



The Complicated History Between Israel and Palestine

Hamas, an extremist organization of Palestinian Arabs attacked Israel in early October, prompting Israel to pay them back. In just one month, about 10,000 people were killed. Of these, about 1,500 were Israeli soldiers while about 8,000 were civilians, including women and children.

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is a long-standing dispute between two groups of people: the Israelis, who are primarily Jewish, and the Palestinians, who are mostly Arabs.

In ancient times, the area was controlled by Jewish tribes. However, around the time of Jesus, the region had become part of the Roman Empire, and the Jews had to leave. By the 7th century, the region was under Muslim rule.

In the late 19th century, Britain **took up the reins of** the region and encouraged Jews to consider Palestine their homeland, causing a large number of Jewish immigrants to move there. This led to tensions with the Palestinians, who have lived there for generations. They felt threatened by the growing Jewish presence, especially when there was another flood of Jewish immigrants after World War II.



Israel officially declared its independence in 1948 and was immediately attacked by neighboring Arab countries. This conflict resulted in hundreds of thousands of Palestinians becoming refugees and deepened the divisions between the two sides.

The United Nations suggested dividing Palestine into separate Jewish and Arab states. While the Jews accepted this plan, the Arabs refused, leading to increased conflict. Various attempts have been made to address the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. However, no lasting solution for peace has been found.

Reading Comprehension

- () 1. What is the purpose of this passage? (**purpose**)
- (A) To convince people Hamas is the contributing factor to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
 (B) To show the possible solution to the conflict suggested by the United Nations.
 (C) To point out the complex relationship between Palestine and Israel throughout history.
 (D) To find out the reason for Palestine's attack and the measures they took.
- () 2. According to the passage, which of the following statements is **NOT** true? (**supporting details**)
- (A) Most of the Israelis are Jewish, while the Palestinians are mostly Arabs.
 (B) The tension between countries grew owing to the surge of Jews after World War II.
 (C) The establishment of the country Israel was possibly urged by Britain.
 (D) The growing divisions resulted from the Muslim rule over the Jewish tribes.
- () 3. Which of the following is closet in meaning to **“took up the reins of”** in the fourth paragraph? (**words in context**)
- (A) Got rid of. (B) Took control of.
 (C) Kept up with. (D) Stayed away from.
- () 4. The following statements are numbered from ❶ to ❷. According to the passage, from (A) to (D) in the arrangements below, which one includes only the correct statements?
- ❶ The Arabs accepted the United Nations' plan for dividing Palestine.
 ❷ The creation of Israel led to the attack by its neighboring Arab countries.
 ❸ The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has caused primarily military casualties.
 ❹ The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has to do with religious dispute.
 ❺ Hamas wanted to create an Islamic country and launched an attack on Israel.
 ❻ The Israeli-Palestinian conflict began after World War II.
 ❼ Jews were once governed by Britain and encouraged to express their stance.

(A)	❷	❸	❹	❺
(B)	❷	❹	❺	❻
(C)	❶	❸	❺	❻
(D)	❶	❹	❺	❼

Vocabulary and Phrases

1. extremist *n.; adj.* 極端主義者(的) 4. civilian *n.* 平民 7. tension *n.* 緊張局勢, 緊張關係
 2. prompt *v.* 引發, 激起 5. dispute *n.* 爭端, 糾紛 8. threaten *v.* 威脅
 3. pay sb back *phr.* 向某人報復 6. immigrant *n.* 移民 9. refugee *n.* 難民

Medical Staff Protest

Working Conditions

Few careers are as exhausting, both mentally and physically, as medical careers. In late October, around 500 frontline medical staff in Taipei took to the streets. These included doctors, nurses, technicians, radiologists, and therapists. They protested __1__ their labor rights, demanding fewer working hours, a safer work environment, respect for professionalism, and more opportunities for promotion. Also, they requested more government investment in the health insurance system. Protesters described themselves as turning into “ghosts” because of their difficult working conditions and the unreasonable hours they have to keep. __2__, they dressed up as zombies and ghosts.

For example, only about half of the currently certified nurses in Taiwan are actually __3__, and there is a very high turnover rate. The Taiwan Nursing and Medical Industries Union says this is because of poor working conditions and how difficult it is to apply for overtime pay. They explain nurses deserve better __4__ and benefits. The low pay means that in some hospitals, there is

a very low nurse-to-patient ratio, which then results in overwork to meet patient demands.

The Ministry of Health and Welfare (MOHW) invited medical associations to discuss improving conditions. However, the Union of Taiwan Healthcare Professionals accused them of being vague and unclear on purpose. Protesters demand that there __5__ more legal protections to reduce the problem of medical staff being overworked. Hopefully, these protections will protect them and, in turn, also protect everyone who depends on the hard work of medical staff to stay healthy.



Cloze

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| () 1. (A) to | (B) for | (C) with | (D) against |
| () 2. (A) Indeed | (B) Besides | (C) Therefore | (D) However |
| () 3. (A) practicing | (B) fighting | (C) following | (D) operating |
| () 4. (A) diaries | (B) victories | (C) theories | (D) salaries |
| () 5. (A) be | (B) being | (C) is | (D) are |

Vocabulary and Phrases

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. protest v. 抗議 | 4. unreasonable adj. 不合理的 | 7. overtime n. 加班 |
| 2. exhausting adj. 令人筋疲力竭的 | 5. certify v. 認證 | 8. ratio n. 比例, 比率 |
| 3. professionalism n. 專業 | 6. turnover rate n. 員工流動率 | 9. overwork n. 過勞 |

譯

以色列和巴勒斯坦之間的複雜歷史

哈馬斯——一個巴勒斯坦阿拉伯人的極端組織——在 10 月初襲擊了以色列，引發以色列報復。僅僅一個月的時間，就有大約一萬人被殺害。其中，約 1,500 人是以色列士兵，約 8,000 人是平民，包括婦女和兒童。

以巴衝突是兩個民族之間長期存在的爭端：主要是猶太人的以色列人，以及大多是阿拉伯人的巴勒斯坦人。

在古代，該地區由猶太部落控制。然而，大約到了耶穌的時代，該地區已成為羅馬帝國的一部分且猶太人必須離開。到了 7 世紀時，該地區則是在穆斯林的統治之下。

19 世紀末期時，英國控制了該地區，並鼓勵猶太人將巴勒斯坦視為自己的家園，使得大量猶太人移民至該地區。這導致了與世代居住在那裡的巴勒斯坦人的緊張關係。日益增多的猶太人令他們感覺受到威脅，特別是當第二次世界大戰後又出現了猶太移民潮時。

1948 年以色列正式宣布獨立，隨即遭到周邊阿拉伯國家的攻擊。這場衝突導致數十萬巴勒斯坦人成為難民，並加深了雙方的分歧。

聯合國建議將巴勒斯坦拆分為猶太國家和阿拉伯國家。猶太人接受這個方案，但阿拉伯人拒絕，這導致了衝突加劇。人們為了解決以巴衝突已做過多種嘗試。然而，尚未找到持久的和平解決方案。

譯

醫護人員抗議工作條件

很少有職業像醫療職業一樣讓人身心俱疲。10 月下旬，臺北約 500 名第一線醫護人員走上街頭。其中包括醫生、護士、技術人員、放射科醫生和治療師。他們為自己的勞工權利抗議，要求減少工作時間、更安全的工作環境、尊重專業、以及更多晉升機會。此外，他們也要求政府加大對醫療保險體系的投資。抗議者形容他們自己累到快變成「鬼」了，因為他們的工作條件很艱難，而且工作時間不合理。因此，他們裝扮成殭屍和鬼魂。

例如，臺灣目前獲得認證的護理師只有大約一半在實際執業，而且流動率非常高。臺灣護理產業工會表示，這是因為工作條件惡劣，而且很難申請加班費。他們解釋說護士應該得到更好的薪資和福利。低工資意味著在一些醫院，護病比(護士與病人的比例)非常低，導致為了滿足病人的需求而過勞。

衛生福利部(衛福部)邀請醫事協會討論改善條件。然而，台灣醫療工會聯合會指責他們故意含糊不清。抗議者要求提供更多法律保護，以減少醫護人員過勞的問題。希望這些保護措施能夠保護他們，並也反過來保護每個仰賴醫護人員辛勤工作才能保持健康的人。

閱讀測驗解答：1. C 2. D 3. B 4. B

綜合測驗解答：1. B 2. C 3. A 4. D 5. A

Acknowledgments

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