

THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210408-iran-nuclear-deal.html>

Talks between Iran and the USA to revive the 2015 Iran nuclear deal are set to resume. At this early stage, the discussions will be indirect and there will be no face-to-face meetings between high-level officials. The discussions will take place in Vienna and European officials will act as intermediaries. On the table is the revival of the 2015 pact under which economic sanctions on Iran were eased in return for curbs on Iran's nuclear program. This pact was intended to make it harder for Iran to develop nuclear weapons and was abandoned by Donald Trump under his administration. Officials in Tehran have always denied they have had any intentions to develop such weapons.

Negotiators on both sides say the talks will be difficult and neither side foresees any early breakthroughs. US President Joe Biden is keen to re-engage with Iran and revive the nuclear deal. He hopes Iran will resume its compliance with the 2015 deal. US negotiator Robert Malley said: "The primary issues to be discussed are actually quite simple. They are, on the one hand, the nuclear steps that Iran would need to take to return to compliance with the 2015 nuclear accord, and on the other hand, the sanctions-relief steps that the United States would need to take." Iran said it is ready to "reverse its remedial measures, which were taken because of the opposite side's violation of the treaty."

Sources: https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/us-iran-talks-nuclear-deal/2021/04/05/8fc279dc-962e-11eb-b28d-bfa7bb5cb2a5_story.html
<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/4/6/vienna-talks-iran-and-world-powers-begin-nuclear-negotiations>
<https://www.voanews.com/usa/us-expects-difficult-iran-talks-sees-no-quick-breakthrough>

WARM-UPS

1. NUCLEAR WEAPONS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about nuclear weapons. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

talks / nuclear / deal / officials / discussions / revival / weapons / intentions / develop negotiators / compliance / primary / issues / steps / hand / remedial / measures

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. MORATORIUM: Students A **strongly** believe there should be a moratorium (total ban) on nuclear weapons; Students B **strongly** believe otherwise. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. IRAN: Go online and find out about these things about Iran. What did you find out? What do you think of these things? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What I Found Out	What I Think?
Food		
Literature		
Religion		
Sightseeing		
History		
Language		

5. DEAL: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "deal". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. ENERGY: Rank these with your partner. Put the best forms of energy at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Nuclear
- Solar
- Oil
- Bio-fuel
- Wind power
- Hydro-electricity
- Tidal energy
- Thermal energy

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. revive | a. A thing one set out to do; an aim or plan. |
| 2. resume | b. A person who acts as a link between people in order to try to bring about an agreement. |
| 3. intermediary | c. Stop from happening; restrain or keep in check. |
| 4. pact | d. Bring back to how it was before. |
| 5. curb | e. Having been deserted or cast off. |
| 6. abandoned | f. Begin to do or pursue something again after a pause or interruption |
| 7. intention | g. A formal agreement between individuals or parties. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 8. negotiator | h. The action or fact of following a wish or command. |
| 9. foresee | i. Action taken by a nation to get another nation to conform to an international agreement. |
| 10. breakthrough | j. The action of breaking rules. |
| 11. compliance | k. Be aware of beforehand; predict. |
| 12. sanctions | l. Giving or intended as a cure. |
| 13. remedial | m. A sudden, dramatic, and important discovery or development. |
| 14. violation | n. A person who conducts talks and discussions. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210408-iran-nuclear-deal.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. There will be high-level face-to-face meetings at the talks. **T / F**
- b. The talks will take place in the city of Vienna. **T / F**
- c. Officials from Asia and Africa will act as intermediaries at the talks. **T / F**
- d. Donald Trump's government abandoned the 2015 pact. **T / F**
- e. The negotiators say they predict a few early breakthroughs. **T / F**
- f. A U.S. negotiator said the primary issues are extremely complicated. **T / F**
- g. The U.S. negotiator said he would talk about sanctions-relief steps. **T / F**
- h. Iran said it is ready to reverse remedial measures it took. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| 1. revive | a. breach |
| 2. intermediaries | b. agreement |
| 3. pact | c. anticipates |
| 4. intended | d. refuted |
| 5. denied | e. go-betweens |
| 6. foresees | f. adherence |
| 7. compliance | g. measures |
| 8. primary | h. resuscitate |
| 9. steps | i. main |
| 10. violation | j. meant |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. set | a. have had any intentions |
| 2. At this early | b. with the 2015 deal |
| 3. there will be no face-to-face | c. need to take |
| 4. economic | d. stage |
| 5. denied they | e. of the treaty |
| 6. neither side foresees any | f. sanctions |
| 7. resume its compliance | g. to resume |
| 8. steps that Iran would | h. its remedial measures |
| 9. Iran said it is ready to reverse | i. meetings |
| 10. the opposite side's violation | j. early breakthroughs |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210408-iran-nuclear-deal.html>

1. At what stage of the meetings will discussions be indirect?
2. In what European city will the discussions take place?
3. What things were eased in the 2015 pact?
4. What was the pact intended to make it harder for Iran to do?
5. Who said Iran never had any intentions to develop nuclear weapons?
6. What do negotiators not foresee in the talks?
7. Who is keen to re-engage with Iran?
8. What did a U.S. negotiator say about the primary issues?
9. What kinds of steps did the negotiator say the US would need to take?
10. What did Iran say it would reverse?

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2104/210408-iran-nuclear-deal.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'nuclear' and 'deal'.

nuclear	deal

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• resume• face• table• eased• abandoned• denied	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• difficult• hopes• primary• hand• steps• opposite
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NUCLEAR WEAPONS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'nuclear'?
3. What do you know about the 2015 Iran nuclear deal?
4. What do you think about nuclear power?
5. What do you think about nuclear weapons?
6. What do you know about Iran?
7. Why did the U.S. impose sanctions on Iran?
8. How effective are sanctions?
9. How successful do you think the discussions will be?
10. What advice do you have for the negotiators?

Iran and U.S. in talks to revive nuclear deal – 8th April, 2021
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NUCLEAR WEAPONS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'deal'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Why do some countries have nuclear weapons?
15. How good are you at negotiating?
16. What are your country's relations with Iran and the USA like?
17. What do you think this situation will be like a year from now?
18. Why does Iran think the USA violated the 2015 treaty?
19. Should any country have nuclear weapons?
20. What questions would you like to ask the negotiators?