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28 years later, Algiers Metro opens

MANY FLASH AND ONLINE ACTIVITIES FOR THIS LESSON, PLUS A LISTENING, AT:

http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1111/111103-algiers_metro.html

IN THIS LESSON:

The Reading / Tapescript	2
Phrase Match	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
Multiple Choice	5
Spelling	6
Put the Text Back Together	7
Scrambled Sentences	8
Discussion	9
Writing	10
Homework	11

ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

3rd November, 2011

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1111/111103-algiers_metro.html

North Africa's second metro system opened on Monday in Algeria's capital, Algiers. The ten-station, 6.5km line finally opened 28 years after work on it first began. The streets around the city's post office were freshly painted and thousands of people were on the streets to celebrate. Algeria's President Abdelaziz Bouteflika cut the ribbon at the opening ceremony. Work began on the subway in 1982. However, the civil war and a poor economy slowed its construction.

The cost of a single ticket is 50 dinars (\$0.67), which many Algiers residents say is too high. Transport Minister Amar Tou said the real fare is 84 dinars, but the government is making the tickets cheaper. The locals might be unhappy with the cost of traveling, but they are very happy with the trains, which will carry 300,000 passengers a day. Abdul Hamid, an office worker, said: "I can't believe the metro is finally open. I've waited my whole life to use it."

PHRASE MATCH

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1111/111103-algiers_metro.html

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. North Africa's second | a. ribbon |
| 2. finally | b. ceremony |
| 3. freshly | c. opened |
| 4. cut the | d. the subway in 1982 |
| 5. the opening | e. metro system |
| 6. Work began on | f. painted |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. civil | a. is 84 dinars |
| 2. a poor | b. war |
| 3. The cost | c. passengers a day |
| 4. the real fare | d. economy |
| 5. carry 300,000 | e. my whole life |
| 6. I've waited | f. of a single ticket |

LISTENING GAP FILL

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1111/111103-algiers_metro.html

North Africa's second metro _____ Monday in Algeria's capital, Algiers. The ten-station, 6.5km line finally opened 28 years after _____. The streets around the city's post office _____ and thousands of people _____ to celebrate. Algeria's President Abdelaziz Bouteflika cut the ribbon at the _____. Work began on the subway in 1982. However, the civil war and a poor _____ construction. The cost _____ is 50 dinars (\$0.67), which many Algiers _____ high. Transport Minister Amar Tou said the real fare is 84 dinars, but the government is making _____. The locals might be unhappy with the _____, but they are very happy with the trains, which will carry 300,000 _____. Abdul Hamid, an office worker, said: "I can't believe the metro is finally open. I've _____ life to use it."

MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1111/111103-algiers_metro.html

North Africa's second metro system (1) _____ on Monday in Algeria's capital, Algiers. The ten-station, 6.5km line (2) _____ opened 28 years after work on it first (3) _____. The streets around the city's post office were freshly painted and thousands of people were on the (4) _____ to celebrate. Algeria's President Abdelaziz Bouteflika (5) _____ the ribbon at the opening ceremony. Work began on the subway in 1982. However, the civil war and a poor economy (6) _____ its construction.

The cost of a (7) _____ ticket is 50 dinars (\$0.67), which many Algiers residents say is too high. Transport Minister Amar Tou said the real (8) _____ is 84 dinars, but the government is (9) _____ the tickets cheaper. The locals might be unhappy (10) _____ the cost of traveling, but they are very happy with the trains, which will carry 300,000 passengers (11) _____ day. Abdul Hamid, an office worker, said: "I can't believe the metro is finally open. I've waited my (12) _____ life to use it."

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | |
|-----|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1. | (a) opening | (b) opened | (c) opener |
| 2. | (a) finally | (b) fatally | (c) fishily |
| 3. | (a) begun | (b) beginning | (c) began |
| 4. | (a) rails | (b) streets | (c) rivers |
| 5. | (a) cut | (b) slashed | (c) sawed |
| 6. | (a) slowed | (b) slowing | (c) slower |
| 7. | (a) married | (b) single | (c) divorced |
| 8. | (a) fair | (b) fear | (c) fare |
| 9. | (a) made | (b) making | (c) makes |
| 10. | (a) with | (b) of | (c) by |
| 11. | (a) the | (b) on | (c) a |
| 12. | (a) every | (b) all | (c) whole |

SPELLING

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1111/111103-algiers_metro.html

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. metro mssyte
2. Algeria's icplata
3. yelsrfh painted
4. nshdustao of people
5. on the streets to rcebtaeel
6. the iegnpon ceremony

Paragraph 2

7. viicl war
8. a poor oneyocm
9. The cost of a ilegns ticket
10. making the tickets pehecar
11. an ciofef worker
12. I've waited my whelo life

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1111/111103-algiers_metro.html

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () the ribbon at the opening ceremony. Work began on the subway in
- () people were on the streets to celebrate. Algeria's President Abdelaziz Bouteflika cut
- () 1982. However, the civil war and a poor economy slowed its construction.
- () around the city's post office were freshly painted and thousands of
- () the government is making the tickets cheaper. The locals might be unhappy
- () believe the metro is finally open. I've waited my whole life to use it."
- () with the cost of traveling, but they are very happy with the trains, which will carry
- () -station, 6.5km line finally opened 28 years after work on it first began. The streets
- () 300,000 passengers a day. Abdul Hamid, an office worker, said: "I can't
- () say is too high. Transport Minister Amar Tou said the real fare is 84 dinars, but
- () The cost of a single ticket is 50 dinars (\$0.67), which many Algiers residents
- (**1**) North Africa's second metro system opened on Monday in Algeria's capital, Algiers. The ten

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

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With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. metro system North opened Africa's on second Monday.

2. office post city's the around streets The.

3. people the celebrate of on to Thousands were streets.

4. the cut opening the ceremony ribbon at Bouteflika.

5. the on began Work 1982 in subway.

6. A economy its poor slowed construction.

7. government The cheaper tickets the making is.

8. the of with cost traveling Unhappy.

9. day a passengers 300,000 Carry.

10. use my it whole life I've to waited.

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

HOMEWORK

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. THE METRO: Search the Internet and find more information about the Algiers metro. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about the metro. Include an imaginary interview with the boss of the Metro and an Algiers resident. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

4. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

5. LETTER: Write a letter to an Algiers resident. Ask him/her three questions about the metro. Give him/her three of your opinions on metro systems. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.