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English News Made Simple



Mehdi Vaez Dalili

- 180 high quality news videos
- News in American and British English
- With answer key
- Including different exercises
- Suitable for English laboratory
- Suitable for self-study
- Useful for expanding vocabulary
- Useful for improving listening skills



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Preface

Introduction

After publishing “News & Views: A Course in Reading British & American News” in 2010 and “Learn English NEWS through VIDEOS” in 2011, I received some constructive positive feedback from both my colleagues and students, which provided me with further impetus to work on the present book to satisfy the needs and interest of readers. This was how “**English News Made Simple**” came into existence.

Objectives

This book is overridingly intended to offer an authentic multi-skills syllabus in listening, reading, and writing of news items, which is helpful for EFL students as well as general readership. To this end, 60 American and British English news lessons have been designed to encourage readers to figure out the context-based meaning of new words, work with dictionary while reading a piece of news, practice their intensive and extensive listening skills, and write summaries for news items.

Key Features

Taking the objectives into account, the book has been developed so that a set of specific features are included. Here are some of the key features of the book:

- 60 easy-to-use lessons containing 180 high-quality video clips in total
- Focus on both British and American English
- Video-based exercises in two-page lessons
- Clear, logical, and easy-to-use layout with exercises of different types
- News items of high-frequency themes such as accidents, attack, clashes, conflict, crime, diplomacy, economy, elections, energy, environment, etc.
- Hands-on multimedia-based exercises supported by the accompanied DVD
- Coverage of more than 1100 new journalistic words and expressions
- Suitable for self-study and English laboratory use
- BrE and AmE phonetic transcriptions of new words
- Comprehensive reader-friendly answer key
- Alphabetical index of new words and expressions

The Organisation of the Book and Lessons

The book has been divided into two parts: The first part includes 30 lessons in American English, and the second part consists of 30 lessons in British English. The idea behind such categorisation has been to cover the interests of a wide range of readers. The exercises of the lessons in the first part include synonym-matching, vocabulary comprehension and listening comprehension. The exercises of the lessons in the second part consist of vocabulary comprehension through looking up new words in the dictionary, listening comprehension, guided summarisation, and summarisation.

Contact Information

To receive any further information and to send your comments concerning the improvement or a prospective revision of the book please don't hesitate to contact me via: **news_videos@yahoo.com**.

Mehdi Vaez Dalili
Isfahan
January 2013

Pronunciation Guide

Pronunciation Symbols

Consonants	Symbol	Key Word	Vowels	Symbol	Key Word
	b	bee	Short	ɪ	pit
	d	do		e	wet
	f	fat		{	cat
	g	go		V	run
	h	hat		Q	hot
	j	yet		U	put
	k	key		@	ago
	l	led		i	cozy
	m	map		u	influence
	n	nose		i:	see
	p	pen		A:	arm
	r	red		0:	saw
	s	sun		u:	too
	t	ten	3:	her (BrE)	
	°	better (AmE)	3:	bird (AmE)	
	v	vat	@	father (AmE)	
	w	wet	Diphthongs	eɪ	day
	z	zip		aɪ	my
	dʒ	general		ɔɪ	boy
	ŋ	hang		@ʊ	low (BrE)
	ð	that		oʊ	low (AmE)
	θ	thin		aʊ	how
	ʃ	ship		ɪ@	near (BrE)
	ʒ	measure		e@	hair (BrE)
	tʃ	chin		ʊ@	poor (BrE)
				aɪ@	fire
			aʊ@	sour	

Other Symbols Used in the Pronunciations

- /(r)/** This shows that the /r/ as in the word **teacher** /ˈti:tʃə(r)/ is pronounced in UK English when followed by a vowel sound, but not when followed by a consonant sound. In US English it is always pronounced.
- /'** primary stress (the part of the word you emphasize most), as in **above** /əˈbʊv/
- /%** secondary stress (the part of the word you emphasize as well as, but not quite as much as, the primary stress), as in **backyard** /ˈbækjɑ:d/
- /l#** This is used when a consonant (usually 'l') can be pronounced as a syllable on its own, as in the word **angle** /ˈŋɡl#.
- ||** This separates British and American pronunciations: British on the left and the American on the right.
- .** This is the syllable mark shown as a full stop, coming before each new syllable as in the word **standard** /ˈstændəd/. The syllable mark shows that the word 'standard' has two syllables. If stress marks are shown in a word, they also show when a new syllable starts. So, in a word like **banana** /bəˈnɑ:nə/ the stress mark and syllable mark show that there are three syllables in the word.

Lesson

1

Tensions Rising Again over Iran's Nuclear Program

The United States is moving significant military firepower to the Persian Gulf and is increasing the number of fighter planes that could **strike** deep into Iran if the country moves to build a nuclear bomb.

Analysts say the time is fast **approaching** when Israeli leaders must decide whether to launch strikes against Iran – a move that could explode the already **fragile** Middle East.

Patrick Clawson is an expert on Iran at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy. "The clock is certainly ticking faster because the diplomacy clock, unfortunately, is ticking very slowly," said Clawson.

The U.S. and 25 nations will hold the largest **minesweeping** exercise in history later this month in the Gulf where Iran is **threatening** to block the Strait of Hormuz, the corridor for a fifth of the world's oil.

Tehran is planning to hold its own war games as a clear warning against an attack.

The country's **supreme** leader says its nuclear aims are peaceful and that Iran will not build a bomb.

All the while the International Atomic Energy Agency says centrifuges are being added at an underground site as U.N. inspectors are blocked from a military base where **weapons**-related research may have occurred.

IAEA Director General Yukiya Amano is **frustrated**. "We need to stop going around in circles discussing process," said Amano.

Sanctions on Iran's oil industry are beginning to **cripple** the economy, and the value of its **currency** is **plummeting**. The Obama **administration** says this leaves time for more diplomacy. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu disagrees. "Those in the international community who refuse to put red lines before Iran don't have a moral right to place a red light before Israel," said Netanyahu.

The **debate** over Iran has burst into the **combative** U.S. presidential **campaign**. Challenger Mitt Romney has **denounced** President Obama's Iran policy, while the White House is sensitive to criticism involving Israel.

"There is no daylight between the United States and Israel when it comes to what we **perceive** to be happening in Iran with regards to its program, or when it comes to the commitment to preventing Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon," said White House spokesman Jay Carney.

With sanctions on Iran leading to **spiraling** inflation, Washington is hoping the pressure will force Tehran to **compromise**.

"In that situation, they may be more **tempted** to go back and look at the nuclear program to ask if, maybe, that is where we can make our compromises rather than having to take really tough measures on the economic front," said analyst Patrick Clawson.

Iran is expected to be a major topic of debate when the U.N. General Assembly **convenes** later this month.



u b Synonym Matching

Match the words with their synonyms. Write the letter in the box.

1	<input type="text"/>	approach (v.)	A. disappointed, discouraged
2	<input type="text"/>	combative	B. allure, entice, tantalize, seduce
3	<input type="text"/>	compromise (v.)	C. show a continuous and dramatic increase
4	<input type="text"/>	currency	D. eager to fight or argue
5	<input type="text"/>	denounce	E. condemn; accuse
6	<input type="text"/>	frustrated	F. fall, drop; plunge
7	<input type="text"/>	minesweeping	G. come to an understanding, make a deal
8	<input type="text"/>	plummet	H. hit; collide with; attack, assault
9	<input type="text"/>	spiral	I. greatest in power, authority, or rank
10	<input type="text"/>	strike (v.)	J. the activity of detecting and disposing of marine mines
11	<input type="text"/>	supreme	K. to come near to sb/sth in distance or time
12	<input type="text"/>	tempt	L. money used in a particular country

V 2 Vocabulary Comprehension

Fill in the blank with the words in the box below. Make the necessary changes.

administration	campaign (n.)	convene
cripple (v.)	debate (n.)	fragile
perceive	sanction	threaten (v.)
weapon		

1. Almost 10 years of bombing and economic _____ have taken an enormous toll.
2. During his election _____ he promised to put the economy back on its feet.
3. High-tech industries are _____ to be of importance to the nation's economic growth.
4. Relations between the two countries are in a _____ state.
5. Successive _____ have failed to solve the country's economic problems
6. The first nuclear _____ used in wartime was dropped on the city of Hiroshima in 1945.
7. The hijackers _____ to kill one passenger every hour if their demands were not met.
8. The leaders of the two major political parties will have a _____ on television tonight.
9. The Prime Minister has _____ a meeting of Cabinet to discuss new policy initiatives.
10. Thousands of children have been _____ by landmines left over from the war.

W 1 Listening Comprehension

See video clip 2 and fill in the blank spaces in the following piece of news.

Tensions Ease over Iran's Nuclear Program as Diplomacy Ramps Up

Earlier this year, _____ of armed _____ across the Middle East. Iran _____ war games near the Persian Gulf. Israeli warplanes _____ drills to ready for attack. And a battle-ready U.S. aircraft carrier _____ off the coast of Iran.

Analysts say the show on both sides was largely _____ as the West continued to _____ a tougher _____ policy against Iran.

"So, if you don't want to see war, you have to _____ with this new _____ of sanctions, and actually they did to a large extent," said Mehdi Khalaji of the Washington Institute.

Then the _____ cooled _____ after a meeting in Istanbul last month when Iranian _____ appeared more flexible than expected.

"If the talks in Istanbul can be called one step forward, I'm sure, God willing, we will take a few steps forward in Baghdad," said Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Salehi.

Iran is calling on the West to _____ sanctions that are _____ its economy, but the West is standing firm.

"We're going to keep the sanctions in place and the pressure on Iran as they consider what they will bring to the table in Baghdad, and we will respond _____," said U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

Analysts say any Iranian deal must include _____ that allow Tehran to _____ the agreement as a _____.

"Because for Iran, its image in the world, or within Muslim nations, is not less important than its _____," Khalaji said.

Analysts point to a growing divide in Israel over Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's threat to attack Iran.

Yuval Diskin is the former chief of Israel's _____ security service. "I have no faith in the prime minister, nor in the defense minister. I really don't have faith in a _____ that makes decisions out of _____ feelings," said Yuval Diskin.

But Israeli Defense Minister Ehud Barak says such _____ ignore the past. "Iranian _____ and lies concerning their nuclear program have been _____ and well-documented. Yet, parts of the world, including some politically motivated Israeli _____, prefer to bury their heads in the sand," he said.

U.S. intelligence officials say Iran is keeping open the _____ to develop nuclear _____, but has not yet made the decision to build a bomb. "But if Tehran's _____ are peaceful as it claims, then it should prove it," says Mehdi Khalaji.

"Iran should show that it's not looking for a nuclear bomb, and it's willing to comply with its international _____, and it's able to build _____ within the international community," he said.

In the next talks in Baghdad, Western nations are expected to seek _____ on Iran's _____ program, and the Iran crisis could _____ again if no _____ progress is made.



Lesson

2

US Soldier Charged in Connection to Afghan Massacre

U.S. Army Staff Sergeant Robert Bales now faces 17 counts of **premeditated** murder and a possible death **sentence**. He heard the formal **charges** on Friday.

The case **stems** from the killing of 17 villagers in Kandahar **province** on March 11, near a U.S. military **outpost** where Bales was **stationed**.

Afghan **witnesses** say Bales **stabbed** and shot the villagers, and set some of them on fire. A number of children were among the **victims**.

Bales' **attorney** spoke to reporters this week after meeting with his **client** for several hours. "He has some memories of what happened that evening before the **alleged** incident, and he has some memories after that alleged incident, but he has no memories of what happened in between," said Bales' defense attorney, John Henry Browne.

Like many other U.S. service members in this decade of war, Bales had multiple **deployments**. He was on his fourth **combat** tour and suffered a brain injury in an earlier deployment. That has **fuelled** questions about combat stress, frequent deployments and head injuries.

None of those questions or possibilities are **quelling** the anger of some Afghans who were already upset by another recent incident – the **inadvertent destruction** of the Quran by U.S. service members.

The March 11th **massacre** has **sparked** calls for **revenge** and **harsh justice**.

"We demand from the court in the United States to give the death **penalty** to the U.S soldier who massacred the **civilians**, because he deserves hanging, because he committed the biggest crime. We want a punishment based on Islamic sharia law," said Agha Lala, a Kandahar resident.

The case has raised **tensions** between the U.S. and Afghan governments.

Afghan President Hamid Karzai has demanded that U.S. **troops** – scheduled to be in his country for two more years – stay out of Afghan villages.

For now, Bales is at this military prison in the U.S. state of Kansas, awaiting word on his **fate**.



u b Synonym Matching

Match the words with their synonyms. Write the letter in the box.

1	<input type="text"/>	alleged	A. arise, come from, originate
2	<input type="text"/>	attorney	B. careless, heedless; accidental
3	<input type="text"/>	client	C. customer, buyer
4	<input type="text"/>	destruction	D. deploy; put on duty
5	<input type="text"/>	fate	E. destiny, fortune, person's lot in life
6	<input type="text"/>	fuel (v.)	F. distant military position
7	<input type="text"/>	inadvertent	G. district, division; region
8	<input type="text"/>	massacre (n.)	H. lawyer
9	<input type="text"/>	outpost	I. observer, onlooker, spectator, viewer
10	<input type="text"/>	penalty	J. one who is harmed or killed by another
11	<input type="text"/>	premeditated	K. pierce or wound with a pointed weapon
12	<input type="text"/>	province	L. prearranged, pre-planned, deliberate
13	<input type="text"/>	revenge (n.)	M. punishment
14	<input type="text"/>	stab (v.)	N. ruin, devastation
15	<input type="text"/>	station (v.)	O. stimulate, provoke, incite
16	<input type="text"/>	stem (v.)	P. supposed, believed
17	<input type="text"/>	victim	Q. vengeance, reprisal
18	<input type="text"/>	witness (n.)	R. widespread slaughter (of people), bloodshed

V 2 Vocabulary Comprehension

Fill in the blank with the words in the box below. Make the necessary changes.

charge (n.)	civilian (n.)	combat (n.)
deployment	harsh	quell
sentence (n.)	spark (v.)	tension
troops		

- After 10 days of gun battles, army troops were called out to _____ the violence.
- British colonial policies were extremely _____ in the colony of Kenya.
- In any military conflict, there are always innocent _____ who are killed or injured.
- _____ in the region have escalated in the past few months, and the army has been put on full alert.
- The _____ against him was dropped when someone else confessed to the crime.
- The Chief of Police ordered the _____ of 2,000 troops to try to stop the rioting.
- The family of the victim felt that the _____ given to the murderer was too short.
- The riot was _____ by the perception that police had used undue force in arresting some people.
- The U.N. has set 18 as the minimum age for soldiers sent into _____.
- Traditionally, United Nations _____ have been deployed only in a peacekeeping role.

W 1 Listening Comprehension

See video clip 2 and fill in the blank spaces in the following piece of news.

US, Afghanistan Sign Draft of Strategic Partnership Agreement

U.S. _____ and Afghan security forces have fought on the _____ together – worked to build up the Afghan army and police. And billions of dollars have _____ into the country to _____ the economy.

Now the new strategic _____ agreement shows Afghanistan the U.S. will not completely leave the country after 2014.

“_____ and its partners cannot and will not _____ Afghanistan after 2014. Our _____ support will be _____ to preserving and building on the gains we’ve made thus far,” said US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

Western nations are _____ how much to spend to support Afghan security forces following 2014. Analysts say whatever the cost, it will be far less than the more than \$100 billion being spent this year.

Lisa Curtis is a South Asia specialist at The Heritage Foundation. “Providing say two to three billion to sustain Afghan security forces after 2014 seems like a pretty good _____ to _____ the U.S. is not attacked again – that we don’t have another type of 9/11 attack on the U.S. _____,” she said.

U.S. _____ Dana Rohrabacher – a strong critic of the Afghan government – was recently _____ from traveling to Kabul by President Hamid Karzai. He says the strategic partnership agreement is an admission that a _____ of nation-building has not worked. “One of the reasons we’re in a bad shape and have lost so many people already, is we have imported _____ troops to try to force local people to accept Kabul as the _____ power. And Kabul, of course, is run by a _____ under Karzai,” said Rohrabacher.

But U.S. military _____ say they will need to stay in Afghanistan beyond 2014 to train local security forces. Major General John Toolan has spent the past year _____ troops in Afghanistan. “They’ll have to be in Afghanistan as long as it takes for the Afghan security forces to establish, particularly the police and I’ll say specifically the police, to establish local security and _____ among the population,” said Toolan.

Earlier, officials signed agreements on the _____ issues of night _____ by U.S. troops and the _____ of _____ facilities to Afghan _____.

Analysts say the strategic partnership sends a strong message to Pakistan and the Taliban that Americans will not abandon the region as they did in the 1990s after the Soviets were pushed out of the country.

“I think what this agreement shows is that the U.S. is not _____ for a peace deal with the Taliban. Yes, certainly, some kind of _____ that involves the Taliban is desirable, but the U.S. is simply not desperate to reach some type of agreement in the next two years,” said Curtis of the Heritage Foundation.

A post-2014 military force could provide training, air power, intelligence sharing and _____ in partnership with Afghan soldiers.



Lesson

3

Afghans Hopeful,
but Worried about Future

There is a growing middle class in Afghanistan's cities, including the capital Kabul.

It is an **increasingly urban** population. They are Muslim, **modest**, and enjoy having fun.

Places like this **bowling alley** are new to Afghanistan, as is the idea of women playing sports with men, even their brothers, in **public**.

Sarwar Sarwari says the bowling alley **opens up** new possibilities. "To me, I think, it is a step toward democracy, where you can see all women and men come together and play something like this. I've never had this in Afghanistan when I was a child," he said.

But Sarwari says people are **uncertain** about their future. "Nervousness is all around. You can feel it in the city, within the government, within the people, when people talk around. I'm hoping that things will work out to the best of this country right now, because everybody works their hardest to make it happen," said Sarwari.

Extravagant wedding halls show there is a lot of money in some parts of Kabul.

There are many businesses investing here.

But Afghanistan's six national flags and six national **anthems** in less than 40 years are reminders of how different leaders tried to shape the country's direction.

Afghans are very different from 11 years ago when the Taliban was thrown out. They are more educated. More people live in cities and almost half own cell phones. But many remain uncertain about the future.

Afghan analyst Omar Sharifi says **violence** will not **dictate** who runs the country. "Now, nobody sees a **coup d'état**, or **overthrowing** the government, or the taking by force of power as a **legitimate means**. The people believe in elections as a legitimate means of **establishing authority**," he explained.

Despite the political changes, many women in Kabul remain too frightened to speak on camera. Privately, they say they fear losing the few rights they have gained in the past decade.

In this male-only billiards hall, **patrons** worry about the increasing violence and about the future of Afghanistan's democratic government.

Yar Gul Nader Safi is **pessimistic**. "The future of Afghanistan **currently** as I can see it: for the past two months there are a lot of **suicide** attacks, and also the Taliban are attacking all different places. It seems to us that it [the future] will be dark," he said.

After 40 years of **dramatic** political **swings**, many Afghans in Kabul worry that the country's political future may be similar to its **tumultuous** past.



u b Synonym Matching

Match the words with their synonyms. Write the letter in the box.

1		bowling alley	A. a building or room containing lanes for bowling
2		currently	B. ambiguous, unsure, undecided
3		dictate	C. brutality, forcefulness, severity
4		extravagant	D. command, order
5		legitimate	E. humble, unpretentious; simple
6		means	F. lavish, profligate; costly; excessive
7		modest	G. legal, lawful; authorized
8		open up	H. method, way, medium
9		patron	I. of, relating to, or located in a city
10		pessimistic	J. presently, at this time
11		suicide	K. regular customer
12		uncertain	L. make accessible; make available
13		urban	M. seeing only the bad side
14		violence	N. the act of killing yourself

V 2 Vocabulary Comprehension

Fill in the blank with the words in the box below. Make the necessary changes.

anthem
dramatic
overthrow (v.)
tumultuous

authority
establish
public (n.)

coup d'état
increasingly
swing (n.)

1. After the _____ events of 1990, Eastern Europe was completely transformed.
2. After three months we were well _____ at our new jobs.
3. During a violent revolt, people _____ their dictatorship government.
4. The citizens of the city are _____ concerned about the rise in violent crime.
5. The Democrats only need a 5% _____ to win this election.
6. The embassy compound has been closed to the _____ because of a bomb threat.
7. The European _____ was played at the opening and closing ceremonies.
8. The leader of the army has been sentenced to death for his part in the attempted _____.
9. The will of the people should be the basis of the _____ of government.
10. This announcement signalled a _____ shift in the government's policy.

W 1 Listening Comprehension

See video clip 2 and fill in the blank spaces in the following piece of news.

Afghanistan Struggles to Educate its Youth

Modern education is a _____ in Afghanistan. Educators are _____ with the _____ of decades of war and differing political _____.

Education Ministry _____ Amanullah Iman says it has taken 10 years to _____ and begin to _____ a new _____. "The first problem is _____ in southern _____, 500 schools are closed there, and around 300,000 students are not going to school because they don't have access. The second _____ is our _____ teachers, because half of our teachers don't have proper professional _____, and that is an important issue," he said.

Iman says the _____ also has been rewriting the country's Islamic educational texts. In the past, the Taliban, educated in Pakistan, had influenced the _____ material. "One of the big challenges has been Islamic studies, because many students studied in _____ countries, and when studying Islamic studies there they were against Afghanistan. So, we have designed a new curriculum with our teachers and our Islamic _____ and in our national languages. We have focused more on love of country, and we hope to _____ and introduce it soon," he said.

_____ 4.5 million books have yet to be published, due to a lack of money. Another five million books of the general curriculum are _____ on _____ supply trucks that were _____ in Pakistan for the last eight months.

Three million students around the country still don't have access to schools. And out of 16,000 schools, 7,000 are held _____ or in tents because there are not enough buildings.

The Taliban continues to _____ schools in the south, and _____ girls trying to get an education.

Arzu Omid of the group Women for Change says it is _____ that girls get to school. "If we want to bring about change in our life, especially in women's life in Afghanistan, we need education," she said.

In Kabul, university students say the educational system is _____ and broken.

University student Hamid Aman says classes are _____ and teachers _____. "In schools, these days you will see 70 to 80 students in a class, and the teacher can't teach that many students well," he said. "So, first you need to change the class size, then the teachers. In _____ areas, there are students graduating from high school who can't even read or write properly. Then, those _____ are teaching the middle school children, so the students aren't learning anything."

The Taliban has _____ against the new books, which focus on _____ and _____.

Ahmad Khalid Fahim of the Swedish _____ for Afghanistan says the new curriculum is key to a modern Afghanistan. "A national curriculum that _____ the Afghan's _____, but of course in a _____." To tell it in short sentences: to produce a _____ Afghan with a global _____," he said.

Afghanistan's leaders know it is children like these who must be able to _____ their country's expectations.



Lesson

4

Pakistani Officials Acknowledge Closer Ties with China

China was one of the few nations that expressed public support for Pakistan when it was learned that the world's most wanted man, Osama bin Laden, was living in a town some 120 kilometers from the Pakistani capital.

Two weeks after the **covert** American raid that killed bin Laden, **plunging** U.S.-Pakistan relations to a new low, Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani traveled to Beijing. At the time, many wondered whether Islamabad was turning to China as a replacement for its extensive military and diplomatic ties with Washington.

Analysts like former foreign secretary Inam-ul Haq **dismiss** such **speculation**, saying that a politically as well as economically **vulnerable** Pakistan has to maintain and **cultivate** good relations with all major powers of the world. "Neither can Pakistan play one major power against the other. It would be **futile** and stupid to believe that we can do that, and any effort at doing that would be **shortsighted** and totally **counterproductive**," Haq explained.

But Pakistan's relationship with China was not without its challenges. In late July, suspected Uighur **separatists** in China's troubled Xinjiang region killed more than 20 people in terrorist attacks.

Pakistan-based **radical** Islamic groups were accused of training the **predominantly** Muslim Uighur rebels linked to the **outlawed** East Turkestan Islamic Movement or ETIM.

Top political and military leaders of both countries **vowed** to fight terrorism together, and **conducted** joint counterterrorism exercises. Pakistan's army chief and top Chinese military officials **pledged** to cooperate. "Those elements of ETIM who are operating in the border areas of Pakistan and Afghanistan, even there, we had a very close cooperation, and we will do exchange intelligence, and we have done our utmost to eliminate this threat of ETIM and other extremists for China," said General Ashfaq Pervez Kayani, Pakistan Army Chief. "Joint counterterrorism training will help us to fight against the regional terrorist forces and deepen the cooperation for more peace and security in the region," stated General Hou Shusen, China Deputy Chief of General Staff.

These public expressions of **solidarity** stand in sharp contrast to Pakistan's relationship with Washington, which was defined in the past year more by its public disagreements than statements of cooperation.

Former Pakistani Senator Muhshahid Hussain is the chairman of Pakistan-China Institute, an independent think tank working for the promotion of **bilateral** ties. He says China's **longstanding** support of the world's only nuclear Islamic state, regardless of who has been in power in Islamabad, has led to a broad political **consensus** for close ties with Beijing. "The issue of China is one amongst three issues in Pakistan on which there is a complete national consensus – the nuclear program, Kashmir, and relations with China, all across the political divide," Hussain said.

Despite the widespread political support for China, **skeptics** say that to further strengthen their ties, Pakistan must first **address** its own deep economic, political, institutional and security crises, before it can develop a broader relationship with Beijing.



u b Synonym Matching

Match the words with their synonyms. Write the letter in the box.

1	<input type="text"/>	address (v.)	A. attend to, deal with, focus on
2	<input type="text"/>	cultivate	B. develop, improve, enrich
3	<input type="text"/>	futile	C. fall sharply, plummet, go down
4	<input type="text"/>	longstanding	D. fruitless, unproductive; unsuccessful
5	<input type="text"/>	pledge (v.)	E. generally, usually, mainly
6	<input type="text"/>	plunge (v.)	F. having existed for a long time
7	<input type="text"/>	predominantly	G. one who doubts the truth or value of an idea or belief
8	<input type="text"/>	radical	H. promise; vow, swear
9	<input type="text"/>	separatist	I. revolutionary; extreme, extremist
10	<input type="text"/>	skeptic (n.)	J. supporter of separation of different groups

V 2 Vocabulary Comprehension

Fill in the blank with the words in the box below. Make the necessary changes.

bilateral	conduct (v.)	consensus
counterproductive	covert	dismiss
outlaw (v.)	shortsighted	solidarity
vow (v.)	speculation	vulnerable

1. In response to Indian nuclear weapons testing, Pakistan _____ its own tests in 1998.
2. Many economists accused the government of being _____ in its economic policies.
3. Many people feel that the use of cell phones by those who are driving a car should be _____.
4. Research shows that sending young offenders to prison can be _____.
5. Supporters want to march tomorrow to show _____ with their leaders.
6. The army was accused of _____ military operations against the government.
7. The judge _____ the charges, saying there was insufficient proof.
8. The landscape and climate of Bangladesh combine to make it _____ to flooding.
9. The new governor _____ to restore the public's trust in government.
10. The Prime Minister's speech prompted _____ that an election will be held later in the year.
11. The two countries have signed a _____ agreement to help prevent drug smuggling.
12. There now exists a broad political _____ in favor of economic reform.

W 1 Listening Comprehension

See video clip 2 and fill in the blank spaces in the following piece of news.

US Moves to Restore Relations with Pakistan

_____ like this one show the anger many Pakistanis feel toward the United States. The latest incident to _____ public anger was the accidental bombing of a Pakistani army _____ by U.S. forces based in Afghanistan in November.

Twenty-four Pakistani _____ were killed. The powerful head of the army, General Ashfaq Kiyani, went to the northwestern town of Peshawar to give them full military _____. The _____, the U.S. attack on Osama Bin Laden's hiding place near Islamabad, and murder _____ against a CIA contractor in Lahore have _____ U.S.-Pakistan relations.

For a while, Pakistan closed the important supply _____ through its _____ for U.S. and international forces in Afghanistan.

Matthew Nelson of the University of London says the relationship will not likely ever be as close as it once was. "The _____ used to describe U.S.-Pakistan relations will no longer be words like ' _____ ' or ' _____ .' They will be sort of ' _____ ' relations of _____ interest on a _____ basis', but the new normal will sort of _____ that Pakistan's interests do not easily _____ with U.S. interests," he said.

That was _____ this month when Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari _____ Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmedinejad for a _____ with Afghan President Hamid Karzai.

The United States is sending its own high-level _____ to Islamabad. General James Mattis, head of the U.S. military _____ responsible for South and Central Asia, is expected to visit this month.

One of his key _____, the _____ of international forces in Afghanistan, General John Allen, says he believes Pakistani officials, including General Kiyani, want to improve the relationship. "I don't believe there is any absence of _____ on his part for us to cooperate in ways that can control the cross-border flow of _____, but also to _____ the conditions that might _____ the tragedy of the 26th of November. At a tactical level, there is an _____ for us to cooperate. What we need to do is _____ that inclination to cooperate at the _____ level," Allen stated.

Matthew Nelson says that should be the top U.S. _____ in the region. "The _____ of Pakistan is perhaps the United States' most important strategic _____ in the whole region. Afghanistan is important. Pakistan is more important," he said.

Nelson and other experts say to improve relations with Pakistan, the United States will have to find a way to _____ the public _____, but that may become _____ difficult with some politicians and religious leaders _____ the anger as they prepare for expected early _____ this year.



Lesson

5

India's Success Fighting Polio Motivates Rival Pakistan

This vaccination team in Islamabad is part of a **massive** nationwide effort to **administer** polio vaccine to more than 23 million children in a three-day period.

To **track** their progress, workers **stain** tiny fingers with ink and mark houses with chalk to note the number of children vaccinated. Lists of families in the neighborhood are checked and re-checked.

Dr. Hassan Urooj, the director of health services in Islamabad, says even under stable conditions, a polio vaccination **campaign** can be a challenging **logistical** operation. He says the effort becomes almost impossible when trying to track people **fleeing** fighting between **militants** and the Pakistani army. "Millions of internally displaced people leave their home town and their first place to stay is in Islamabad. So, they are not in the **demographic** statistics. They are not on the data. But we have to cover them," he said.

There is no cure for polio and it can cause **irreversible paralysis** within hours of **infection**.

Pakistan has faced extraordinary challenges in fighting the disease including a **series** of natural disasters. Just last year, more than 5 million people fled monsoon floods and crowded into **unsanitary** temporary **shelters**, where some were exposed to the virus.

The war in Afghanistan and a **long-running insurgency** in Baluchistan have also made some places too dangerous for health workers.

With Pakistani public opinion sharply against the US and NATO presence in Afghanistan, health workers say that some see polio **eradication** efforts as part of a foreign **plot**.

Shahnaz Wazir Ali, the Prime Minister's top official for polio eradication efforts, says resistance increased last year following reports that the American military used a doctor posing as a polio worker to try to gain access to Osama Bin Ladan's Abbottabad **compound**. "We think it's indeed a highly unfortunate and **inadvisable** situation that occurred when the United States government, through **apparently** its CIA operation, wanted to collect intelligence, and they used health and the immunization campaign as a cover," said Ali.

Still, she says after hearing of India's success in fighting the disease, Pakistan is improving its polio eradication efforts using government workers instead of volunteers in vaccination campaigns. "It is a matter of national pride that we ensure that the maximum effort is made because failure is not an option," continued Ali.

She says the spirit of competition with rival India has played a role in **uniting** law-makers from across the political **spectrum** to focus on polio eradication as a national emergency.



u b Synonym Matching

Match the words with their synonyms. Write the letter in the box.

1	<input type="text"/>	administer	A. a disease that can cause permanent paralysis
2	<input type="text"/>	apparently	B. an enclosed area which contains a group of buildings
3	<input type="text"/>	campaign (n.)	C. combine, integrate, join into one
4	<input type="text"/>	compound (n.)	D. destruction, extermination
5	<input type="text"/>	demographic	E. dirty, filthy, unhygienic
6	<input type="text"/>	eradication	F. disease, virus
7	<input type="text"/>	inadvisable	G. evidently, obviously
8	<input type="text"/>	infection	H. immobility, powerlessness, debilitation
9	<input type="text"/>	logistical	I. not recommended; unwise, imprudent
10	<input type="text"/>	militant (n.)	J. one who is engaged in warfare
11	<input type="text"/>	paralysis	K. relating to populations
12	<input type="text"/>	polio	L. relating to the organization of something complicated
13	<input type="text"/>	stain (v.)	M. series of activities organized to accomplish a goal
14	<input type="text"/>	unite	N. supply, give (i.e. drugs, medication, etc.)
15	<input type="text"/>	unsanitary	O. to change the color of something using a chemical

V 2 Vocabulary Comprehension

Fill in the blank with the words in the box below. Make the necessary changes.

flee	insurgency	irreversible
long-running	massive	plot (n.)
series	shelter (n.)	spectrum
track (v.)		

- About 50,000 people are estimated to have been killed in a decade of _____.
- Fossil fuels have caused _____ damage to the environment.
- Many people went into the _____ when they heard the air-raid sirens.
- The Americans conducted _____ bombing campaigns against the North Vietnamese.
- The CIA formed a _____ to assassinate Cuban President Fidel Castro with an exploding cigar.
- The government is holding a _____ of public meetings to discuss the state of the medical system.
- The _____ legal battle had reached an impasse, as neither side would compromise.
- The military use radar satellites to _____ targets through clouds at night.
- The President met with a wide _____ of political leaders during his visit to the region.
- Thousands of refugees are _____ the area, and the U.N. is afraid that war is about to break out.

W¹ Listening Comprehension

See video clip 2 and fill in the blank spaces in the following piece of news.

Pakistanis Tire of Water, Electricity Shortages

It's summer in Pakistan. The _____ is heating 43 degrees, and there is little or no electricity.

Prime Minister Raza Parviz Ashraf says he wants to fix the nation's economy and lack of basic services.

Salamat Ahmad says he is tired of all promises. "Our government is giving us nothing. There is no electricity, no gas, no water, no gasoline. What is the government giving us?," says Salamat Ahmad.

In the capital, Islamabad, _____ pay for _____ water _____ to fill their tanks. Others have huge _____ to make sure their air conditioners run. But people are tired of _____ who can't _____ basic services like water, gas, electricity.

The lack of power is _____ Pakistan's ability to grow with its population. City workers in crowded Rawalpindi use generators to fix the _____. But when they go home, workers like Jamsheid have very little _____. "We work here, we even sleep here because when we go back to our work _____ there is no electricity there, so we sleep here. What are we supposed to do? We have to earn a living. The conditions are terrible," said Jamsheid.

About 40 percent of the cars and buses here run on _____ natural gas or CNG, a cheap _____ to gasoline. Recent CNG _____ protesting _____ in favor of industry have hit the popular mini-bus business.

Ahsan Goropur is a mini-bus owner. "Three days a week there is no CNG. The 4th day I spend waiting at the CNG station. The other days I use gas, but people can't _____ to pay the higher fare when I use gas. And, if I don't use gas, I can't run my buses. That's why things are so hard," said Ahsan Goropur.

Just minutes from the traffic of Rawalpindi, is Bahria town, a closed _____. It's an organized _____ of some 6,000 people, with its own private _____ of electricity and water. _____, one of Pakistan's _____ most _____ men, Malik Riaz, is the _____ developer. His nephew, Ali Mazhar Malik, sees Bahria town as the future. "This should be a model. Pakistan's government should take this as a model and develop it. Malik Riaz has given them a _____ model and they should follow it. If Malik can do it, the government can do it too, and they should," Malik said.

Bahria town has gas stations, shops, and well-cared for public spaces. _____ say once people live here, they don't want to leave.

Aref Khan is from the north, but owns two homes here. "One hundred percent, the government can't solve these problems. If the government takes 10 years to do something, the _____ can do it in six months because the very roots of the government are corrupt," Khan said.

Developer Riaz has been _____ by some of land _____. But for residents here, Riaz has delivered more than what the government has.





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