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Tourism trouble in Egypt



The story...

Tourism trouble in Egypt

Learn language related to...

economic problems

Need-to-know language

killed off – stopped or destroyed (something happening)

a blow – a problem / a setback

turmoil – uncertainty and chaos

on a mission – doing something with determination

counting on – relying or depending on (something)

Answer this...

How many camels did Ashraf have before the coronavirus pandemic?

Watch the video online: <https://bbc.in/2OQMjU6>

Transcript

An historic clean up at the pyramids. For millennia, this world wonder has wowed visitors. But coronavirus **killed off** Egypt's tourism and with it, the livelihoods of millions. Like Ashraf - unable to feed his family, he kept his favourite camel, but had to sell two others.

“It has been tough on everyone,” he says. “I have no money. A camel’s food alone costs six dollars a day.”

The ancient attractions are now reopening, but they’re empty except for the occasional local visitor. It’s **a blow** after tourism had just recovered from years of **turmoil**.

Guide Shahenda, loves taking tourists around her country. Since the pandemic, she's lost a thousand holiday bookings. For now, she's only sightseeing with her husband.

Shahenda Adel, tour guide

We had to cancel flights, hotels, and that includes everyone who works in the hotel. The company itself and people behind desks - we all lost our jobs. And then you have drivers, you have cars, restaurants – all of these things are down.

The tourism minister's **on a mission** to bring back business and revive the economy, highlighting new hygiene and safety rules and showing how foreigners can now fly in to some beach resorts.

Minister of Tourism and Antiquities, Khalid Al-Anany

We lost around one billion dollars per month and we are estimating that we will still lose a lot of money during the next coming weeks and months.

Restoring tourism will take time. But Egypt's **counting on** the enduring allure of its rich pharaonic past. And for a star attraction what could be more appropriate these days than a golden face mask?

Did you get it?

How many camels did Ashraf have before the coronavirus pandemic?

Ashraf had three camels, but he had to sell two.