

WORDS IN THE NEWS

Teacher's pack



BBC WORLD SERVICE LEARNING ENGLISH



Words in the News

Eurovision song row - 22 March 2006

(story link: http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/newsenglish/witn/2006/03/060322_eurovision.shtml)

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Supplementary 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 students to fill in the table of Eurovision song contest winners over the years:</p> <table><tr><th>Year</th><th>Song</th><th>Singer/group</th><th>Country</th></tr><tr><td>1974</td><td>Waterloo</td><td>ABBA</td><td>Sweden</td></tr><tr><td>1988</td><td>Ne Partez Pas Sans Moi</td><td>Celine Dion</td><td>Switzerland</td></tr><tr><td>1998</td><td>Diva</td><td>Dana International</td><td>Israel</td></tr><tr><td>2003</td><td>Everyway that I can</td><td>Sertab Erener</td><td>Turkey</td></tr></table>	Year	Song	Singer/group	Country	1974	Waterloo	ABBA	Sweden	1988	Ne Partez Pas Sans Moi	Celine Dion	Switzerland	1998	Diva	Dana International	Israel	2003	Everyway that I can	Sertab Erener	Turkey	<p>Waterloo, Ne Partez Pas Sans Moi, Diva, Everyway that I can Sertab Erener, ABBA, Dana International, Celine Dion Israel, Sweden, Switzerland Turkey</p> <table><tr><th>Year</th><th>Song</th><th>Singer group</th><th>Country</th></tr><tr><td>1974</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>1988</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>1998</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>2003</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>	Year	Song	Singer group	Country	1974				1988				1998				2003			
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	Pre-teach essential vocabulary	10	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.																																									



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			<p>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. 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 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>be preoccupied by be worried or thought about</p> <p>vote overwhelmingly choose by a big majority</p> <p>boy band group of male performers</p> <p>outraged very angry</p>	<p>be pre<u>o</u>ccupied by</p> <p>vote overw<u>h</u>elmingly</p> <p>boy band</p> <p><u>o</u>utraged</p>

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	Activity	Approx time in mins	Teacher	Boardwork
			<p>were booed off stage were stopped from performing after the audience showed strong disapproval by shouting 'Boo!'</p> <p>ensuing controversy disagreements which came afterwards</p> <p>increasing tensions more and more bad feelings</p> <p>a referendum on independence from Serbia a vote on whether Montenegro should separate from Serbia</p> <p>skip qualification and go straight to the final will not have to compete against anyone else and instead go straight to the last selection round</p> <p>Slobodan Milosevic has been all but forgotten almost everyone has stopped thinking about him</p>	<p>were booed off stage</p> <p>ensuing controversy/ contro<u>v</u>ersy</p> <p>increa<u>s</u>ing te<u>n</u>sions</p> <p>a refer<u>e</u>ndum on indep<u>e</u>ndence from Ser<u>b</u>ia</p> <p>skip qualifi<u>c</u>ation and go straight to the <u>f</u>inal</p> <p>Slobodan Mil<u>o</u>sevic has been all but for<u>g</u>otten</p>



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	Activity	Approx time in mins	Teacher	Boardwork
	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.	
	Set a skimming question. Students read text the first time		Tell the students they are going to read a story about the Eurovision contest. Give them a time limit (1 - 2 minutes) to read the text quickly to find the answer to the question on the board:	Which European countries are mentioned in the text?
	Check answer	2 - 3	Elicit students' answers and write the correct answer on the board.	Which European countries are mentioned in the text? Serbia and Montenegro Yugoslavia Croatia
	Set specific information questions	5	Use worksheet A or the online quiz 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.	



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	Activity	Approx time in mins	Teacher	Boardwork
	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.	
	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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	Activity	Approx time in mins	Teacher	Boardwork
	Grammar focus	5 - 10	Use worksheet C to focus on time prepositions. Tell students to fill in the blanks in the sentences with the correct preposition or write nothing if no preposition is needed.	
	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	Tell students they are going to create the ideal pop band. In groups they will discuss different types of singers, songs and personalities they think will help their band to be the best one. In their groups they should discuss their ideas before deciding on the make-up of their band, what kind of music they'll sing and what the band will look like. Put the students into small groups. Give them 4 – 5 minutes to brainstorm ideas, 4 - 5 minutes to prepare their band outline and 4 – 5 minutes for each group to tell the rest of the class about their band. While they are speaking, move around the room listening to them unobtrusively. Make notes of any errors you hear.	
	Feedback		After all the groups have presented their bands, have a class vote to decide which one the class thinks they think will be the most successful. Give praise for content (for example, who came up with simple but very effective ideas). Give praise for correct examples you heard. Give feedback on incorrect examples you heard.	Examples: A mixed group will be much more popular than boys or girls only. (ü) Would you bought their CDs? (ü)



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	Activity	Approx time in mins	Teacher	Boardwork
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.	A lot of people from Serbia and Montenegro were more worried about something other than the death of their ex-President recently.	T/F
2.	The audience wanted a boy band to represent Serbia and Montenegro but the majority of the judges didn't agree with the audience.	T/F
3.	The audience applauded loudly for the boy band.	T/F
4.	Serbia and Montenegro might be excluded from the Eurovision song contest for three years because of the disagreement about who should represent them.	T/F
5.	Montenegro will be holding a vote soon to decide if it should become a separate country from Serbia.	T/F
6.	Two consequences of this row are that Croatia will win the song contest and that everyone has forgotten about Milosevic's death.	T/F

This quiz is available online. Go to:

(story link: http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/newsenglish/witn/2006/03/060322_eurovision.shtml)

At the bottom of the page (Words in the News), follow the link [Do a comprehension test about this story](#)

Words in the News – Worksheet B – Vocabulary building

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

1.	be preoccupied by
2.	vote overwhelmingly
3.	boy band
4.	outraged
5.	were booed off stage
6.	ensuing controversy
7.	increasing tensions
8.	a referendum on independence from Serbia
9.	skip qualification and go straight to the final
10.	Slobodan Milosevic has been all but forgotten

Words in the News – Worksheet B - Vocabulary building

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

A.	will not have to compete against anyone else and instead go straight to the last selection round
B.	disagreements which came afterwards
C.	choose by a big majority
D.	were stopped from performing after the audience showed strong disapproval by shouting 'Boo!'
E.	be worried or thought about
F.	more and more bad feelings
G.	very angry
H.	almost everyone has stopped thinking about him
I.	group of male performers
J.	a vote on whether Montenegro should separate from Serbia

Words in the News – Worksheet C – Word families

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Here are some examples of prepositions of time (some are from today's text):

at: for times			
at seven o'clock	1300 hours	sunrise	breakfasttime
at: with these expressions			
at night	at the weekend	at Chrstmas	at present
on: for days and dates			
on Wednesday	on Mondays	on May 21 st	on Mother's Day
in: for longer periods of time (months, seasons or years)			
in May	in (the) summer	in 2003	in the past
no preposition: with last, next, this, every			
last weekend	next Tuesday	this evening	every month

Complete these sentences with the correct prepositions of time or leave them blank if no preposition is needed:

1. We read Words in the News every _____ Monday, Wednesday and Friday.
2. I love going to the beach _____ summer.
3. Let's meet _____ noon for lunch.
4. Her birthday is _____ 21 September.
5. _____ the future people will go on holiday to the moon.
6. _____ last Thursday we went to the cinema.
7. The plane will be departing _____ seven hundred hours.
8. _____ present he's unemployed but he's hoping to find some work
_____ soon.
9. What are you doing _____ Christmas?
10. _____ Christmas Day, we're just going to stay at home but _____
Boxing Day, we'll probably visit my parents.

Words in the News – Answer key

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Answers

Worksheet A

1. **True** - Paragraph 1 says 'While the world's attention was focused on the death of the former Yugoslav President ... many Serbs and Montenegrins were preoccupied by something ... different'.
2. **False** - Paragraph 2 says 'judges voted overwhelmingly for a Montenegrin boy band ... The mainly Serb audience was outraged.'
3. **False** – Paragraph 3 says 'The winning band were booed off stage'.
4. **True** – Paragraph 3 says 'the ensuing controversy may lead to a three-year ban from the contest.'
5. **True** – Paragraph 3 says 'Montenegro to hold a referendum on independence from Serbia.'
6. **False** – Paragraph 4 says 'Serbia and Montenegro's withdrawal will allow ... Croatia, to skip qualification and go straight to the final. The scandal has meant that Slobodan Milosevic has been all but forgotten.'

Worksheet B

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

Worksheet C

1.	___
2.	in
3.	at
4.	on
5.	in
6.	___
7.	at
8.	At/___
9.	at
10.	On/on