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## Level 3

# BBC Top Gear star 'punches' producer

14th March, 2015

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1503/150314-top-gear.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150314-top-gear.html>

BBC Television has suspended one of its biggest stars for reportedly punching a producer. Reporters say Jeremy Clarkson, 54, the presenter of the hugely popular programme Top Gear, got into a fight with the producer, Oisin Tymon. There was an argument about the lack of food available after filming one of the shows. Mr Clarkson supposedly got angry with Mr Tymon over this and hit him. The BBC immediately suspended the show's host and announced they would not broadcast the next two programmes. Clarkson is so popular worldwide that an online petition started, calling for the BBC to "reinstate" him. So far, more than 400,000 people have signed it.

One of Mr Clarkson's co-presenters, James May, did not think the incident was so serious. He told BBC News: "I think [Clarkson has] been involved in a bit of a dust-up and I don't think it's that serious." Mr Clarkson joked with reporters yesterday. They asked him where he was going as he got into his car. He said he was going to the job centre. Clarkson also retweeted a message from a fan to his 4.5 million Twitter followers. It read: "How can the BBC not show the remaining episodes of Top Gear? Can't this be resolved without making the fans suffer?" The show is broadcast in over 200 countries. Over 350 million people watch it. Clarkson has a history of making racist comments about other nationalities.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-31832698>  
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/celebritynews/11464430/Jeremy-Clarkson-suspended-after-punching-Top-Gear-producer-in-row-over-catering.html>

# WARM-UPS

**1. CAR TV SHOWS:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about car TV shows. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

*BBC / stars / punching / hugely popular / argument / lack of food / online petition / serious / joked / reporters / remaining episodes / suffer / broadcast / racist comments*

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. TV SHOWS:** How can we make these shows better? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How much do you like them?	How to make them better?
Chat shows		
Soap operas		
News		
Interviews		
Sports		
Weather		

**4. CAR SHOWS:** Students A **strongly** believe car shows on TV are better than fashion shows; Students B **strongly** believe qqqqqqq. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. PRESENTER:** Rank these with your partner. Put the show you would most like to present at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- music show
- car show
- chat show
- cooking show
- movies show
- quiz show
- travel show
- gardening show

**6. PUNCH:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "punch". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150314-top-gear.html>

## 1. TRUE / FALSE:

Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| a. The BBC has fired one of its stars for punching a producer.            | T / F |
| b. The TV presenter and the producer argued over a lack of food.          | T / F |
| c. The BBC decided it would not air the next few Top Gear shows.          | T / F |
| d. Over 400,000 people signed a petition to ask the BBC to fire Clarkson. | T / F |
| e. A Top Gear co-presenter said this was a serious matter.                | T / F |
| f. Reporters tried to find Mr Clarkson but he was nowhere to be found.    | T / F |
| g. Mr Clarkson has 4.5 million followers on Twitter.                      | T / F |
| h. More than 350 million watch Top Gear worldwide.                        | T / F |

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms from the article.

- |              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. stars     | a. globally     |
| 2. hugely    | b. stated       |
| 3. argument  | c. very         |
| 4. announced | d. bad          |
| 5. worldwide | e. background   |
| 6. incident  | f. big names    |
| 7. serious   | g. settled      |
| 8. remaining | h. happening    |
| 9. resolved  | i. disagreement |
| 10. history  | j. last         |

## 3. PHRASE MATCH:

(Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |                                     |                         |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. BBC Television has suspended one | a. episodes of Top Gear |
| 2. the hugely                       | b. the lack of food     |
| 3. an argument about                | c. next two programmes  |
| 4. they would not broadcast the     | d. over 200 countries   |
| 5. an online                        | e. comments             |
| 6. involved in a bit of a dust-     | f. of its biggest stars |
| 7. retweeted a message              | g. up                   |
| 8. the remaining                    | h. petition             |
| 9. The show is broadcast in         | i. popular programme    |
| 10. racist                          | j. from a fan           |

# GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150314-top-gear.html>

BBC Television has (1) \_\_\_\_\_ one of its biggest stars for reportedly punching a producer. Reporters say Jeremy Clarkson, 54, the presenter of the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ popular programme Top Gear, got into a (3) \_\_\_\_\_ with the producer, Oisin Tymon. There was an argument about the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of food available after filming one of the shows. Mr Clarkson (5) \_\_\_\_\_ got angry with Mr Tymon over this and hit him. The BBC immediately suspended the show's host and announced they would not (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the next two programmes. Clarkson is so (7) \_\_\_\_\_ worldwide that an online (8) \_\_\_\_\_ started, calling for the BBC to "reinstate" him. So far, more than 400,000 people have signed it.

*supposedly*  
*popular*  
*suspended*  
*fight*  
*petition*  
*hugely*  
*broadcast*  
*lack*

One of Mr Clarkson's co-presenters, James May, did not think the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ was so serious. He told BBC News: "I think [Clarkson has] been (10) \_\_\_\_\_ in a bit of a dust-up and I don't think it's that (11) \_\_\_\_\_." Mr Clarkson joked with reporters yesterday. They asked him where he was going as he got into his car. He said he was going to the (12) \_\_\_\_\_ centre. Clarkson also retweeted a message from a (13) \_\_\_\_\_ to his 4.5 million Twitter followers. It read: "How can the BBC not show the (14) \_\_\_\_\_ episodes of Top Gear? Can't this be resolved without making the fans (15) \_\_\_\_\_?" The show is broadcast in over 200 countries. Over 350 million people watch it. Clarkson has a history of making (16) \_\_\_\_\_ comments about other nationalities.

*involved*  
*fan*  
*suffer*  
*incident*  
*job*  
*racist*  
*serious*  
*remaining*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150314-top-gear.html>

- 1) suspended one of its biggest stars \_\_\_\_\_ punching a producer
  - a. for reportedly
  - b. for report idly
  - c. for rappoint idly
  - d. for report it lean
- 2) Reporters say Jeremy Clarkson, 54, the presenter of \_\_\_\_\_ programme...
  - a. the hugely populist
  - b. the hugely popular
  - c. the hugely populate
  - d. the hugely polar
- 3) There was an argument about the \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. luck of food
  - b. lack of food
  - c. rack of food
  - d. ruck of food
- 4) suspended the show's host and announced they would not broadcast \_\_\_\_\_ programmes
  - a. the next too
  - b. the next two
  - c. then next two
  - d. then next too
- 5) Clarkson is so popular worldwide that \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. an online petition
  - b. the online petition
  - c. anon line petition
  - d. anon lined petition
- 6) James May, did not think the incident \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. wasn't so serious
  - b. was so serious
  - c. was soon serious
  - d. wasn't soon serious
- 7) He told BBC News: "I think [Clarkson has] been involved \_\_\_\_\_ dust-up"
  - a. in a bit of a
  - b. in a bit off a
  - c. in a bite of a
  - d. inner bit of a
- 8) How can the BBC not show the remaining \_\_\_\_\_ Top Gear?
  - a. episode of
  - b. episodes off
  - c. episode off
  - d. episodes of
- 9) Can't this be resolved without making \_\_\_\_\_?
  - a. the fans suffers
  - b. the fan suffer
  - c. the fan suffers
  - d. the fans suffer
- 10) Clarkson has a history of making racist comments \_\_\_\_\_ nationalities
  - a. about others
  - b. about another
  - c. about other
  - d. about the other

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150314-top-gear.html>

BBC Television has suspended (1) \_\_\_\_\_ stars for reportedly punching a producer. Reporters say Jeremy Clarkson, 54, the presenter of the hugely popular programme Top Gear, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ with the producer, Oisin Tymon. There was an argument (3) \_\_\_\_\_ food available after filming one of the shows. Mr Clarkson supposedly got angry with Mr Tymon (4) \_\_\_\_\_. The BBC immediately suspended the show's host and announced they would not broadcast the next two programmes. Clarkson (5) \_\_\_\_\_ that an online petition started, calling for the BBC to "reinstate" him. So far, more than 400,000 (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

One of Mr Clarkson's co-presenters, James May, (7) \_\_\_\_\_ incident was so serious. He told BBC News: "I think [Clarkson has] been involved in (8) \_\_\_\_\_ and I don't think it's that serious." Mr Clarkson joked with reporters yesterday. They asked him where he was (9) \_\_\_\_\_ his car. He said he was going to the job centre. Clarkson also retweeted (10) \_\_\_\_\_ a fan to his 4.5 million Twitter followers. It read: "How can the BBC not show the remaining episodes of Top Gear? Can't (11) \_\_\_\_\_ without making the fans suffer?" The show is broadcast in over 200 countries. Over 350 million people watch it. Clarkson (12) \_\_\_\_\_ making racist comments about other nationalities.

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150314-top-gear.html>

1. What has the BBC done to Jeremy Clarkson?

---

2. What was the argument with the producer about?

---

3. How many shows did the BBC say it would not broadcast?

---

4. What did people start online?

---

5. How many people signed to say they want Jeremy Clarkson to stay?

---

6. What is the job of the man who did not think the incident was serious?

---

7. What did James May say Jeremy Clarkson was involved in?

---

8. Where did Mr Clarkson tell reporters he was going?

---

9. How many followers on Twitter does Mr Clarkson have?

---

10. How many people watch Top Gear around the world?

---



# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150314-top-gear.html>

1. What has the BBC done to Jeremy Clarkson?
  - a) promoted him
  - b) rewarded him
  - c) suspended him
  - d) fired him
2. What was the argument with the producer about?
  - a) a lack of food
  - b) money
  - c) a car
  - d) politics
3. How many shows did the BBC say it would not broadcast?
  - a) two
  - b) three
  - c) four
  - d) five
4. What did people start online?
  - a) a discussion
  - b) a petition
  - c) a website
  - d) a fundraising event
5. How many people signed to say they want Jeremy Clarkson to stay?
  - a) over 40 million
  - b) over 40, 000
  - c) over 4 million
  - d) over 400,000
6. What is the job of the man who did not think the incident was serious?
  - a) stunt driver
  - b) co-presenter
  - c) car mechanic
  - d) lawyer
7. What did James May say Jeremy Clarkson was involved in?
  - a) a dust-up
  - b) cleaning
  - c) dusting
  - d) a showdown
8. Where did Mr Clarkson tell reporters he was going?
  - a) home
  - b) to his office
  - c) the job centre
  - d) to see a lawyer
9. How many followers on Twitter does Mr Clarkson have?
  - a) 45,000
  - b) 450,000
  - c) 45 million
  - d) 4.5 million
10. How many people watch Top Gear around the world?
  - a) more than 350 million
  - b) just under 350 million
  - c) exactly 350 million
  - d) around 350 million

# ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150314-top-gear.html>

## **Role A – Music show host**

You think being a music show host would be best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their host jobs aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): car show host, travel show host or quiz show host.

## **Role B – Car show host**

You think being a car show host would be best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their host jobs aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): music show host, travel show host or quiz show host.

## **Role C – Travel show host**

You think being a travel show host would be best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their host jobs aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): car show host, music show host or quiz show host.

## **Role D – Quiz show host**

You think being a quiz show host would be best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their host jobs aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): car show host, travel show host or music show host.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150314-top-gear.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'top' and 'gear'.

<b>top</b>	<b>gear</b>
------------	-------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• biggest</li><li>• hugely</li><li>• lack</li><li>• immediately</li><li>• next</li><li>• 400,000</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• serious</li><li>• reporters</li><li>• job</li><li>• fan</li><li>• 4.5</li><li>• 350</li></ul>
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# CAR TV SHOWS SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150314-top-gear.html>

Write five GOOD questions about car TV shows in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

# CAR TV SHOWS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- 1) What did you think when you read the headline?
- 2) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'argument'?
- 3) What do you know about the TV show Top Gear?
- 4) What do you think of TV shows about cars?
- 5) Is the BBC right to suspend Jeremy Clarkson?
- 6) What are the pros and cons of firing Jeremy Clarkson?
- 7) Why would a rich and famous person fight over food?
- 8) Is the BBC being unfair to fans by not showing Top Gear?
- 9) When have you signed (or would you sign) a petition?
- 10) Who is your favourite TV presenter, and why?

*BBC Top Gear star 'punches' producer – 14th March, 2015*  
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# CAR TV SHOWS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- 11) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- 12) How serious do you think this incident is?
- 13) What kind of TV shows do you like?
- 14) Have you ever had a "dust up" at work or school?
- 15) How important do you think Jeremy Clarkson is to the BBC?
- 16) What are the good things about Jeremy Clarkson's job?
- 17) What's your favourite car, and why?
- 18) What can fans do to get the BBC to show the programmes?
- 19) What might happen to Top Gear's popularity without Mr Clarkson?
- 20) What questions would you like to ask Jeremy Clarkson?

# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150314-top-gear.html>

BBC Television has suspended one of its biggest stars for (1) \_\_\_\_\_ punching a producer. Reporters say Jeremy Clarkson, 54, the presenter of the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ popular programme Top Gear, got into a fight with the producer, Oisin Tymon. There was an argument about the (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of food available after filming one of the shows. Mr Clarkson supposedly got angry with Mr Tymon (4) \_\_\_\_\_ this and hit him. The BBC immediately suspended the show's host and announced they would not broadcast the next two programmes. Clarkson is so (5) \_\_\_\_\_ worldwide that an online petition started, calling for the BBC to "reinstate" him. So (6) \_\_\_\_\_, more than 400,000 people have signed it.

One of Mr Clarkson's co-presenters, James May, did not think the incident was (7) \_\_\_\_\_ serious. He told BBC News: "I think [Clarkson has] been involved in a bit of a dust-(8) \_\_\_\_\_ and I don't think it's that serious." Mr Clarkson joked with reporters yesterday. They asked him where he was going as he got into his car. He said he was going to the job centre. Clarkson also retweeted a message from a (9) \_\_\_\_\_ to his 4.5 million Twitter followers. It read: "How can the BBC not show the (10) \_\_\_\_\_ episodes of Top Gear? Can't this be resolved without making the fans (11) \_\_\_\_\_?" The show is broadcast in over 200 countries. Over 350 million people watch it. Clarkson has a history of making (12) \_\_\_\_\_ comments about other nationalities.

## Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- |     |                |               |              |               |
|-----|----------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1.  | (a) reportedly | (b) reporters | (c) reports  | (d) reporting |
| 2.  | (a) largely    | (b) biggish   | (c) hugely   | (d) grossly   |
| 3.  | (a) rack       | (b) luck      | (c) lack     | (d) ruck      |
| 4.  | (a) higher     | (b) more than | (c) above    | (d) over      |
| 5.  | (a) popular    | (b) nice      | (c) lovely   | (d) populace  |
| 6.  | (a) thus       | (b) far       | (c) for      | (d) this      |
| 7.  | (a) such       | (b) by        | (c) of       | (d) so        |
| 8.  | (a) down       | (b) up        | (c) in       | (d) over      |
| 9.  | (a) fun        | (b) fin       | (c) fan      | (d) fine      |
| 10. | (a) remainder  | (b) reminding | (c) remains  | (d) remaining |
| 11. | (a) server     | (b) supper    | (c) surfer   | (d) suffer    |
| 12. | (a) racism     | (b) racist    | (c) racially | (d) radical   |

# SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150314-top-gear.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. dpusedsne one of its biggest stars
2. the hgueyl popular programme
3. the lack of food valailaeb
4. stdarbaoc the next two programmes
5. an online ipteniot
6. atirsente him

## Paragraph 2

7. One of Mr Clarkson's co-teerrsenps
8. I don't think it's that ierusso
9. the remaining sproseed
10. making the fans erufsf
11. caarobdst in over 200 countries
12. making isctar comments



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150314-top-gear.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( **1** ) BBC Television has suspended one of its biggest stars for reportedly punching
- ( ) of food available after filming one of the shows. Mr Clarkson supposedly got angry with Mr Tymon over this and
- ( ) for the BBC to "reinstate" him. So far, more than 400,000 people have signed it.
- ( ) One of Mr Clarkson's co-presenters, James May, did not think the incident was so
- ( ) two programmes. Clarkson is so popular worldwide that an online petition started, calling
- ( ) popular programme Top Gear, got into a fight with the producer, Oisin Tymon. There was an argument about the lack
- ( ) fan to his 4.5 million Twitter followers. It read: "How can the BBC not show the remaining
- ( ) 200 countries. Over 350 million people watch it. Clarkson has a history of making racist comments about other nationalities.
- ( ) into his car. He said he was going to the job centre. Clarkson also retweeted a message from a
- ( ) serious. He told BBC News: "I think [Clarkson has] been involved in a bit of a dust-up and I don't think it's that
- ( ) a producer. Reporters say Jeremy Clarkson, 54, the presenter of the hugely
- ( ) serious." Mr Clarkson joked with reporters yesterday. They asked him where he was going as he got
- ( ) hit him. The BBC immediately suspended the show's host and announced they would not broadcast the next
- ( ) episodes of Top Gear? Can't this be resolved without making the fans suffer?" The show is broadcast in over

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150314-top-gear.html>

1. has of stars Television one biggest BBC suspended its .

---

2. popular Gear presenter hugely Top The the programme of .

---

3. of There argument lack an the food was about .

---

4. BBC The host show's the suspended immediately .

---

5. signed than far it people 400,000 have , more So .

---

6. think was Mr not incident serious did the so May .

---

7. retweeted fan a message Clarkson from also a .

---

8. the show episodes can not remaining How BBC the?

---

9. in The over show 200 is countries broadcast .

---

10. nationalities Making comments other racist about .

---

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150314-top-gear.html>

BBC Television has *suspended / suspending* one of its biggest stars for reportedly punching a producer. Reporters say Jeremy Clarkson, 54, the presenter of the *huge / hugely* popular programme Top Gear, got into a fight with the producer, Oisin Tymon. There was an *argument / argue* about the lack *of / for* food available after *filmed / filming* one of the shows. Mr Clarkson *supposedly / supposes* got angry with Mr Tymon over this and hit him. The BBC immediately suspended the show's *host / heist* and announced they would not broadcast the next *too / two* programmes. Clarkson is so *popular / populated* worldwide that an online petition started, calling for the BBC to "reinstate" him. So *for / far*, more than 400,000 people have signed it.

One of Mr Clarkson's co-presenters, James May, did not think the *accident / incident* was so *serious / seriously*. He told BBC News: "I think [Clarkson has] been *involved / involving* in a bit of a dust-up and I don't think it's that serious." Mr Clarkson *joked / jokes* with reporters yesterday. They asked him where he was going as he *got / gets* into his car. He said he was going *to / for* the job centre. Clarkson also retweeted a message from a *fun / fan* to his 4.5 million Twitter followers. It read: "How can the BBC not show the *remaining / remains* episodes of Top Gear? Can't this be resolved without making the fans *supper / suffer*?" The show is broadcast in over 200 countries. Over 350 million people watch it. Clarkson has a history of making *racially / racist* comments about other nationalities.

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150314-top-gear.html>

BBC T\_l\_v\_s\_\_n h\_s s\_sp\_nd\_d \_n\_ \_f \_ts b\_gg\_st  
st\_rs f\_r r\_p\_rt\_dly p\_nch\_ng \_ pr\_d\_c\_r. R\_p\_rt\_rs  
s\_y J\_r\_my Cl\_rks\_n, 54, th\_ pr\_s\_nt\_r \_f th\_ h\_g\_ly  
p\_p\_l\_r pr\_gr\_mm\_ T\_p G\_\_r, g\_t \_nt\_ \_ f\_gh\_t w\_th  
th\_ pr\_d\_c\_r, \_\_s\_n Tym\_n. Th\_r\_ w\_s \_n \_rg\_m\_nt  
\_b\_\_t th\_ l\_ck \_f f\_\_d \_v\_\_l\_b\_l\_ \_ft\_r f\_lm\_ng \_n\_ \_f  
th\_ sh\_ws. Mr Cl\_rks\_n s\_pp\_s\_dly g\_t \_ngry w\_th Mr  
Tym\_n \_v\_r th\_s \_nd h\_t h\_m. Th\_ BBC \_mm\_d\_\_t\_ly  
s\_sp\_nd\_d th\_ sh\_w's h\_st \_nd \_nn\_\_nc\_d th\_y w\_\_ld  
n\_t br\_\_dc\_st th\_ n\_xt tw\_ pr\_gr\_mm\_s. Cl\_rks\_n \_s s\_  
p\_p\_l\_r w\_rldw\_d\_ th\_t \_n \_nl\_n\_p\_t\_t\_n st\_rt\_d,  
c\_ll\_ng f\_r th\_ BBC t\_ "r\_\_nst\_t\_" h\_m. S\_ f\_r, m\_r\_  
th\_n 400,000 p\_\_pl\_ h\_v\_ s\_gn\_d \_t.

\_n\_ \_f Mr Cl\_rks\_n's c\_-pr\_s\_nt\_rs, J\_m\_s M\_y, d\_d n\_t  
th\_nk th\_ \_\_nc\_d\_nt w\_s s\_ s\_r\_\_s. H\_t Id BBC N\_ws:  
"\_ th\_nk [Cl\_rks\_n h\_s] b\_\_n \_nv\_lv\_d \_n\_ \_b\_t \_f \_  
d\_st-p \_nd \_ d\_n't th\_nk \_t's th\_t s\_r\_\_s." Mr  
Cl\_rks\_n j\_k\_d w\_th r\_p\_rt\_rs y\_st\_rdy. Th\_y \_sk\_d  
h\_m wh\_r\_ h\_ w\_s g\_\_ng \_s h\_ g\_t \_nt\_ h\_s c\_r. H\_  
s\_\_d h\_ w\_s g\_\_ng t\_ th\_ j\_b c\_ntr\_. Cl\_rks\_n \_ls\_  
r\_tw\_\_t\_d \_ m\_ss\_g\_ fr\_m \_ f\_n t\_ h\_s 4.5 m\_ll\_\_n  
Tw\_tt\_r f\_ll\_w\_rs. \_t r\_\_d: "H\_w c\_n th\_ BBC n\_t sh\_w  
th\_ r\_m\_\_n\_g \_p\_s\_d\_s \_f T\_p G\_\_r? C\_n't th\_s b\_  
r\_s\_lv\_d w\_th\_\_t m\_k\_ng th\_ f\_ns s\_ff\_r?" Th\_ sh\_w \_s  
br\_\_dc\_st \_n \_v\_r 200 c\_\_ntr\_\_s. \_v\_r 350 m\_ll\_\_n  
p\_\_pl\_ w\_tch \_t. Cl\_rks\_n h\_s \_ h\_st\_ry \_f m\_k\_ng  
r\_c\_st c\_mm\_nts \_b\_\_t th\_r n\_t\_\_n\_l\_t\_\_s.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150314-top-gear.html>

bbc television has suspended one of its biggest stars for reportedly punching a producer reporters say jeremy clarkson 54 the presenter of the hugely popular programme top gear got into a fight with the producer oisin tymon there was an argument about the lack of food available after filming one of the shows mr clarkson supposedly got angry with mr tymon over this and hit him the bbc immediately suspended the show's host and announced they would not broadcast the next two programmes clarkson is so popular worldwide that an online petition started calling for the bbc to "reinstate" him so far more than 400000 people have signed it

one of mr clarkson's co-presenters james may did not think the incident was so serious he told bbc news "i think [clarkson has] been involved in a bit of a dust-up and i don't think it's that serious" mr clarkson joked with reporters yesterday they asked him where he was going as he got into his car he said he was going to the job centre clarkson also retweeted a message from a fan to his 45 million twitter followers it read "how can the bbc not show the remaining episodes of top gear can't this be resolved without making the fans suffer" the show is broadcast in over 200 countries over 350 million people watch it clarkson has a history of making racist comments about other nationalities

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1503/150314-top-gear.html>

BBC Television has suspended one of its biggest stars for reportedly punching a producer. Reporters say Jeremy Clarkson, 54, the presenter of the hugely popular programme Top Gear, got into a fight with the producer, Oisín Tymon. There was an argument about the lack of food available after filming one of the shows. Mr Clarkson supposedly got angry with Mr Tymon over this and hit him. The BBC immediately suspended the show's host and announced they would not broadcast the next two programmes. Clarkson is so popular worldwide that an online petition started, calling for the BBC to "reinstate" him. So far, more than 400,000 people have signed it. One of Mr Clarkson's co-presenters, James May, did not think the incident was so serious. He told BBC News: "I think [Clarkson has] been involved in a bit of a dust-up and I don't think it's that serious." Mr Clarkson joked with reporters yesterday. They asked him where he was going as he got into his car. He said he was going to the job centre. Clarkson also retweeted a message from a fan to his 4.5 million Twitter followers. It read: "How can the BBC not show the remaining episodes of Top Gear? Can't this be resolved without making the fans suffer?" The show is broadcast in over 200 countries. Over 350 million people watch it. Clarkson has a history of making racist comments about other nationalities.







# HOMework

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about car TV shows. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. CARS:** Make a poster about cars. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. TOP GEAR:** Write a magazine article about Jeremy Clarkson and Top Gear. Include imaginary interviews with people who think the BBC should fire him and with those who think that would be wrong.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on car TV shows. Ask him/her three questions about car TV shows. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to make them better. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F    b T    c T    d F    e F    f F    g T    h T

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. stars     | a. big names    |
| 2. hugely    | b. very         |
| 3. argument  | c. disagreement |
| 4. announced | d. stated       |
| 5. worldwide | e. globally     |
| 6. incident  | f. happening    |
| 7. serious   | g. bad          |
| 8. remaining | h. last         |
| 9. resolved  | i. settled      |
| 10. history  | j. background   |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Suspended him
2. A lack of food
3. Two
4. A petition
5. Over 400,000
6. Co-presenter (of Top Gear)
7. A (bit of a) dust-up
8. The job centre
9. Over 400,000
10. Over 350 million

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. c    2. a    3. a    4. b    5. d    6. b    7. a    8. c    9. d    10. a

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)