

Tunisia's Jihadist Pipeline

1) SKIMMING

a) Read the title (heading) and subheading: what do you think the text is about?

b) Try to guess the meaning of the words:

jihadist	pipeline	recruiters	birthplace
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c) Match the words with their meanings:

1. birthplace	a) a line of connected pipes that are used for carrying liquids and gases over a long distance; the system for developing and producing something
2. jihadist	b) place of birth, place of origin
3. pipeline	c) people who enlist or hire personnel in military service or in organizations; they find candidates for a job
4. recruiters	d) Muslim engaged in a holy war

d) Read the 1st paragraph in bold: does it give you an overall impression of the general content?

e) **SCANNING.** Scan the text and try to match the words below with their meanings:

5. assault rifle	e) a light umbrella that you use to protect yourself from the sun
6. to conceal	f) something (such as a gun, knife, club, or bomb) that is used for fighting or attacking someone or for defending yourself when someone is attacking you
7. parasol	g) a gun that can shoot many bullets quickly and that is designed for use by the military servicemen
8. weapon	h) to hide

f) Now, read paragraph 2 and look for words and expressions that mean the same as:

1.	an event
2.	a sudden occurrence of violent or destructive behaviour
3.	an attack which caused the most deaths
4.	to be killed by a weapon
5.	to begin shooting at someone or something
6.	to attack; a violent assault

g) Find sentences in the text with the following verbs and try to guess their meanings. Then verify your hypotheses with your classmates.

1. to capitalize	
2. to derail	
3. to gain	
4. to linger	
5. to set oneself alight	
6. to slip across	
7. to spark	
8. to tackle	
9. to trigger	

h) Now, read through paragraphs 3-8 and the caption under the pictures on page 27 and match the first part of the phrases in column A with the second part in column B:

A	B
1. Arab	a) car bombing
2. combat	b) group
3. economic	c) zones
4. endemic	d) of disillusionment
5. extremist	e) Spring
6. foreign	f) economy
7. Jasmine	g) support
8. logistical	h) camps/cell
9. political	i) hardship
10. radical	j) vendor
11. sense	k) corruption
12. stagnant	l) Revolution
13. street	m) fighters
14. terrorist	n) unemployment
15. youth	o) preachers
16. suicide	p) instability

i) Try to explain the following expressions in your own language:

1. a process of brainwashing
2. distribute flyers
3. the wellspring of fresh ISIS recruits
4. to become disillusioned with jihad
5. to become radicalized
6. to spark a wave of protests
7. would-be jihadist

j) Reading comprehension questions. Reread the whole text and answer the following questions:

- 1) What did Rezgui do?
- 2) Why do you think that foreign tourists were the main targets of these two attacks in Tunisia?
- 3) Where did Rezgui probably receive support from?
- 4) Why is Libya mentioned? Did the perpetrator's (Rezgui's) family and neighbours know about his 'radicalisation'?
- 5) What is Tunisia's negative record with regard to the conflict in Syria and Iraq?
- 6) The Jasmine Revolution of 2011 did not bring about much change. What are the main problems that remain?
- 7) What is the meaning of the phrase 'young Tunisians have become *easy pickings*'? (Hunting metaphor?)
- 8) Who was Mohammed Bouazizi? Would he be happy with the effect his desperate gesture had?
- 9) What are the Islamist parties doing to brainwash young people?
- 10) People who are easily brainwashed are usually a bit ignorant or not well educated. What was different about Amami?
- 11) Hayet's initiative seems to be a personal one. Is the new secular government doing enough to prevent young Tunisians from traveling to combat zones?

k) Write a summary using at least 15 of the new words and phrases you found in the reading.