

## Unit 5

# Foreign or Worlds News

### What Is Foreign or Worlds News?

Foreign or world news concerns the events that involve people, places, problems, issues, situations and movements in a certain country or countries other than one's own. The news can be in the realm of politics, economics, finance, business, sociology, environment, religion, war, space, entertainment, population problems, exiles, disasters, inventions, discoveries, and sports.

### Identifying Foreign or Worlds News

#### ***Politics in Cambodia***

##### **King says he won't lead team to UN**

*King Narodom Sihanouk yesterday snubbed an appeal made by his son, deposed premier Prince Narodom Ranariddh, for the monarch to represent Cambodia at the upcoming UN General Assembly session.*

*Prince Rannariddh, who was ousted as first premier in a July 5-6 coup, made the proposal after the King signed a letter accrediting his rivals, new First Premier Ung Hout and the coup leader, Second Premier Hun Sen, for the UN session.*

*"I will not permit myself to go to the UN. In the place of Hun Sen and Ung Huot who would not foil to reproach me for repudiating my own signature on their accreditation letter," the King said in an interview whose text was released by the Royal Palace yesterday*

*King Sihanouk said the two premiers “would accuse me of violating our constitutions by wanting to do work that has been designated to the government and not to the King.”*

*The 74-year-old monarch, who suffers from cancer—in remission—hypertension and cataracts, last month returned to Cambodia after spending six months in Beijing.*

## **Vocabulary:**

snub	appeal	oust	coup (coup d' état)	deposed
proposal	accredit		rival	reproach
premier	repudiate		accreditation	text
accuse	designate		remission	hypertension
cataract	session		assembly	violate constitution

## **idioms or expressions:**

in the place of	suffer from
accuse someone of doing something	to represent... , ... <b>at</b> .....

## **The 5 Ws and H in this news story are:**

who: Ring Narodom Sihanouk, Prince Narodom Ranaridhh  
First Premier Ung Huot, Second Premier Hun Sen

**What:** An appeal had been made by Prince Narodom Ranaridhh to permit Ring Narodom Sihanouk to represent Cambodia at the UN General Assembly in the place of the two premiers.

*Where:* In Phnom Penh, Cambodia

*When:* Yesterday

*Why:* Prince Narodom Ranariddh wanted King Sihanouk to represent Cambodia after the king had signed a letter accrediting his rivals for the UN session. The prince was ousted in a July 5-6 coup. King Sihanouk said he refused to follow his son's proposal because he did not want to discredit his own signature in the accreditation letter.

*How:* Prince Ranariddh wanted his father, King Sihanouk, to join the UN General Assembly in the place of the two new premiers who ousted him.

## **The death of a world celebrity**

### **World bows to "Saint of the Gutters"**

#### **Sate funeral planned for Mother Teresa**

*Calcutta, India, Reuters*

*The world bowed in homage to Mother Teresa **yesterday** as India cast tradition aside and decided to hold a state funeral for the tiny saint of Calcutta's slums.*

*World dignitaries and common citizens offered a flood of tributes to the memory **of** the Roman Catholic nun who, frail in frame but iron in will, sent a message **of** hope to millions of destitute and **ill** who knew her simply as Mother.*

*"Mother Teresa marked the **history** of our century," Pope John Paul said in Rome. "She served ail human beings by promoting their **dignity** and **respect**, and made those who had been defeated **by** life **feel** the tenderness **of** God "*

*The wizened but revered Mother Teresa died of a heart attack on Friday in her Missionaries of Charity headquarters in the crowded India city of Calcutta, Kipling's "City of Dreadful Night" which Mother Teresa made home for most of her 87 years.*

*"I can't breathe anymore," were her last words before she sank back on her bed and expired, witness said*

*Thousands of her followers, many in tears, converged on Mother House, the headquarters of Mother Teresa's network of homes for the sick, dying and poor in some 115 countries.*

*\*Mother, you are immortal, "Mother, you will always remain in our hearts," read two placards held by students in white uniforms who stood in a moonson drizzle.*

*Police behind barricades kept most of the faithful out in the rain while dozens of nuns gathered in an upstairs room around Mother Teresa's body, some touching her exposed feet.*

*Dressed in her traditional white sari with blue trim, her face ashen and her hands crossed Mother Teresa's embalmed body lay on a table covered with a white sheet and flowers.*

*Prime Minister Inder Kumar Gujral's cabinet broke with protocol and decided to accord Mother Teresa a state funeral on September 13 when she is to be buried at her religious order in Calcutta.*

*"Mother Teresa was the personification of mercy and compassion, reaching out to alleviate the suffering of millions the world over," the cabinet said in a resolution "India has lost one of the greatest social workers of all time."*

*Some drew parallels between Mother Teresa and Princess Diana, who died less than six days before the nun and whose funeral took place yesterday.*

*The slender, glamorous blonde was a half century younger than the stooped Roman Catholic nun and a big contrast in style, but their common devotion to the downtrodden was remembered*

(From *The Bangkok Post*, Sunday September 7, 1997.)

### **Vocabulary:**

gutters	dignitary	tribute	destitute
wizened	revered	headquarters	expire
converge	immortal	placard	drizzle
barricade	embalmed	protocol	personification
compassion	alleviate	parallel	downtrodden

### **Idioms and expressions:**

Saint of the Gutters	bow in homage	cast. . . . .aside
offer a flood of tributes	frail in frame	but iron in will
make home for most of her 87 years	break with protocol	
the personification of mercy and compassion	state funeral	
of all time	draw parallels	
	a half century younger	

### **The 5 Ws and H in this news story are:**

**Who:** Mother Teresa, the saint of Calcutta's slums. The government of India. Pope John Paul. Mother's followers. The Indian police. People all over India and elsewhere.

**What:** Mother Teresa died because of a heart attack. The government of India decided to hold a state funeral for Mother Teresa in honor and memory of her great sacrifice to the poor, the sick, and the dying. Pope John Paul praised her as a remarkable person in the history of the century. People in India were in mourning watching her dead body.

**where:** In Calcutta India

**When:** Yesterday

**Why:** Because of her great sacrifice.

**How:** Thousands of Mother Teresa's followers gathered at the headquarters of her network in Calcutta catching a last glimpse of her dead body. World dignitaries and common people gave tributes to the memory of Mother Teresa. People drew a parallel between Mother Teresa and Princess Diana who died less than six days before the nun.

## U.S. gun control:

### **Jury sides with Beretta**

*Oakland, Reuters*

*The parents of a boy who died while **playing with a gun** lost their bid on **Monday** to force handgun maker Beretta U.S.A. to pay damages for **failing to include safety features on the pistol that killed him.***

*In case watched **closely** on both sides of the debate over gun control, a **12-member jury sided with Beretta in the wrongful-death lawsuit that Lynn and Griffin Dix of Berkely field** against the company **after** their son, **Kenzo, 15** was **killed** in 1994.*

*The boy died as he and a schoolmate were playing with his father's Beretta semi-automatic handgun. The gun was holding it when it went off.*

*Lawyers for Beretta, which is headquartered in Italy, had argued that responsibility for the death lay with Mr. Dix, for leaving a loaded gun in a camera bag, and Kenzo's friend, for ignoring basic rules of gun safety.*

(From *The Bangkok Post*, Wednesday November 18, 1998)

### **Vocabulary:**

jury	bid	feature	pistol
debate	lawsuit	schoolmate	go off
argue	responsibility	ignore	side

### **Idioms and expressions:**

to side with	lose one's bid
handgun maker	to pay damages for
fail to do something	in the lawsuit
to file against	the debate over gun control

### **The 5 Ws and H in this news story are:**

**Who:** The parents of a boy who died while playing with a gun.  
The lawyers of Beretta. The jury.

**What:** The parents of the boy sued Beretta, the gunmaker, for their failure to include safety features on the gun but their attempt to force Beretta to pay for all the damages was a failure. The jury refused to force Beretta to be responsible for the boy's death because it was an accident.

- Where:** In Oakland
- When:** Monday
- Why:** It was an accident because the gun was left in a camera bag and was loaded by the father himself. Besides, the boy's schoolmate held the gun while they played with it.
- How:** Beretta refused to pay for the damages because it was the boy's father and his schoolmate who were responsible for the boy's death.

## Activities

### Exercise 1

Put the verbs in the headlines of the following foreign news into the correct form.

1. Clinton (**baulk**) ..... a t Kim overture.
2. World Cup (kick off) ..... **with** drunken clash.
3. Netanyahu (satisfy) ..... **by** Arafat backdown.
4. Weapons inspectors (go back) ..... **t** o work.
5. Jury (side) ..... with Beretta.
6. Three 'ringleaders' (charge) ..... **wi th** 'aggravated' pimping.
7. Jiang (fear) ..... **for** ethnic Chinese.
8. Lewinsky (sign) ..... deal for hear **first** book.
9. America (get) ..... **t** o hear original Lewinsky tales.
10. **Apec** leaders (urge) ..... **t** o take real action.



## Exercise 2

Put the information of the following foreign news in the correct order by writing 1,2,3,4 and 5 in the space provided.

..... The Chinese foreign ministry spokesman, Tang Gouqiang, said he appreciated the efforts made by Mr. Estrada “to resolve the matter **diplomatically.**”

..... **China And Philippines talk confidence**

..... Philippines President Joseph Estrada said he and China President Jiang Zemin agreed to settle the dispute peacefully, and endorsed a proposal to form a group of experts who will work on finding ways to build confidence between the two nations.

..... Kuala Lumpur--- The leaders of China and the Philippines gave their support yesterday to a plan designed to reduce tensions caused by their dispute over a reef in the South China **Sea.**

..... Mr. Estrada’s spokesman, Jerry **Barican**, said the leaders also agreed that natural resources in the area of Mischief Reef should be used jointly by the two nations.

(From **The Bangkok** Post, Wednesday November 18, 1998.)

### Exercise 3

From the news story about China and the Philippines, find the answers for the following questions:

- 3.1 The synonym of 'support' is .....
- 3.2 The synonym of 'reduce tensions' is .....
- 3.3 What does 'the matter' refer to? .....
- 3.4 Who are 'the leaders'? .....
- 3.5 What are 'the two nations'? ... ..

### Exercise 4

Fill in the following foreign news story with the words given below.

- weather
- environment
- increased
- burned
- logging
- fires
- report
- habitats
- called for
- impact
- smog haze
- mismanagement
- along with
- remembered
- carbon dioxide

#### ***Record fires reported***

***'97 the year the world blazed,' WWF says***

*London, AFP*

*More tropical forest ..... around the world 1997 than at any other time in recorded history, a ..... by the World Wide Fund for Nature said yesterday.*

*The fund said "1997 will be ..... as the year the world caught ..... said Jean-Paul Jeanrenaud, head of its forest programme.*

*The organization ..... an international court of the ..... to be set up to rule on cases where environmental ..... at a national level had a major global .....*

*At least five million hectares of forest and other land burned in Indonesia and Brazil alone, ..... vast areas of Papua New Guinea, Columbia, Peru, Tanzania, Kenya, Rwanda and other parts of Africa. Large scale fires also burned in Australia, China and Russia.*

*Mr. Jeanrenaud said new figures showed in the Brazilian Amazon, forest fires ..... by more than 50 percent over 1996.*

*Many fires were started to clear land for planting or hide illegal .....*

*The report said influences of the EL Nino weather pattern, intensified by pollution- induced climate change, had turned previous & moist forest drier ..... which burned more easily.*

*"We are creating a vicious circle of destruction, where increased fires are both a result of changes in the ..... and a contributory factor to these changes," said Mr. Jeanrenaud*

*The fires in Indonesia which threw up a ..... across large expanses of Southeast Asia earlier this year had set peat deposits on fire which will continue to burn deep underground, he said.*

*He estimated one million hectares of peat forests were still burning in Indonesia and will produce more ..... in the next six months than the entire annual contribution from cars and power stations in Western Europe.*

## Exercise 5

Complete the following sentences with a clause or phrase.

1. Leaders arriving for the **Apec** summit were greeted with .....
2. Japan and the United States, which....., **are** to jointly recapitahse the indebted banks.
3. Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, who....., greeted all leaders of the 21 member Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (**APEC**).
4. Before....., the leaders were entertained by a display of silat, a Malaysian martial art using daggars.
5. Lord Spencer's voice cracked with emotion as.....
6. Queen Elizabeth went to St. James's Palace where.....
7. Princess Diana's burial place is opened each year for a number of weeks so that.....
8. The Empire State Building was lit in the **colours** of the British flag--blue, white and red-at sunset on Thursday to.....
9. Despite....., the election took place as scheduled.
10. The governor said in a television interview later that.....