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# BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

## News Review

### Notre-Dame fire finally under control

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#### The story

Senior fire officers in Paris say the blaze that's devastated Notre-Dame is now under control. The spire and roof of the medieval cathedral, one of the world's great religious landmarks, have been gutted. But the main structure, including the two towers, has been saved. A fireman has been badly injured.

#### Vocabulary

##### ravages

damages badly

- War ravages every nation that takes part in it.
- People looking to avoid the ravages of time spend a fortune on make-up.

##### smoulders

burns with smoke but without flames

- Be careful after a fire. Buildings look safe, but they often smoulder for a long time.
- It was love at first sight after she gave him a smouldering look across the room.

##### priceless

so valuable that it cannot be priced

- Thieves managed to enter the museum but no priceless artwork was stolen.
- This is the last photo we ever took together. It's priceless to me.

#### Language challenge

Complete this sentence: The building was \_\_\_\_ by fire.

- a) gutted
- b) ransacked
- c) overhauled

#### Answer

a) gutted