

# Welcome to the CBC Newscast Lesson!

The CBC EAL Newscast is a listening lesson for students who are learning English. The lessons are for students who are at Canadian Language Benchmarks 3 and 4 (high beginner / low intermediate). Each newscast has a lesson file and an audio file.

## The Lesson File

You will need to print the lesson file first. Here's what you will find in each lesson.

### 1. A vocabulary match exercise for each story

Learning new vocabulary before you listen makes it easier for you to understand the story.

### 2. Questions on the main ideas or details of each story

Can you listen to a news story and understand the main ideas? Are you hearing the most important details? Answer the questions and find out!

### 3. A transcript for the newscast

If you are having difficulty understanding the story when you listen, you can use the transcript to help you.

### 4. Answers to the questions in the lesson

The answers are at end of the lesson on page 5.

### 5. An internet link or other resource suggestion

Some stories will have an internet link or suggest another resource you can use to find more information.

*(Note: CBC does not endorse and is not responsible for the content of external websites)*

## The Audio File

Click on this file to hear three real world news stories read by a CBC news reader. The first is a Manitoba story. The second is a Canadian story. The third is an international story. All of the stories are in the same audio file

There are new stories and lessons every Thursday.

**Now you are ready to begin. Read on!**

## Story 1: FIFA announces women's soccer match will be held in Winnipeg

**Step 1: Learn new vocabulary.** Learning new vocabulary before you listen makes it easier for you to understand the story. Can you match these vocabulary words with their meaning? The first one is completed for you as an example.

Vocabulary Word		Meaning
1. <u>f</u> FIFA	a)	a soccer game involving professional teams that is not part of a competition
2. ___ to announce something	b)	the name of a Canadian Football League (CFL) team
3. ___ a friendly soccer match	c)	to be chosen
4. ___ Investor's Group Field	d)	to provide the place and everything that is needed so an event can take place
5. ___ the Winnipeg Blue Bombers	e)	the most important international competition in women's soccer
6. ___ a ranking (in sports)	f)	the acronym for the world's football / soccer federation
7. ___ to be selected	g)	the name of the outdoor stadium at the University of Manitoba
8. ___ to host an event	h)	to make information public
9. ___ the Women's World Cup	i)	a sports team's standing or position in relation to other teams in the same sport

**Step 2: Listen to the first story** in the audio file. Focus on listening for the main ideas and key information. Listen as many times as you need to.

**Step 3: Answer questions about the story.** Does option a) or option b) make the sentence correct? Underline or circle your answer. The first one is completed for you as an example.

1.	The Canadian and American women's soccer teams will _____.	a) <u>play in Winnipeg on May 8, 2014</u> b) play in Winnipeg in 2015
2.	The game will be held at _____.	a) the Investors Group Field b) the MTS Centre
3.	The Canadian women's soccer team is ranked _____.	a) first in the world b) seventh in the world
4.	During the 2015 World Cup Winnipeg will be _____.	a) the host city b) one of the host cities

**To find out more:** [www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/fifa-releases-date-for-women-s-world-cup-game-in-winnipeg-1.2521945](http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/fifa-releases-date-for-women-s-world-cup-game-in-winnipeg-1.2521945)

## Story 2: Survey suggests more than half of Canadians contribute to RRSPs

**Step 1: Learn new vocabulary.** Learning new vocabulary before you listen makes it easier for you to understand the story. Can you match these vocabulary words with their meaning? The first one is completed for you as an example.

Vocabulary Word		Meaning
1. <u>  b  </u> a survey	a)	when you stop working, usually because of age
2. <u>  </u> to suggest something	b)	a set of questions that you ask a large number of people in order to find out about their opinions or behaviour
3. <u>  </u> an RRSP	c)	the acronym for the Royal Bank of Canada
4. <u>  </u> RBC	d)	the highest amount allowed
5. <u>  </u> to contribute something	e)	to tell someone your ideas about what they should do, where they should go etc.
6. <u>  </u> retirement	f)	to continually give money to something every month, year etc.
7. <u>  </u> the maximum amount	g)	to give money, time etc. to something
8. <u>  </u> to make a regular contribution	h)	the acronym for Registered Retirement Savings Plan, a program that helps people save money for their retirement

**Step 2: Listen to the first story** in the audio file. Focus on listening for the main ideas and key information. Listen as many times as you need to.

**Step 3: Answer questions about the story.** Which of the following statements about the story are true? Which are false? Underline or circle the correct answer. The first one is completed for you as an example.

1.	A survey found that about 59 percent of Manitobans have RRSP's.	True	<u>False</u>
2.	About 50 percent of young adults ages 18 – 34 said they have contributed to an RRSP.	True	False
3.	Canadians are contributing less money to their RRSP than in the past.	True	False
4.	Just under one-quarter of Canadians contributed the maximum annual amount to their RRSP.	True	False
5.	About half of Canadians say they make regular contributions to RRSPs.	True	False

**To find out more:** [www.cbc.ca/news/business/59-of-canadians-say-they-contributed-to-rrsp-rbc-poll-suggests-1.2524237](http://www.cbc.ca/news/business/59-of-canadians-say-they-contributed-to-rrsp-rbc-poll-suggests-1.2524237)

### Story 3: Olympics opening ceremony takes place in Sochi

**Step 1: Learn new vocabulary.** Learning new vocabulary before you listen makes it easier for you to understand the story. Can you match these vocabulary words with their meaning? The first one is completed for you as an example.

Vocabulary Word		Meaning
1. <u>d</u> an athlete	a)	serious music following long established traditions
2. ___ a ceremony	b)	someone or something famous; something that represents an important cultural ideal
3. ___ a stadium	c)	the structure within which the Olympic flame burns
4. ___ an icon	d)	someone who competes in sports competitions
5. ___ to showcase something	e)	the symbol of the Olympic games that is lit during the Opening Ceremony
6. ___ classical music	f)	to be very well-known to the public
7. ___ a tradition	g)	a building where large public events are held
8. ___ a sports hero	h)	a formal public event to celebrate something
9. ___ the Olympic flame	i)	the past tense of the verb "to light"
10. ___ the Olympic cauldron	j)	to design something to show off good qualities or talents, e.g. a special performance
11. ___ lit	k)	someone who is admired for their skill in sports
12. ___ to be famous	l)	a belief, custom or way of doing things that has lasted a long time

**Step 2: Listen to the third story** in the audio file. Focus on listening for the main ideas and key information. Listen as many times as you need to.

**Step 3: Answer questions about the story.** Fill in the blank with the correct word from the box below. The first one is completed for you as an example.

- The opening ceremony of the \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Winter Olympics took place in Sochi, Russia.
- Athletes from \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ nations walked into the \_\_\_\_\_.
- The ceremony was about Russia's \_\_\_\_\_ and sporting \_\_\_\_\_.
- It also showcased Russia's \_\_\_\_\_ traditions.
- Six Russian \_\_\_\_\_ carried the Olympic \_\_\_\_\_ through the stadium.
- A \_\_\_\_\_ goalie and a \_\_\_\_\_ lit the Olympic cauldron.

history	stadium	twenty-second	sports heroes	eighty-eight
hockey	figure skater	ceremony	cultural	classical music
flame				

**Find out more:** <http://olympics.cbc.ca/news/article/sochi-opening-ceremony-set-begin.html>

Hi, this is Heather Wells. You're listening to Learning English with CBC newscast for the week of February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

*Here is our first news story.*

### **FIFA announces women's soccer match will be held in Winnipeg**

FIFA announced last week that the Canadian women's soccer team will play a friendly match against the United States in Winnipeg. The game will be held May 8 at Investors Group Field, where the Winnipeg Blue Bombers play their home games. The Canadian team is ranked seventh in the world, while the American team is ranked first. The last time the Canadian women's soccer team played in Winnipeg was in 1990. Winnipeg has also been selected as one of six host cities for FIFA Women's World Cup in 2015. The Canadian team will not be playing in Winnipeg for the Women's World Cup.

*And in Canadian news,*

### **Survey suggests more than half of Canadians contribute to RRSPs**

According to a recent survey done by RBC, about fifty-nine per cent of Canadians have RRSPs. This is an increase from 2012, when fifty-five per cent of Canadians who responded to the survey said they had RRSPs. About half of young adults ages eighteen to thirty-four say they have contributed to a retirement savings plan. That is the highest level in five years. Canadians also say they are contributing more money towards RRSPs than they did in the past. Only twenty-three per cent of Canadians contribute the maximum amount of RRSPs. Thirty-four per cent of Canadians make regular contributions to RRSPs.

*And in international news,*

### **Olympics opening ceremony takes place in Sochi**

The opening ceremony for the twenty-second Winter Olympics took place in Sochi, Russia last week. During the ceremony, athletes from eighty-eight nations walked into the stadium. The ceremony took viewers through Russia's cultural and sporting history. There were performances by Bolshoi ballet and other Russian icons. The ceremony also showcased Russia's classical music traditions. At the end of the ceremony, six Russian sports heroes carried the Olympic flame through the stadium towards the Olympic cauldron. The Olympic cauldron was lit by a famous Russian hockey goalie and a famous Russian figure skater.

#### **Answers for Story 1**

Vocabulary: 1) f; 2) h; 3) a; 4) g; 5) b; 6) i; 7) c; 8) d; 9) e

Questions: 1) a; 2) a; 3) b; 4) b

#### **Answers for Story 2**

Vocabulary: 1) b; 2) e; 3) h; 4) c; 5) g; 6) a; 7) d; 8) f

Questions: 1) F; 2) T; 3) F; 4) T; 5) F

#### **Answers for Story 3**

Vocabulary: 1) d 2) h; 3) g; 4) b; 5) j; 6) a; 7) l; 8) k; 9) e; 10) c; 11) i; 12) f

Questions: 1) ceremony, twenty-second 2) eighty-eight, stadium 3) cultural, history  
4) classical music 5) sports heroes, flame 6) hockey, figure skater