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# BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

## Words in the News

### Monuments in Nepal reopen



*NB: This is not a word-for-word transcript*

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#### Transcript

The scene is one of **devastation**. But these monuments are now open again to the public.

According to the UN's **heritage** body, Unesco, their state is **precarious**.

But the **cash-strapped** Nepalese government feels the need to **kick-start** tourism.

At least 740 monuments were damaged by two earthquakes less than two months ago, including centuries-old temples, monasteries and palaces.

#### Vocabulary

##### **devastation**

large scale destruction, damage

##### **heritage**

something created in the past that still has historical importance to a particular society

##### **precarious**

unstable, in a state that can cause danger

##### **cash-strapped**

without enough money

##### **kick-start**

to activate

**Watch this video online: Monuments in Nepal reopen** <http://bbc.in/1LfepBt>

## Exercise

Use one of the words or phrases below to complete each of these sentences from news reports.

Note that you may have to change the form of a word to complete the sentence correctly.

**devastation / heritage / precarious / cash-strapped /kick-start**

1. When acquired in 1998 the roof at Gelli Iago had already collapsed and its chimney and external walls were in a \_\_\_\_\_ state, said the trust.
2. The latest eurozone inflation figures showed inflation turned negative in December, with prices down 0.2% from a year earlier, but the data means the European Central Bank may be forced to try fresh stimulus measures to \_\_\_\_\_ the economy.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Greece is trying to reach a deal that will unlock bailout funds. It is seeking to avoid defaulting on a €1.5bn debt repayment to the IMF.
4. Brazil now has five cultural art forms which have been given Unesco cultural \_\_\_\_\_ status.  
They include several dance and music forms, indigenous rituals and art.
5. A lorry driver has been arrested after a crash involving up to 13 vehicles near Tunbridge Wells left "a scene of carnage and \_\_\_\_\_".

## Answers

1. When acquired in 1998 the roof at Gelli Iago had already collapsed and its chimney and external walls were in a **precarious** state, said the trust.

**Source:** The mystery of a ruined Snowdonia cottage's 100 shoes  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-11400041>

2. The latest eurozone inflation figures showed inflation turned negative in December, with prices down 0.2% from a year earlier, but the data means the European Central Bank may be forced to try fresh stimulus measures to **kick-start** the economy.

**Source:** Stocks in Asia rise following positive data from the US  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-30721508>

3. **Cash-strapped** Greece is trying to reach a deal that will unlock bailout funds. It is seeking to avoid defaulting on a €1.5bn debt repayment to the IMF.

**Source:** European shares fall amid Greek default fears  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-33106990>

4. Brazil now has five cultural art forms which have been given Unesco cultural **heritage** status.

They include several dance and music forms, indigenous rituals and art.

**Source:** Brazil's capoeira gains UN cultural heritage status  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-30219941>

5. A lorry driver has been arrested after a crash involving up to 13 vehicles near Tunbridge Wells left "a scene of carnage and **devastation**".

**Source:** Lorry driver arrested over 'carnage and devastation'  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-kent-33087309>