

WORDS IN THE NEWS

Teacher's pack



BBC WORLD SERVICE LEARNING ENGLISH



Words in the News

Women 'worry constantly' about their bodies – 12 April 2006

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Words in the News – Women ‘worry constantly’ about their bodies – 12 April 2006 – Intermediate Reading Skills
Core materials Lesson Plan

	Activity	Approx time in mins	Teacher	Boardwork
P R E R E A D I N G T E X T		5	<p>Generate interest about today's topic by asking pairs of students to discuss a) the difference between 'skinny', 'thin', 'slim', and 'curvy, and b) which of these words they think are more positive or more negative in their meaning. Then ask them to report their opinions back to the whole class.</p> <p>Elicit/present key vocabulary that students need either to understand the key points in the text or to understand and/or answer any questions that you'll set them later in the lesson. The vocabulary is from Words in the News (so you can elicit the Vocabulary by using the explanations provided online or below). You could either pre-teach the vocabulary at this stage of the lesson or you could use the vocabulary building activity from Further down in this lesson plan. Have students working in small groups together and ask them to try to match the vocabulary with the definitions. Encourage them to work with the other groups to pool their knowledge.</p> <p>When they have done as much as they can, if they have dictionaries, ask them to look up the words to check their answers and to find out the definitions of any words they were</p>	<p>skinny thin slim curvy</p>



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	Activity	Approx time in mins	Teacher	Boardwork
	Pre-teach essential vocabulary	10	<p>Not sure of. If they don't have dictionaries, check their answers and give them help with any words they aren't sure of. Whichever method you use to elicit/present the vocabulary, You should then model it (say it clearly, highlighting the word stress) and get them to repeat the words after you.</p> <p>a range of lots of different</p> <p>such as laxative use and fasting for example medicine which makes food pass quickly through your body (laxative) and not eating (fasting)</p> <p>was considered to have was thought by people who did the survey to have</p> <p>famed for well-known for</p> <p>anorexia a mental illness in which a person stops eating or doesn't eat nearly enough</p>	<p>Written record a range of</p> <p>such as <u>l</u>axative and <u>f</u>asting</p> <p>was consi<u>d</u>ered to have</p> <p><u>f</u>amed for</p> <p>anore<u>x</u>ia</p> <p>bul<u>i</u>mia</p> <p>dist<u>o</u>rted body <u>i</u>mage</p>



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	Activity	Approx time in mins	Teacher	Boardwork
			bulimia a mental illness in which a person cannot stop themselves from eating too much and then vomits in order to control their weight distorted body image false idea of what your body looks like or should look like at some point sometime admitted to said they had widely liked liked by a lot of people	at some point admitted to widely liked
	Written record	5 - 10	Write the words on the board, eliciting spelling as you write. Elicit and show the word stress of each item and word class, if appropriate. Give students some time to copy your boardwork into their notebooks.	

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	Activity	Approx time in mins	Teacher	Boardwork
	Set a scanning question. Students read text the first time		Tell the students they are going to read a story about women's feelings about their bodies. Give them a time limit (1 - 2 minutes) to read the text quickly to find the answer to the question on the board: A, B or C?	What is the most common way that British women try to improve the appearance of their bodies? A. having plastic surgery B. dieting C. doing sport
	Check answer	2 - 3	Elicit students' answers and write the correct answer on the board.	B. dieting
	Set specific information questions	5	Use worksheet A to help students understand the text in more detail. Give students a time limit (5 - 6 minutes) to read the text again in more detail and to answer the questions.	
	Check specific information answers	2	Elicit answers True or False. Direct attention to a particular paragraph if an answer is wrong to try to elicit correct answer (see worksheet A and answer key).	
	Vocabulary consolidation/ building	5	Before the lesson, make enough copies of worksheet B so that there is 1 worksheet for every 4 – 5 students. Cut up the vocabulary and explanations. In class tell students to match the correct word with the right definition.	



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	Activity	Approx time in mins	Teacher	Boardwork
	Check answers	2	Elicit answers. If an answer is wrong, ask other students to try to elicit correct answer.	
Total Time Approx		45 mins		



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Supplementary materials Lesson Plan

	Activity	Approx time in mins	Teacher	Boardwork
	Grammar focus	5 - 10	Use worksheet C to focus on noun phrases. Tell students to complete the blanks with the words provided.	
	Check answers	3	If an answer is wrong, ask other students to try to elicit correct answer. (see worksheet C and answer key)	
	Follow-up activity: speaking	15	On the board write some reasons which may explain why women worry about their bodies: Then ask each student to write down what <i>they</i> think is the <i>main</i> reason why women worry about their bodies (they can choose from the above but they don't have to). Then ask them to discuss their reasons in pairs. Circulate, while they are working, giving help with grammar and spelling, if necessary. Finally, ask the whole class what they think.	Because of pressure from men Because they are richer now and just eat too much Because of the mass media Because of their (early) upbringing Because they are worried about not finding a partner – or about losing an existing one
	Feedback			Examples: There are probably a number of factors involved. (ü) Womans are affected by TV. (x)
Total time		30		



Words in the News – Worksheet A – Specific information questions

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Are the following questions true or false? Read the text again and circle the correct answer:

1.	Women have tried many different ways to lose weight.	T/F
2.	Women don't use laxatives to try to lose weight.	T/F
3.	Some women eat extremely little because they think they are much fatter than they are.	T/F
4.	Most women questioned said they were dieting all the time.	T/F
5.	50% of women said they lied about their weight.	T/F
6.	Many women were happy with their ankles.	T/F

Words in the News – Worksheet B – Vocabulary consolidation/building

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Cut up the following vocabulary items. Ask students to match them correctly with the definitions.

1.	a range of
2.	such as laxative and fasting
3.	was considered to have
4.	famed for
5.	anorexia
6.	bulimia
7.	distorted body image
8.	at some point
9.	admitted to
10.	widely liked

Words in the News – Worksheet b – Vocabulary consolidation/building

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Cut up the following definitions. Ask students to match them correctly with the definitions.

a.	liked by a lot of people
b.	well-known for
c.	said they had
d.	a mental illness in which a person cannot stop him/herself from eating too much and then vomits in order to control their weight
e.	was thought by people who did the survey to have
f.	lots of different
g.	some time
h.	for example medicine (laxative) which makes food pass quickly through your body and not eating (fasting)
i.	a mental illness in which a person stops eating or doesn't eat very much
j.	false idea of what your body looks like or should look like

Words in the News – Worksheet C – Noun phrases

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Today's text contains many examples of noun phrases, for example 'the survey', 'the average British woman', and 'her body'.

Put the following noun phrases in the right order so that they make sense:

1. Cup the World competition football

.....

2. the with over the bloke long hair there

.....

3. programme absolutely nature an fascinating

.....

4. world the in longest the river

.....

5. delicious absolutely meal an

.....

6. non-stop that dogs bark

.....

7. engine the that is future designed an for

.....

8. friend really good of mine a old

.....

9. six new computers brand state-of-the-art

.....

10. phone a a built-in camera mobile with

.....

Words in the News – Answer key

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Answers

Worksheet A

1. True – Paragraph 1 says 'Women had tried a range of extreme measures...'
2. False - Paragraph 1 says 'Women had tried a range of extreme measures, such as laxative use'
3. True- Paragraph 2 says 'anorexia...begin(s) with a "distorted" body image.'
4. False - Paragraph 3 says 'all those who completed the magazine and website survey said they had dieted at some point in their life'
5. True - Paragraph 3 says 'Half admitted to lying about their weight'
6. True - Paragraph 4 says 'The only parts of the body which were widely liked were the ankles'

Worksheet B

1. F
2. H
3. B
4. E
5. I
6. A
7. J
8. G
9. C
10. A

Worksheet C

1. the World Cup football competition
2. the bloke over there with the long hair
3. an absolutely fascinating nature programme
4. the longest river in the world
5. an absolutely delicious meal
6. dogs that bark non-stop
7. an engine that's designed for the future
8. a really good old friend of mine
9. six brand new state-of-the art computers
10. a mobile phone with a built-in camera