. Which country does the British government want to deport him to? **Jordan**
17. What charges is Abu Qatada facing? **terrorism charges**
18. Which court has blocked the move for fear that evidence obtained through torture will be used against him? **the European Court of Human Rights**
  
19. Which system does the Government want to change? **the welfare system**
20. When is the Government's proposed legislation returning to the House of Lords? **this afternoon**
21. What does the Government want to cap benefits at for each household? **£26,000 a year**



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**ADVANCED: GAP-FILL**

1. There's been another \_\_\_\_\_ in the annual rate of \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The initials CPI stand for the Consumer \_\_\_\_\_ Index.
3. The CPI fell by \_\_\_\_\_% between December and January.
4. The Retail Prices Index (RPI) \_\_\_\_\_ mortgage \_\_\_\_\_ payments.
5. The RPI stood at \_\_\_\_\_% in December.
6. It fell by \_\_\_\_\_% between December and January.
7. The spokesman for the Office \_\_\_\_\_ National Statistics is Phil \_\_\_\_\_.
8. He says taking the rise in \_\_\_\_\_ out of the \_\_\_\_\_ has made 'a \_\_\_\_\_ difference'.
9. A major \_\_\_\_\_ in the rise in inflation in January 2011 was the rise in \_\_\_\_\_.
10. This put \_\_\_\_\_ pressures on prices between December 2010 and January 2011.
11. These pressures \_\_\_\_\_ this year.
  
12. An international credit ratings agency called Moody's has \_\_\_\_\_ the UK on '\_\_\_\_\_ '.
13. Moody's said there was a \_\_\_\_\_% \_\_\_\_\_ the UK would be \_\_\_\_\_ in the next \_\_\_\_\_ months.
14. The chancellor, George Osborne, said Britain was determined to deal with its \_\_\_\_\_.
  
15. The Chinese prime minister has said China is ready to increase its \_\_\_\_\_ in resolving the \_\_\_\_\_ debt problems.
16. \_\_\_\_\_ leaders have been holding talks in the Chinese capital.
17. Mr Wen Jiabao said he hoped to help Europe maintain stability and \_\_\_\_\_.
  
18. The radical \_\_\_\_\_ preacher Abu Qatada is under \_\_\_\_\_ arrest.
19. He was released from a \_\_\_\_\_ security \_\_\_\_\_ last night.
20. \_\_\_\_\_ be able to live with his \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ for the time being.
21. However, the Government \_\_\_\_\_ wants to \_\_\_\_\_ him to Jordan on terrorism charges.
22. The European Court of \_\_\_\_\_ has blocked the move.
23. It fears \_\_\_\_\_ obtained through torture \_\_\_\_\_ against him.
  
24. The Government wants to make \_\_\_\_\_ to the welfare system.
25. The legislation is going back to the House of \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_.
26. Peers are unhappy with a number of proposals including \_\_\_\_\_ benefits at £\_\_\_\_\_ a year for each \_\_\_\_\_.



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**ADVANCED: ANSWERS**

1. There's been another drop in the annual rate of inflation.
2. The initials CPI stand for the Consumer Prices Index.
3. The CPI fell by 0.6% between December and January. (*It was 3.6% in January, down from 4.2% in December.*)
4. The Retail Prices Index (RPI) includes mortgage interest payments.
5. The RPI stood at 4.8% in December.
6. It fell by 0.9% between December and January. (*It fell from 4.8% in December to 3.9% in January.*)
7. The spokesman for the Office for National Statistics is Phil Gooding.
8. He says taking the rise in VAT (*Value Added Tax*) out of the calculation has made 'a significant difference'.
9. A major factor in the rise in inflation in January 2011 was the rise in VAT.
10. This put upward pressures on prices between December 2010 and January 2011.
11. These pressures weren't repeated this year.
  
12. An international credit ratings agency called Moody's has put the UK on 'negative outlook'.
13. Moody's said there was a 30% chance the UK would be downgraded in the next 18 months.
14. The chancellor, George Osborne, said Britain was determined to deal with its debts.
  
15. The Chinese prime minister has said China is ready to increase its participation in resolving the EU's debt problems.
16. EU leaders have been holding talks in the Chinese capital.
17. Mr Wen Jiabao said he hoped to help Europe maintain stability and prosperity.
  
18. The radical Muslim preacher Abu Qatada is under virtual house arrest.
19. He was released from a high security prison last night.
20. He'll be able to live with his family in London for the time being.
21. However, the Government still wants to deport him to Jordan on terrorism charges.
22. The European Court of Human Rights has blocked the move.
23. It fears evidence obtained through torture will be used against him.
  
24. The Government wants to make changes to the welfare system.
25. The legislation is going back to the House of Lords this afternoon.
26. Peers are unhappy with a number of proposals including capping benefits at £26,000 a year for each household.