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# BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

## Lingohack

### 21st October

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#### Today's Headlines:

**Thousands of people flee Aleppo**

**British-Chinese relations**

**Restoring Tutankhamun's beard**

#### Transcript:

It's estimated 35,000 people have been **displaced** by an upsurge in fighting around the Syrian city of Aleppo. It's one of five areas where government forces have **launched offensives** since Russia began supporting their operations with airstrikes at the end of September.

In a speech at Buckingham Palace, Queen Elizabeth has described the emerging relationship between China and the UK as a global partnership. She said the state visit of China's president Xi Jinping, is a **defining moment**.

A year ago the beard of Tutankhamun in a museum in Cairo was accidentally knocked off. It was then very hastily reattached amid much **controversy**. Well it's now confirmed that a team of experts is to remove the beard and reattach it more carefully. It could all take up to two months.

#### Words and phrases and definitions:

##### **displaced**

forced out of someone's or something's original position

##### **launched offensives**

started military attacks

##### **defining moment**

a point in time that decides what happens in the future

##### **controversy**

disagreement or argument about something because people feel strongly about it

**Watch the video online:** <http://bbc.in/1RWbSgd>

### Exercise:

Use one of the words or phrases from Lingohack to complete each of these sentences. Note that you may have to change the form of a word or phrase to complete the sentence correctly.

### **displaced / launched offensives / defining moment / controversy**

1. The invention of the motor car was a \_\_\_\_\_ for the future of people's mobility.
2. People in the village were \_\_\_\_\_ after weeks of rain caused a terrible flood.
3. It was a dangerous situation for everyone as the enemy army \_\_\_\_\_ on the city.
4. There was much \_\_\_\_\_ about plans to build a wind farm in an area of outstanding natural beauty.

### Answers:

1. The invention of the motor car was a **defining moment** for the future of people's mobility.
2. People in the village were **displaced** after weeks of rain caused a terrible flood.
3. It was a dangerous situation for everyone as the enemy army **launched offensives** on the city.
4. There was much **controversy** about plans to build a wind farm in an area of outstanding natural beauty.