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Level 6 – 19th August, 2020

UK government U-turns over exam results fiasco

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200819-exam-results.html>

Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	15
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	16
Vocabulary	4	Spelling	17
Before Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	18
Gap Fill	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	19
Match The Sentences And Listen	7	Circle The Correct Word	20
Listening Gap Fill	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	21
Comprehension Questions	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	22
Multiple Choice - Quiz	10	Put A Slash (/) Where The Spaces Are	23
Role Play	11	Free Writing	24
After Reading / Listening	12	Academic Writing	25
Student Survey	13	Homework	26
Discussion (20 Questions)	14	Answers	27

Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200819-exam-results.html>

The United Kingdom has made a U-turn over the system it used to award exam grades for students hoping to attend university. The government had decided on using a controversial algorithm to determine the grades of students who were unable to take exams due to COVID-19. The algorithm gave students results that were a grade or two lower than the results predicted by teachers. About 40 per cent of the final results were downgraded. The results hit the headlines as the scores for students who live in poorer areas were downgraded. Many of these students did not get into university as a result, despite not taking an exam. Scores for richer students attending private schools were higher than predicted.

The algorithm turned into a scandal for the government as it was accused of favoring the rich. Parents and students were furious with the government for what they saw as gross incompetence and for ruining the future, dreams and aspirations of England's young people. One commentator said the algorithm was designed by the elite for the elite. In its latest U-turn, the government announced that grades will now be awarded based on the predictions of teachers. Gavin Williamson, the UK Education Secretary, said: "I am sorry for the distress this has caused young people and their parents but hope this announcement will now provide the certainty and reassurance they deserve."

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-53810655>
<https://metro.co.uk/2020/08/16/level-pupils-launch-legal-action-ofqual-13135305>
<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/end-exam-shambles-tories-tell-boris-johnson-cd306kz2r>

WARM-UPS

1. EXAM RESULTS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about exam results. 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?

U-turn / system / award / university / controversial / algorithm / results / headlines / scandal / the rich / furious / incompetence / aspirations / elite / prediction / sorry

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

3. EDUCATION: Students A **strongly** believe the largest part of a government's budget should be education; Students B **strongly** believe otherwise. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. EXAMS: What are the difficulties with these exams? What's the best way to study for them? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Difficulties	Best Way to Study
Speaking test		
Writing test		
Maths test		
Art exam		
History exam		
IT exam		

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

6. STUDYING: Rank these with your partner. Put the best ways to study at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Read
- Write
- Make notes
- Flash cards
- YouTube
- Practice tests
- Sleep well
- Don't panic

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 1. attend | a. Giving rise or likely to give rise to public disagreement. |
| 2. algorithm | b. Reduced to a lower score, rank, or level of importance. |
| 3. determine | c. Go regularly to an educational, religious, social, or clinical institution. |
| 4. controversial | d. Said or estimated that a specified thing will happen in the future. |
| 5. downgraded | e. A process or set of rules to be followed in calculations or other problem-solving operations. |
| 6. headline | f. Find out or establish exactly, typically as a result of research or calculation. |
| 7. predicted | g. The few, larger words that declare the most important item of news in a newspaper. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 8. scandal | h. Do something or have or show qualities worthy of getting a reward or punishment. |
| 9. favoring | i. An action or event regarded as morally or legally wrong and causing general public outrage. |
| 10. commentator | j. Approval, support, or liking for someone or something. |
| 11. elite | k. Unattractively large. |
| 12. gross | l. A group or class of people seen as having the greatest power and influence within a society, especially because of their wealth. |
| 13. aspiration | m. A person who talks about news, events, trends or other happenings. |
| 14. deserve | n. A hope or ambition of achieving something. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200819-exam-results.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. The UK government has cancelled all exam results it awarded last week. **T / F**
- b. The government has now decided to use a new algorithm. **T / F**
- c. All exam results were downgraded by 40 per cent. **T / F**
- d. Exam grades for richer students were higher than expected. **T / F**
- e. Parents and students accused the government of favoring the rich. **T / F**
- f. Someone said the exam algorithm was designed for the elite. **T / F**
- g. The U-turn means grades will now be based on teacher's predictions. **T / F**
- h. The UK Education Secretary said there is no need to apologise. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| 1. U-turn | a. upper class |
| 2. controversial | b. lowered |
| 3. determine | c. merit |
| 4. downgraded | d. decide |
| 5. attending | e. disgrace |
| 6. scandal | f. forecasts |
| 7. incompetence | g. about-face |
| 8. elite | h. ineptitude |
| 9. predictions | i. disputed |
| 10. deserve | j. going to |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. made a U-turn | a. incompetence |
| 2. a controversial algorithm to | b. headlines |
| 3. results that were a grade | c. predicted |
| 4. hit the | d. or two lower |
| 5. higher than | e. a scandal |
| 6. The algorithm turned into | f. this has caused |
| 7. it was accused | g. over the system it used |
| 8. gross | h. elite for the elite |
| 9. designed by the | i. of favoring the rich |
| 10. I am sorry for the distress | j. determine the grades |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200819-exam-results.html>

The United Kingdom has made a U-turn over the (1) _____ it used to award exam grades for students hoping to (2) _____ university. The government had decided on using a controversial algorithm to determine the grades of students who were (3) _____ to take exams due to COVID-19. The algorithm gave students results that were a (4) _____ or two lower than the results predicted by teachers. About 40 per cent of the final results were (5) _____. The results hit the (6) _____ as the scores for students who live in poorer areas were downgraded. Many of these students did not get into university as a result, (7) _____ not taking an exam. Scores for richer students attending (8) _____ schools were higher than predicted.

unable
downgraded
private
grade
system
despite
attend
headlines

The algorithm turned into a (9) _____ for the government as it was accused of (10) _____ the rich. Parents and students were furious with the government for what they saw as (11) _____ incompetence and for ruining the future, dreams and (12) _____ of England's young people. One commentator said the algorithm was designed by the (13) _____ for the elite. In its latest U-turn, the government announced that grades will now be awarded (14) _____ on the predictions of teachers. Gavin Williamson, the UK Education Secretary, said: "I am sorry for the (15) _____ this has caused young people and their parents but hope this announcement will now provide the certainty and reassurance they (16) _____."

based
distress
aspirations
favoring
elite
deserve
scandal
gross

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200819-exam-results.html>

- 1) The United Kingdom has made a U-turn over the system it used to _____
 - a. award exam grade
 - b. award exam gradients
 - c. award exam grades
 - d. award exam graders
- 2) The government had decided on using a _____
 - a. controversial algorithm
 - b. controversy algorithm
 - c. controversially algorithm
 - d. contra-verse all algorithm
- 3) gave students results that were a grade or two lower than the _____
 - a. results prediction
 - b. results predict it
 - c. results predict did
 - d. results predicted
- 4) About 40 per cent of the final results were downgraded. The results _____
 - a. hit the headline
 - b. hit a headlines
 - c. hit a headline
 - d. hit the headlines
- 5) students did not get into university as a result, _____ an exam
 - a. in spite not taking
 - b. respite not taking
 - c. despot not taking
 - d. despite not taking
- 6) turned into a scandal for the government as it was accused of _____
 - a. flavoring the rich
 - b. favoring the rich
 - c. favor ring the rich
 - d. favor in the rich
- 7) students were furious with the government for what they saw _____
 - a. as grass incompetence
 - b. as glass incompetence
 - c. as gloss incompetence
 - d. as gross incompetence
- 8) One commentator said the algorithm was designed by the elite _____
 - a. for the poor
 - b. for the needy
 - c. for the less able
 - d. for the elite
- 9) Gavin Williamson, the UK Education Secretary, said: "I am sorry _____"
 - a. further distress
 - b. for them distress
 - c. for then distress
 - d. for the distress
- 10) this announcement will now provide the certainty and reassurance _____
 - a. they'd serve
 - b. they'd reserve
 - c. they deserve
 - d. they dessert

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200819-exam-results.html>

The United Kingdom has made a U-turn (1) _____ it used to award exam grades for students (2) _____ university. The government had decided on using a controversial algorithm to (3) _____ of students who were unable to take exams due to COVID-19. The algorithm gave students results that were a grade or two lower than the (4) _____ teachers. About 40 per cent of the final results were downgraded. The results (5) _____ as the scores for students who live in poorer areas were downgraded. Many of these students did not get into university as a result, despite not taking an exam. Scores for richer students (6) _____ were higher than predicted.

The algorithm turned (7) _____ for the government as it was accused of favoring the rich. Parents and students were furious with the government for what they (8) _____ incompetence and for ruining the future, dreams (9) _____ England's young people. One commentator said the algorithm was designed by the elite for the elite. In its latest U-turn, the government announced that grades will now be (10) _____ the predictions of teachers. Gavin Williamson, the UK Education Secretary, said: "I am sorry for (11) _____ has caused young people and their parents but hope this announcement will now provide the certainty and (12) _____."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200819-exam-results.html>

1. What were students hoping to attend?
2. What controversial thing did the government use to determine grades?
3. By how much were the teacher-predicted grades downgraded?
4. What did the exam grades hit?
5. What happened to scores for some richer students?
6. Who did the article say the government favored?
7. What did parents and students see the government's actions as being?
8. Who did a commentator say the original exam grading was for?
9. What will exam grades now be based on?
10. What did the education secretary apologise for?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200819-exam-results.html>

- 1) What were students hoping to attend?
 - a) a university open day
 - b) an exam workshop
 - c) a meeting
 - d) university
- 2) What controversial thing did the government use to determine grades?
 - a) a times table
 - b) an algorithm
 - c) an abacus
 - d) a fortune teller
- 3) By how much were the teacher-predicted grades downgraded?
 - a) about 10%
 - b) about half
 - c) about 30%
 - d) about 40%
- 4) What did the exam grades hit?
 - a) home
 - b) the fan
 - c) the headlines
 - d) the poorest people
- 5) What happened to scores for some richer students?
 - a) they also went down
 - b) nothing
 - c) they reached record levels
 - d) they rose
- 6) Who did the article say the government favored?
 - a) politics students
 - b) medical students
 - c) the rich
 - d) politicians' children
- 7) What did parents and students see the government's actions as being?
 - a) gross incompetence
 - b) exemplary
 - c) excellence
 - d) fairness
- 8) Who did a commentator say the original exam grading was for?
 - a) politicians
 - b) history students
 - c) the elite
 - d) everybody
- 9) What will exam grades now be based on?
 - a) past results
 - b) teachers' predictions
 - c) school averages
 - d) a new exam
- 10) What did the education secretary apologise for?
 - a) distress
 - b) incompetence
 - c) elitism
 - d) low grades

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200819-exam-results.html>

Role A – Practice Tests

You think practice tests is the best way to study. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): writing notes, YouTube or sleeping enough.

Role B – Writing Notes

You think writing notes is the best way to study. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): practice tests, YouTube or sleeping enough.

Role C – YouTube

You think YouTube is the best way to study. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): writing notes, practice tests or sleeping enough.

Role D – Sleeping Enough

You think sleep is the best way to study. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their ways. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): writing notes, YouTube or practice tests.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200819-exam-results.html>

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

exam	result

- 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">• system• unable• 40• hit• areas• private	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• scandal• gross• elite• based• sorry• deserve
--	---

EXAM RESULTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200819-exam-results.html>

Write five GOOD questions about exam results 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.

EXAM RESULTS DISCUSSION

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

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'exam'?
3. What do you think of exams?
4. Are exams the best way to assess students?
5. What were your exam results like?
6. How can a system give exam grades if students haven't taken exams?
7. What is the best way to pass exams?
8. What do you think of poorer students being downgraded more?
9. How unfair is it an algorithm can stop a student getting to university?
10. How important is going to university?

UK government U-turns over exam results fiasco – 19th August, 2020
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EXAM RESULTS DISCUSSION

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

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'result'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What scandals has your government had?
15. Do you think your government has ever favored the rich?
16. Has your government ever been grossly incompetent?
17. What are the good and bad things about a government making U-turns?
18. Is it better to use teachers' predictions for the exam scores?
19. Do you think the apology is enough?
20. What questions would you like to ask the UK government?

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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200819-exam-results.html>

The United Kingdom has made a U-turn (1) _____ the system it used to award exam grades for students hoping to attend university. The government had decided (2) _____ using a controversial algorithm to determine the grades of students who were unable to take exams (3) _____ to COVID-19. The algorithm gave students results that were a grade or two lower than the results predicted (4) _____ teachers. About 40 per cent of the final results were downgraded. The results (5) _____ the headlines as the scores for students who live in poorer areas were downgraded. Many of these students did not get into university as a (6) _____, despite not taking an exam. Scores for richer students attending private schools were higher than predicted.

The algorithm turned into a scandal for the government as it was (7) _____ of favoring the rich. Parents and students were furious with the government for what they saw as (8) _____ incompetence and for ruining the future, dreams and aspirations of England's young people. One commentator said the algorithm was designed by the elite for the elite. In its latest U-turn, the government announced that grades will now be awarded (9) _____ on the predictions of teachers. Gavin Williamson, the UK Education Secretary, said: "I am sorry for the (10) _____ this has caused young people and their parents but hope this announcement will now (11) _____ the certainty and reassurance they (12) _____."

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. | (a) under | (b) over | (c) on | (d) in |
| 2. | (a) up | (b) on | (c) down | (d) across |
| 3. | (a) as | (b) though | (c) because | (d) due |
| 4. | (a) of | (b) by | (c) as | (d) but |
| 5. | (a) smacked | (b) hit | (c) whacked | (d) nudged |
| 6. | (a) grade | (b) score | (c) result | (d) test |
| 7. | (a) pledged | (b) recounted | (c) accused | (d) recalled |
| 8. | (a) gloss | (b) class | (c) gross | (d) glass |
| 9. | (a) boasted | (b) biased | (c) basted | (d) based |
| 10. | (a) distress | (b) redress | (c) address | (d) tresses |
| 11. | (a) provide | (b) reap | (c) harvest | (d) spare |
| 12. | (a) conserve | (b) serve | (c) deserve | (d) observe |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200819-exam-results.html>

Paragraph 1

1. using a ocsreilaortvn algorithm
2. hoping to atnted university
3. dmrteneie the grades of students
4. final results were aedwnrgdod
5. tseidpe not taking an exam
6. higher than itrpdcede

Paragraph 2

7. accused of fnroavgi the rich
8. gross nimctcopenee
9. the future, dreams and aasinpristo
10. designed by the itele
11. the tisrsted this has caused
12. reassurance they edveser

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200819-exam-results.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () not taking an exam. Scores for richer students attending private schools were higher than predicted.
- () on the predictions of teachers. Gavin Williamson, the UK Education Secretary,
- () announcement will now provide the certainty and reassurance they deserve."
- () of students who were unable to take exams due to COVID-19. The algorithm gave students results that were a grade or two
- () areas were downgraded. Many of these students did not get into university as a result, despite
- () the future, dreams and aspirations of England's young people. One commentator said the algorithm was designed by the elite
- () university. The government had decided on using a controversial algorithm to determine the grades
- () said: "I am sorry for the distress this has caused young people and their parents but hope this
- () rich. Parents and students were furious with the government for what they saw as gross incompetence and for ruining
- () for the elite. In its latest U-turn, the government announced that grades will now be awarded based
- () downgraded. The results hit the headlines as the scores for students who live in poorer
- () The algorithm turned into a scandal for the government as it was accused of favoring the
- (**1**) The United Kingdom has made a U-turn over the system it used to award exam grades for students hoping to attend
- () lower than the results predicted by teachers. About 40 per cent of the final results were

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200819-exam-results.html>

1. award it used grades . to system The exam
2. the controversial algorithm A determine grades . to
3. live students Scores in areas . for poorer who
4. university . of students these into Many get didn't
5. richer Scores private students attending for schools .
6. government of accused the was The favoring rich .
7. elite . designed the The algorithm was by
8. be based Grades now predictions . will on awarded
9. this distress the for caused . sorry I'm has
10. certainty . the now This announcement provide will

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200819-exam-results.html>

The United Kingdom has made a U-turn *over / under* the system it used to award exam grades for students hoping to *attentive / attend* university. The government had decided *at / on* using a controversial algorithm to determine the grades of students who were *incapable / unable* to take exams due to COVID-19. The algorithm gave students results that were a grade or two lower than the results *predicted / predictive* by teachers. About 40 per cent of the final results *be / were* downgraded. The results hit the headlines *was / as* the scores for students who live in *poorer / poverty* areas were downgraded. Many of these students did not get into university as a *score / result*, despite not taking an exam. Scores for richer students attending *private / privacy* schools were higher than predicted.

The algorithm turned *into / onto* a scandal for the government as it was accused of *flavoring / favoring* the rich. Parents and students were *fury / furious* with the government for what they saw as *gloss / gross* incompetence and for *ruining / ruing* the future, dreams and aspirations of England's young people. One commentator said the algorithm was designed by the elite for the elite. In its latest U-turn, the government announced that grades will now be awarded based *in / on* the predictions of teachers. Gavin Williamson, the UK Education Secretary, said: "I am *sorry / apologise* for the distress this *which / has* caused young people and their parents but *hopeful / hope* this announcement will now provide the certainty and reassurance they *reserve / deserve*."

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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200819-exam-results.html>

The United Kingdom has made a U-turn over the
education system to save the world from
students helping to attend university. The govern-
ment has decided on saving the country's
growth by deterring the students from
helping the world to tackle the COVID-19
pandemic. The government says that
the results of the exams were
predicted by teachers. About 40 per cent of
the final results were downgraded. The results
show that the schools for students
were downgraded. Many of these students did not
go to university as a result, despite not taking
exams. Schools for rich students attending private
schools were higher than predicted.

The government turned on a scandal for the
education system that was caused by favouring the
rich. Parents and students were furious with
the government for what they saw as gross
incompetence and for ruining the future, dreams
and spirits of England's young people.
On comment that the government was
disgraced by the fall for the fall. In the
latest U-turn, the government announced that
the students will now be awarded based on the
predictions of teachers. Given Williams, the
UK Education Secretary, said: "I am sorry
for the distress this has caused young
people and their parents but hope this
announcement will now provide the certainty and
reassurance they deserve."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200819-exam-results.html>

the united kingdom has made a u-turn over the system it used to award exam grades for students hoping to attend university the government had decided on using a controversial algorithm to determine the grades of students who were unable to take exams due to covid-19 the algorithm gave students results that were a grade or two lower than the results predicted by teachers about 40 per cent of the final results were downgraded the results hit the headlines as the scores for students who live in poorer areas were downgraded many of these students did not get into university as a result despite not taking an exam scores for richer students attending private schools were higher than predicted

the algorithm turned into a scandal for the government as it was accused of favoring the rich parents and students were furious with the government for what they saw as gross incompetence and for ruining the future dreams and aspirations of england's young people one commentator said the algorithm was designed by the elite for the elite in its latest u-turn the government announced that grades will now be awarded based on the predictions of teachers gavin williamson the uk education secretary said i am sorry for the distress this has caused young people and their parents but hope this announcement will now provide the certainty and reassurance they deserve

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200819-exam-results.html>

The United Kingdom has made a U-turn over the system it used to award exam grades for students hoping to attend university. The government had decided on using a controversial algorithm to determine the grades of students who were unable to take exams due to COVID-19. The algorithm gave students results that were a grade or two lower than the results predicted by teachers. About 40 percent of the final results were downgraded. The results hit the headlines as the scores for students who live in poorer areas were downgraded. Many of these students did not get into university as a result, despite not taking an exam. Scores for richer students attending private schools were higher than predicted. The algorithm turned into a scandal for the government as it was accused of favoring the rich. Parents and students were furious with the government for what they saw as gross incompetence and for ruining the future, dreams and aspirations of England's young people. One commentator said the algorithm was designed by the elite for the elite. In its latest U-turn, the government announced that grades will now be awarded based on the predictions of teachers. Gavin Williamson, the UK Education Secretary, said: "I am sorry for the distress this has caused young people and their parents but hope this announcement will now provide the certainty and reassurance they deserve."

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 this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. EXAM RESULTS: Make a poster about exam results. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. UNIVERSITY: Write a magazine article about everyone having to go to university. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

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 exam results. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to increase exam results. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. c 2. e 3. f 4. a 5. b 6. g 7. d
8. i 9. j 10. m 11. l 12. k 13. n 14. h

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. g	2. i	3. d	4. b	5. j
6. e	7. h	8. a	9. f	10. c

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. University
2. An algorithm
3. About 40%
4. The headlines
5. They went up
6. The rich
7. Gross incompetence
8. The elite
9. Teachers' predictions
10. Distress caused

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. The system it used to award exam grades.
2. A controversial algorithm to determine the grades.
3. Scores for students who live in poorer areas.
4. Many of these students didn't get into university.
5. Scores for richer students attending private schools.
6. The government was accused of favoring the rich.
7. The algorithm was designed by the elite.
8. Grades will now be awarded based on predictions.
9. I'm sorry for the distress this has caused.
10. This announcement will now provide the certainty.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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