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Level 2 – 25th July, 2018

University ends use of Mr, Ms and Mrs

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180725-titles-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180725-titles-2.html>

A university in South Africa will no longer use titles like Mr, Ms or Mrs. The Witwatersrand Uni. will stop using these titles when communicating with students. It wants to support people who are transgender. A statement read: "The university realizes that it is invalidating and distressing for a person who, for example, was...female at birth but identifies as male to be constantly addressed by a non-affirming title." People who are transgender are choosing the gender-neutral title "Mx". This is legally recognized in many countries across the world.

The decision is popular in the university community. The university said it, "opposes all public and private discrimination on the basis of gender identity". An official said: "We want people in our university community to feel safe, supported and ultimately respected...It means a lot being in a space which is welcoming." A law professor said the action was, "the most wonderful moment for true equality". She added: "It's a triumph for an understanding of the diversity of gender identity, sexual orientation and the right to be respected for whomever you are."

Sources: <https://www.timeslive.co.za/news/south-africa/2018-07-19-wits-drops-mr-ms-and-mrs-titles/>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/live/world-africa-44922404>
<http://ewn.co.za/2018/07/23/equality-commission-hails-wits-decision-to-remove-gender-prefixes>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180725-titles-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. no longer use titles | a. birth |
| 2. stop using | b. many countries |
| 3. support people who | c. these titles |
| 4. female at | d. neutral title "Mx" |
| 5. People who are | e. world |
| 6. choosing the gender- | f. are transgender |
| 7. legally recognized in | g. like Mr, Ms or Mrs |
| 8. across the | h. transgender |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. The decision is | a. moment |
| 2. on the basis | b. gender identity |
| 3. feel | c. of gender identity |
| 4. the most wonderful | d. whomever you are |
| 5. true | e. popular |
| 6. the diversity of | f. orientation |
| 7. sexual | g. safe |
| 8. be respected for | h. equality |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180725-titles-2.html>

A university in South Africa (1) _____ use titles like Mr, Ms or Mrs. The Witwatersrand Uni. (2) _____ these titles when communicating with students. It wants to support (3) _____ transgender. A statement read: "The university (4) _____ is invalidating and distressing for a person who, for example, was...female at birth but identifies as (5) _____ constantly addressed by a non-affirming title." People who are transgender are choosing the gender-neutral title "Mx". This is legally recognized in many (6) _____ world.

The decision (7) _____ the university community. The university said it, "opposes all public and private discrimination on (8) _____ gender identity". An official said: "We want people in our university community (9) _____ supported and ultimately respected...It means a lot being in a space (10) _____." A law professor said the action was, "the most wonderful moment (11) _____". She added: "It's a triumph for an understanding of the diversity of gender identity, sexual orientation and the right to be respected for (12) _____."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180725-titles-2.html>

AuniversityinSouthAfricawillnolongerusetitleslikeMr,MsorMrs.TheWitwatersrandUni.willstopusingthesetitleswhencommunicatingwithstudents.Itwantstosupportpeoplewhoaretransgender.Astatementread:"Theuniversityrealizesthatitisinvalidatinganddistressingforapersonwho,forexample,was...femaleatbirthbutidentifiesasmaletobebconstantlyaddressedbyanon-affirmingtitle."Peoplewhoaretransgenderarechoosingthegender-neutraltitle"Mx".Thisislegallyrecognizedinmanycountriesacrosstheworld.Thedecisionispopularintheuniversitycommunity.Theuniversitiesaidit,"opposesallpublicandprivatediscriminationonthebasisofgenderidentity".Anofficialsaid:"Wewantpeopleinouruniversitycommunitytofeelsafe,supportedandultimatelyrespected...Itmeansalotbeinginaspacewhichiswelcoming."Alawprofessoraidtheactionwas,"themostwonderfulexperiencefortrueequality".Sheadded:"It'satriumphforanunderstandingofthediversityofgenderidentity,sexualorientationandtherighttoberespectedforwhomeveryouare."

TITLES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180725-titles-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Titles 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.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

