



BAC BLANC 2021

EPREUVE DE L.V1 ANGLAIS

Durée : 03h

Coefficient: 2

SERIES: A1 – A2

If Israel did not cause Beirut's explosion, they sure had a plan to exploit it

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On hearing reports of the deadly explosions that rocked Beirut on August 4, 2020, Lebanon's President Michel Aoun immediately announced it may have been a bomb or rocket. He also had good reason to assume Israel was behind the largest blast in Beirut's history, which led to 220 deaths and 7,000 injuries and caused \$10-15 billion in property damage. Along with
5 calling the country an "enemy of the state," Israel had just clashed with Hezbollah soldiers. In fact, the mainstream media was trying to verify if the claim was true that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had confirmed the Beirut explosion as an attack of their own.

The two deadly explosions came just days after a major security incident at the border between the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights and Lebanon. The incident involved Israeli soldiers
10 and four Hezbollah fighters who allegedly crossed the border and came days after a Hezbollah member was killed by Israeli airstrikes in Syria and an Israeli drone crashed in Lebanon. Hezbollah said their fighters had not crossed the border, but that Israel opened fire first. Two deadly explosions were heard in Lebanon; an Israeli shell smashed in a civilian home, narrowly missing a family in the house at the time.

Lebanon, home to 5 million Sunni, Shia, Druze, Christian, and Palestinian refugees since
15 1948, suffered a 15-year civil war from 1975-1990. Stoked by Israel, it led to 120,000 deaths and a million refugees. Israel then invaded in 1982, briefly occupied Beirut, driving the Palestinian Liberation Organization into exile, and abetted a Maronite militia-led massacre of 3,500
20 Palestinian refugees and Lebanese, Iranian, Syrian, Pakistani and Algerian civilians at the Sabra and Shatila camps. Following the civil war, Israel's occupation of southern Lebanon continued until 2000, when Israel abandoned its client South Lebanon Army and withdrew.

Hezbollah (1982) Party of God emerged in response to the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, inspired by the Iranian Revolution and Palestinian resistance. A Shia organization feared by
Israel, it inspired the Sunni Palestinian Hamas. It helps the poor and resists Israel through militant
25 grassroots organizations. Its continued popularity, deriving especially from its effective defence of the country against the Israeli 2006 aggression and more recent ones, has led to its participation in coalition governments since 2005. Indeed, under the intense pressure of threatened and actual invasions by Israel during the past 15-years, it has gained even more power.

Adapted from an article by CNN.Com Correspondent Dallas Darlin

COMPREHENSION CHECK

A/ Match the words from the text in column A with their meaning in Column B according to the text. There are more words in (B) than in (A). Write your answers like in the example.

Example: 7- c

COLUMN A	COLUMN B
1- Reports (line1)	a- conventional
2- Rocked (line1)	b- shook violently ✓
3- Blast (line3)	c- supposedly ✓
4- injuries (line4)	d- retreated ✓
5- mainstream (line6)	e- explosion
6- claim (line6)	f- hit very hard ✓
7- allegedly (line10)	g- menaced ✓
8- smashed (line13) 8	h- allegation ✓
9- abetted (line18)	i- information ✓
10-withdrew (line21)	j- sustained ✓
11-threatened (line27)	k- damages ✓
	l- weapon ✓

B/ Read the text again and say if these statements are true or false. Write T for true and F for false, then quote the line (s) to justify your answers. Do like in the example.

Example: 1. T (the title)

1. Israel didn't cause the Beirut's explosion.
2. The Beirut accident occurred after August 4th.
3. Israel was identified as the responsible for the accident
4. The accident makes more wounded than deaths.
5. More than two explosions were heard.
6. Lebanon population is less than 5 million people.
7. The civil war between Israel and Lebanon lasted more than a decade.
8. The civil war between Israel and Lebanon made 12.000 wounded people.
9. Following the civil war Israel invaded all the Lebanon territory.
10. Lebanon occupation by Israel lasted 18 years.
11. Hamas never joined the consensus government.

PART TWO: LANGUAGE IN USE (30%)

This is part of an article about The European Economic Union's (EU) support to the population of Beirut. To make it meaningful, fill in the numbered gaps with the appropriate words from the box below. Write your answers like in the example. *I - an*

blast - catastrophe - funds - crisis - government - help - investigation
- strongly - port - an - consequences

The EU mobilised additional € 100 million in response to the Beirut port explosion in Lebanon.

The EU has adopted *an* additional support package of close to € 100 million *to help*. Funds Lebanon address the *consequences* of the 4 August 2020 explosion at the *port* of Beirut and support a recovery from the *crisis*, focused on meeting the population's need.

The EU has acted quickly to support the population affected by the *crisis*, which remains under *port*. People in Beirut still *strongly* feel the consequences of the explosion, that came in addition to political and socio-economic *blast* as well as the covid-19 pandemic. Our significant additional *contribution* will focus on a recovery for the people, including access to basic services and social protection. The EU expects the shift formation of a *coalition* that will take forward the essential reforms that must underpin a broader recovery. *help*

PART THREE: WRITING (30%)

Task one:

The last issue of your English Club magazine contains the following topic for a writing competition: 'Negotiation is the solution to all conflict / misunderstanding'. Are you for or against this assertion. In your contribution you may consider the following:

- All misunderstanding end by discussion / talk
- Dialogue can improve relationship between individual and countries
- Life on earth would be better if Gandhi's non-violent approach inspires all human beings.

Task two:

As a representative of STUDENTS' AWARENESS UNION, you receive a lot of complaints of your peers who suffered from the lack of classrooms, teachers and desks in your school, even in most schools in Bouaké. This Union recommends you to write to the Ministry of National Education (P.O BOX 203 Abidjan 03) to complain about this situation and propose some solutions to cope with it. In your writing, you may:

- start by stating your complaint
- then state the consequences of these lacks
- Finally suggest some solutions.