



BBC RADIO 4 NEWS
Tuesday, 17th July 2012
10.00am

ELEMENTARY: FILL IN THE MISSING WORDS

1. Inflation has _____ more sharply than expected.
2. It's now at its _____ level in more than 2½ _____.
3. The headline rate dropped from _____% to _____% last month.
4. Retail Prices Index inflation includes _____ costs.
5. The RPI Index _____ from _____% to _____%.
6. A major factor was the heavy _____.
7. This persuaded clothing retailers to bring forward _____.

8. An Afghan soldier who killed five _____ troops in _____ has been sentenced to death.
9. At the time the then French president Nicolas Sarkozy said French forces would _____ Afghanistan a year _____.
10. The Afghan soldier Abdul Saboor fired _____ shots at French troops.
11. He injured many _____ as _____ as killing five.
12. Abdul Saboor had a history of mental _____ problems.
13. He _____ these up when he joined the Afghan army for the _____ time.
14. He faked his _____ and paid a bribe in order to be recruited.

15. International forces have tightened up recruitment and introduced biometric _____.
16. They want to cut down on the so-called ' _____ on _____ attacks'.

17. MPs on the _____ Affairs Select Committee are preparing to _____ the _____ of the private security firm _____ about the _____ of missing guards for the London Olympics.
18. The CEO Nick Buckles will be _____ why troops and _____ have had to be drafted in at _____ notice.

19. Opposition activists in Syria say fighting is continuing _____ the _____ Damascus.
20. The fighting began in the _____ of the city on _____.
21. In _____ the _____ envoy Kofi Annan is meeting President Putin.
22. _____ is continuing to resist _____ calls for tougher action against the Syrian authorities.

23. Customs officers in Thailand have discovered nearly _____ a ton of ivory at the main _____ in Bangkok.
24. The _____ were discovered in crates labelled 'handicrafts' on a _____ from Kenya.
25. The trade in ivory is banned _____ an international convention.



BBC RADIO 4 NEWS

Tuesday, 17th July 2012

10.00am

ELEMENTARY: ANSWERS

1. Inflation has fallen more sharply than expected.
2. It's now at its lowest level in more than 2½ years.
3. The headline rate dropped from 2.8% to 2.4% last month.
4. Retail Prices Index inflation includes housing costs.
5. The RPI Index fell from 3.1% to 2.8%.
6. A major factor was the heavy rain.
7. This persuaded clothing retailers to bring forward summer sales.

8. An Afghan soldier who killed five French troops in January has been sentenced to death.
9. At the time the then French president Nicolas Sarkozy said French forces would leave Afghanistan a year early.
10. The Afghan soldier Abdul Saboor fired 120 shots at French troops.
11. He injured many others as well as killing five.
12. Abdul Saboor had a history of mental health problems.
13. He covered these up when he joined the Afghan army for the second time.
14. He faked his application and paid a bribe in order to be recruited.

15. International forces have tightened up recruitment and introduced biometric tests.
16. They want to cut down on the so-called 'green on blue attacks'.

17. MPs on the Home Affairs Select Committee are preparing to question the head of the private security firm G4S about the thousands of missing guards for the London Olympics.
18. The CEO Nick Buckles will be asked why troops and police have had to be drafted in at short notice.

19. Opposition activists in Syria say fighting is continuing around the capital Damascus.
20. The fighting began in the south of the city on Sunday.
21. In Moscow the UN envoy Kofi Annan is meeting President Putin.
22. Russia is continuing to resist Western calls for tougher action against the Syrian authorities.

23. Customs officers in Thailand have discovered nearly half a ton of ivory at the main airport in Bangkok.
24. The elephant tusks were discovered in crates labelled 'handicrafts' on a flight from Kenya.
25. The trade in ivory is banned under an international convention.



BBC RADIO 4 NEWS

Tuesday, 17th July 2012

10.00am

INTERMEDIATE: TRUE/FALSE

1. People were not expecting inflation to fall so sharply.
2. It is now at its lowest level since 2007.
3. The headline rate of inflation fell by 0.4% between May and June.
4. Retail prices inflation fell by 0.8%.
5. The heavy rain meant clothing retailers brought forward summer sales.

6. An Afghan soldier who killed five French troops in Germany has been sentenced to death.
7. The incident was one of a number of similar attacks this year.
8. The incident prompted the then French president Nicolas Sarkozy to say that French forces would stay in Afghanistan a year longer.
9. The BBC reporter in Kabul is David Roin.
10. The Afghan soldier fired 120 shots at French troops.
11. He killed five French soldiers and wounded many more.
12. The Afghan soldier had a history of mental health problems which he told the army about.
13. He paid a bride in order to be recruited.
14. International forces say they've tightened up recruitment.
15. They've introduced biometric tests, among other things, to cut down on so-called 'blue on green attacks'.

16. MPs on the Home Affairs Select Committee are preparing to question the head of a private security firm.
17. The firm is called G4F.
18. The company's CEO will be questioned about the thousands of missing guards for the London Olympics.
19. The CEO of the company is Nick Puckles.
20. The CEO will be asked why troops and police have had to be drafted in a short notice.

21. Opposition activists in Syria say fighting is continuing around the City Hall in Damascus.
22. The fighting began in the south of the city two days ago.

23. In Moscow the US envoy Kofi Annan is meeting President Putin.
24. Russia is continuing to resist Western calls for tougher action against the Syrian authorities.

25. Customs officers in Thailand have seized nearly half a ton of drugs at the main airport in Bangkok.
26. The elephant tusks were discovered in crates labelled 'handicrafts'.
27. The plane was on its way to Kenya.
28. At the moment no one is allowed to trade in ivory.



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Tuesday, 17th July 2012

10.00am

INTERMEDIATE: ANSWERS

1. People were not expecting inflation to fall so sharply. (T 'Inflation has fallen more sharply than expected...')
2. It is now at its lowest level since 2007. (F 'to its lowest level in more than 2½ years')
3. The headline rate of inflation fell by 0.4% between May and June. (T It 'dropped from 2.8 to 2.4% last month'.)
4. Retail prices inflation fell by 0.8%. (F It 'fell from 3.1 to 2.8%'... i.e. by 0.3%)
5. The heavy rain meant clothing retailers brought forward summer sales. (T 'the heavy rain... persuaded clothing retailers to bring forward summer sales')

6. An Afghan soldier who killed five French troops in Germany has been sentenced to death. (F 'in January', not in Germany)
7. The incident was one of a number of similar attacks this year. (T 'The incident, one of a wave of such attacks this year...')
8. The incident prompted the then French president Nicolas Sarkozy to say that French forces would stay in Afghanistan a year longer. (F 'to announce that French forces would leave Afghanistan a year early')

9. The BBC reporter in Kabul is David Roin. (F David Loin)
10. The Afghan soldier fired 120 shots at French troops. (T)
11. He killed five French soldiers and wounded many more. (T 'injuring many others as well as killing five')
12. The Afghan soldier had a history of mental health problems which he told the army about. (F 'which he covered up')
13. He paid a bride in order to be recruited. (F 'a bribe')
14. International forces say they've tightened up recruitment. (T)
15. They've introduced biometric tests, among other things, to cut down on so-called 'blue on green attacks'. (F 'green on blue attacks')

16. MPs on the Home Affairs Elect Committee are preparing to question the head of a private security firm. (F 'the Home Affairs Select Committee')
17. The firm is called G4F. (F G4S)
18. The company's CEO will be questioned about the thousands of missing guards for the London Olympics. (T)
19. The CEO of the company is Nick Puckles. (F Nick Buckles)
20. The CEO will be asked why troops and police have had to be drafted in a short notice. (T)

21. Opposition activists in Syria say fighting is continuing around the City Hall in Damascus. (F 'around the capital, Damascus')
22. The fighting began in the south of the city two days ago. (T 'on Sunday' i.e. two days ago)

23. In Moscow the US envoy Kofi Annan is meeting President Putin. (F 'the UN envoy')
24. Russia is continuing to resist Western calls for tougher action against the Syrian authorities. (T)

25. Customs officers in Thailand have seized nearly half a ton of drugs at the main airport in Bangkok. (F 'nearly half a ton of ivory')
26. The elephant tusks were discovered in crates labelled 'handicrafts'. (T)
27. The plane was on its way to Kenya. (F 'on a flight from Kenya')
28. At the moment no one is allowed to trade in ivory. (T 'The trade in ivory is banned under an international convention.')



BBC RADIO 4 NEWS

Tuesday, 17th July 2012

10.00am

ADVANCED: QUESTIONS

1. What has inflation done?
2. When was the last time inflation was so low?
3. How much did the headline rate of inflation fall by between May and June?
4. What does Retail Prices inflation include?
5. How much did Retail Prices inflation fall by between May and June?
6. Why did clothing retailers bring forward their summer sales?

7. What did the Afghan soldier do?
8. What has he been sentenced to?
9. How do you know there have been other attacks?
10. What did the then French president Nicolas Sarkozy say after the attack?
11. What is the BBC reporter's name?
12. How many shots did Abdul Saboor fire at French troops?
13. What will he probably do now, following the judgement?
14. What did he have a history of when he joined the army for the second time?
15. What did he fake?
16. What did he pay in order to be recruited?
17. What do international forces say they've done?
18. What type of tests have they introduced?
19. Which phrasal verb means 'to reduce'?
20. What are attacks by Afghan forces on foreign forces known as?
21. What do these attacks have a bad effect on?

22. Which committee is mentioned?
23. What is the private security firm called?
24. What will the head of the firm be questioned about?
25. Who have had to be drafted in to provide security at the London Olympics at short notice?

26. What is continuing around Damascus, according to opposition Syrian activists?
27. Where and when did the fighting begin?
28. Where is the meeting between the UN envoy Kofi Annan and President Putin taking place?
29. What is the West calling for?

30. What have customs officers in Thailand seized?
31. What were discovered in crates labelled 'handicrafts' on a flight from Kenya?
32. What does the newsreader say about the trade in ivory?



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Tuesday, 17th July 2012

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ADVANCED: ANSWERS

1. What has inflation done? **It has fallen more sharply than expected.**
2. When was the last time inflation was so low? **more than 2½ years ago**
3. How much did the headline rate of inflation fall by between May and June? **0.4% (It 'dropped from 2.8 to 2.4% last month'.)**
4. What does Retail Prices inflation include? **housing costs**
5. How much did Retail Prices inflation fall by between May and June? **0.3% (It 'fell from 3.1 to 2.8%'.)**
6. Why did clothing retailers bring forward their summer sales? **Because of the heavy rain.**

7. What did the Afghan soldier do? **He killed five French troops in Afghanistan in January.**
8. What has he been sentenced to? **death**
9. How do you know there have been other attacks? **Because the newsreader says 'The incident - one of a wave of such attacks this year...')**
10. What did the then French president Nicolas Sarkozy say after the attack? **He said French forces would leave Afghanistan a year early.**
11. What is the BBC reporter's name? **David Loin**
12. How many shots did Abdul Saboor fire at French troops? **120**
13. What will he probably do now, following the judgement? **He will probably appeal.**
14. What did he have a history of when he joined the army for the second time? **mental health problems**
15. What did he fake? **his application**
16. What did he pay in order to be recruited? **a bribe**
17. What do international forces say they've done? **They say they've tightened up recruitment.**
18. What type of tests have they introduced? **biometric tests**
19. Which phrasal verb means 'to reduce'? **'to cut down'**
20. What are attacks by Afghan forces on foreign forces known as? **'green on blue attacks'**
21. What do these attacks have a bad effect on? **morale**

22. Which committee is mentioned? **the Home Affairs Select Committee**
23. What is the private security firm called? **G4S**
24. What will the head of the firm be questioned about? **the thousands of missing guards for the London Olympics**
25. Who have had to be drafted in to provide security at the London Olympics at short notice? **troops and police**

26. What is continuing around Damascus, according to opposition Syrian activists? **fighting**
27. Where and when did the fighting begin? **It began in the south of the city/Damascus two days ago.**
28. Where is the meeting between the UN envoy Kofi Annan and President Putin taking place? **in Moscow**
29. What is the West calling for? **tougher action against the Syrian authorities**

30. What have customs officers in Thailand seized? **nearly half a ton of ivory**
31. What were discovered in crates labelled 'handicrafts' on a flight from Kenya? **elephant tusks**
32. What does the newsreader say about the trade in ivory? **It's banned under an international convention.**