
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

News Review

New China virus spreads

The story

A fourth person has died in China from a new virus that has spread rapidly across the country. The 89-year-old man is the latest victim of the illness that causes a type of pneumonia. Authorities have now confirmed it can be spread person-to-person with 200 infected so far.

Vocabulary

human-to-human

from one person to another person

- Travel increases the risk of human-to-human transmission.
- Human-to-human transfer is not thought to be likely.

on alert

ready to react quickly to a difficult situation

- Maria was on alert for the baby's birth.
- Rob is always on alert for biscuits!

convene

arrange a meeting or gathering

- The department head convened a meeting to discuss redundancies.
- The politicians convened to debate the new legislation.

Language challenge

Which word means 'record something officially'?

- a. wood
- b. log
- c. tree

Answer:

- b) log