**Actuele lesbrief Engels – Shipping News**

**Voor de docent**

Een enorm containerschip ligt dwars in het Suezkanaal. We duiken in de wereld van de gigacontainerschepen.

**ERK-niveau**

Lezen B1 – *Lezen om informatie op te doen: LEB1-3a Kan belangrijke feitelijke informatie begrijpen in korte verslagen en artikelen.  (LEB1-3a)*

Leesstrategieën - *Kan de betekenis van zo nu en dan voorkomende onbekende woorden afleiden uit de context en de betekenis van zinnen herleiden, op voorwaarde dat het besproken onderwerp bekend is.*

**Intro**

The Suez Canal is blocked by a mega-ship.

Assignment 1

Read the assignment and write down the answers in English. You may use English-language Internet sources to help you.

a The Suez Canal is a man-made waterway. It connects two seas. Which two seas?

b Make a list of means of transportation (*vervoersmiddelen*). Name at least 5 words.

**Shipping News**

Trouble in the Suez Canal! A big ship is stuck in the canal. All other ships are blocked from passing. The ships travelling through the Suez Canal are really huge. They are mega-ships.

Read all about it [here](https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/56511717). Scroll a bit down. Start reading at “MEGA-SHIP FACTS!!!”.

Assignment 2

Read the text. Connect the words and expressions that have the same meaning in the text.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. roughly | 1. an area that is used for playing football |
| 1. football pitch | 1. at or during any particular point or moment in the day |
| 1. weigh | 1. a cover on a box, can, jar, etc., that you can lift or remove |
| 1. shipping | 1. a floor that goes from one side of a ship to the other |
| 1. ports | 1. from the very beginning of a process to the very end |
| 1. end-to-end | 1. the goods carried by a ship, truck, etc. |
| 1. bathtub | 1. to have a specific heaviness |
| 1. a deck | 1. lands that cause the dirtiest air, water, earth, etc. |
| 1. cargo | 1. a large container that is filled with water so that you can lie in it |
| 1. lid | 1. not exactly but close in number |
| 1. sturdy | 1. an object or machine that has been made for a special purpose |
| 1. marooned | 1. places where ships stop to load and unload |
| 1. at any given time | 1. sending goods from one place to another |
| 1. the device | 1. strongly made |
| 1. most polluting countries | 1. stuck in a place that is difficult or impossible to get away from |

Assignment 3

a True or false?

1 The name of ship that got stuck in Egypt is Ever Given.

2 Mega-ships keep getting bigger and bigger.

3 Mega-ships have room for at least 20,000 containers.

4 Mega-ships do not have decks.

5 Computer software is used to help with loading and unloading containers.

6 The shipping industry creates a lot of pollution.

7 Rail transport (*treinvervoer*) is better for the environment than mega-ships.

b Why do mega-ships have a *torsion box*?

1 It is added because they do not have a deck for people to walk on.

2 It is an extra bathroom for the people who work on the ship.

3 To have added space for keeping food, such as sandwiches.

4 To make sure the ship doesn’t break or bend in stormy weather.

c “Computer systems also mean that the boats can be crewed with as few as 13 people.”  
What does this mean?

1 A mega-ship has 13 extra people on board to work with the computer system.

2 Computer systems do a lot of work, so sometimes only 13 people are needed on mega-ships.

3 On ships without special computer software 13 people are need to load and unload containers.

4 The Ever Given got stuck because 13 crew members had problems with the computer system.