

# Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

**"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES  
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"**

[breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html](http://breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html)

**Thousands more free lessons  
from Sean's other websites**

[www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean\\_banville\\_lessons.html](http://www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html)

**Level 6 – 5th July, 2021**

## Swimmers angry over afro Soul Cap Olympics ban

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210705-soul-cap.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).**

**Twitter**



[twitter.com/SeanBanville](https://twitter.com/SeanBanville)

**Facebook**



[www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176](https://www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176)

# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210705-soul-cap.html>

The Black Swimming Association is up in arms over a ban on the use of a swim cap at the upcoming Tokyo Olympics. FINA, the body that regulates international swimming, has rejected an application from the brand SOUL CAP. Its product is a cap that accommodates diverse hairstyles and hair types. The company wants the cap certified for competition swimming. It wants to help swimmers with afros, braids, dreadlocks, hair extensions, weaves, and thick and curly hair. FINA said it would not permit the Soul Cap because swimmers have never used a cap "of such size and configuration" before. FINA stated it would not be permitted because "it didn't fit the natural form of the head".

The Black Swimming Association was aghast at the decision and called it a step backwards for black swimmers. It warned it would drive away swimmers from diverse backgrounds. BSA spokeswoman Danielle Obe said: "This will affect younger and up-and-coming swimmers who might want to consider taking up elite swimming." She added: "At the highest level, we're hearing that, 'we want the sport to be inclusive and representative; we want to have people of colour in the sport, but we want them to join on our terms'. This will affect their decision because by and large, hair is a significant barrier, especially for women." The caps are allowed at all Swim England clubs and competitions.

Sources: <https://www.skysports.com/more-sports/swimming/news/29876/12346581/black-swimming-association-chair-says-fina-decision-to-reject-caps-for-natural-hair-not-what-inclusion-is-about>  
<https://www.insider.com/natural-hair-swim-caps-not-allowed-olympics-2021-6>  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/newsbeat-57688380>

# WARM-UPS

**1. SWIMMING:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about swimming. 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?

up in arms / Olympics / swimming / cap / competition / dreadlocks / swimmers / head aghast / backwards / diverse / elite / sport / decision / hair / barrier / competition

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

**3. SWIM CAPS:** Students A **strongly** believe swimmers should be able to wear any kind of swim cap; Students B **strongly** believe they should be regulated. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. OLYMPICS:** What do you think of the Olympics? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Agree / Disagree?	Why?
A celebration		
Inclusiveness		
Coronavirus		
Sporting excellence		
National pride		
Fun		

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

**6. AQUATIC SPORTS:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best aquatic sports at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Swimming
- Sailing
- Water Polo
- Canoeing
- Synchronised swimming
- Diving
- Rowing
- Windsurfing

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 1. up in arms    | a. Very, very angry.  |
| 2. upcoming      | b. Showing a great deal of variety; very different.   |
| 3. regulates     | c. About to happen.   |
| 4. rejected      | d. A formal request to an authority for something.  |
| 5. application   | e. Controls or supervises something, especially a company or business activity by means of rules. |
| 6. diverse       | f. Refused to agree to a request.   |
| 7. configuration | g. An arrangement of elements in a particular form, figure, or combination.                       |

## Paragraph 2

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 8. aghast        | h. Not excluding any section of society or any party involved in something.             |
| 9. up-and-coming | i. Best; top level.   |
| 10. taking up    | j. Filled with horror or shock.   |
| 11. elite        | k. Conditions under which an action may be undertaken.                                  |
| 12. inclusive    | l. Making good progress and likely to become successful.                                |
| 13. terms        | m. An obstacle that keeps people or things apart or prevents communication or progress. |
| 14. barrier      | n. Starting something new (like a hobby, musical instrument, sport, etc.).              |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210705-soul-cap.html>

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

1. A black swimming association has welcoming arms for a swim cap ban. **T / F**
2. The Soul Cap is for people with many kinds of hairstyles. **T / F**
3. A regulatory body said such a cap had never been used before. **T / F**
4. A regulatory body said the cap didn't fit the natural form of the head. **T / F**
5. The swimming association said the decision was a step backwards. **T / F**
6. The association said there would now be more elite swimmers. **T / F**
7. The association said hair is a major barrier for men. **T / F**
8. Soul Caps are not allowed at swimming competitions in England. **T / F**

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                         |                |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| 1. <b>up in arms</b>    | a. horrified   |
| 2. <b>upcoming</b>      | b. allow       |
| 3. <b>regulates</b>     | c. obstacle    |
| 4. <b>permit</b>        | d. approaching |
| 5. <b>configuration</b> | e. various     |
| 6. <b>aghast</b>        | f. angry       |
| 7. <b>diverse</b>       | g. conditions  |
| 8. <b>up-and-coming</b> | h. design      |
| 9. <b>terms</b>         | i. supervises  |
| 10. <b>barrier</b>      | j. promising   |

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

- |                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. up in                     | a. at the decision           |
| 2. rejected an application   | b. barrier                   |
| 3. The company wants the cap | c. form of the head          |
| 4. a cap of such size        | d. from the brand            |
| 5. it didn't fit the natural | e. for black swimmers        |
| 6. aghast                    | f. arms over a ban           |
| 7. a step backwards          | g. on our terms              |
| 8. younger and up-and-       | h. and configuration         |
| 9. we want them to join      | i. coming swimmers           |
| 10. hair is a significant    | j. certified for competition |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210705-soul-cap.html>

The Black Swimming Association is up in (1) \_\_\_\_\_ over a ban on the use of a swim cap at the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Tokyo Olympics. FINA, the body that regulates international swimming, has (3) \_\_\_\_\_ an application from the brand SOUL CAP. Its product is a cap that accommodates (4) \_\_\_\_\_ hairstyles and hair types. The company wants the cap certified for competition swimming. It wants to help swimmers with (5) \_\_\_\_\_, braids, dreadlocks, hair extensions, weaves, and thick and curly hair. FINA said it would not (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the Soul Cap because swimmers have never used a cap "of (7) \_\_\_\_\_ size and configuration" before. FINA stated it would not be permitted because "it didn't fit the (8) \_\_\_\_\_ form of the head".

*upcoming*

*permit*

*diverse*

*natural*

*arms*

*rejected*

*such*

*afros*

The Black Swimming Association was (9) \_\_\_\_\_ at the decision and called it a (10) \_\_\_\_\_ backwards for black swimmers. It warned it would drive away swimmers from (11) \_\_\_\_\_ backgrounds. BSA spokeswoman Danielle Obe said: "This will affect younger and up-and-coming swimmers who might want to consider taking up (12) \_\_\_\_\_ swimming." She added: "At the highest (13) \_\_\_\_\_, we're hearing that, 'we want the sport to be (14) \_\_\_\_\_ and representative; we want to have people of colour in the sport, but we want them to join on our terms'. This will (15) \_\_\_\_\_ their decision because by and large, hair is a significant (16) \_\_\_\_\_, especially for women." The caps are allowed at all Swim England clubs and competitions.

*inclusive*

*elite*

*step*

*level*

*aghast*

*affect*

*barrier*

*diverse*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210705-soul-cap.html>

- 1) The Black Swimming Association is up in arms \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. overly ban
  - b. over a band
  - c. over a ban
  - d. oh the ban
- 2) international swimming, has rejected an application from the \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. braid SOUL CAP
  - b. band SOUL CAP
  - c. brand SOUL CAP
  - d. bran SOUL CAP
- 3) It wants to help swimmers with afros, \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. braids, dreadlocks
  - b. braids, dread lucks
  - c. braids, bread lots
  - d. braids, dreamt locks
- 4) permit the Soul Cap because swimmers have never used a cap of such \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. size and configure nation
  - b. size and conflagration
  - c. size and configuration
  - d. size and con figure ration
- 5) it would not be permitted because it didn't fit the natural \_\_\_\_\_ head
  - a. firm of the
  - b. form of the
  - c. farm of the
  - d. fame of the
- 6) The Black Swimming Association was \_\_\_\_\_ decision
  - a. at last at the
  - b. a gust at the
  - c. a ghost at the
  - d. aghast at the
- 7) It warned it would drive away swimmers from \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. diverse backgrounds
  - b. dive worse backgrounds
  - c. dive verse backgrounds
  - d. dye verse backgrounds
- 8) younger and up-and-coming swimmers who might want to consider taking \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. upper lite swimming
  - b. up a lead swimming
  - c. up elite swimming
  - d. up polite swimming
- 9) At the highest level, we're hearing that, we want the sport \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. to be exclusive
  - b. to being clueless
  - c. to be reclusive
  - d. to be inclusive
- 10) This will affect their decision because by and large, hair is a \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. significance barrier
  - b. signify can't barrier
  - c. significant barrier
  - d. sign if I can't barrier

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210705-soul-cap.html>

The Black Swimming Association is up (1) \_\_\_\_\_ a ban on the use of a swim cap at the upcoming Tokyo Olympics. FINA, the body that regulates international swimming, has (2) \_\_\_\_\_ from the brand SOUL CAP. Its product is a cap that accommodates diverse hairstyles and hair types. The company wants the (3) \_\_\_\_\_ competition swimming. It wants to help swimmers with afros, braids, (4) \_\_\_\_\_, weaves, and thick and curly hair. FINA said it would not permit the Soul Cap because swimmers have never used a cap "of such (5) \_\_\_\_\_" before. FINA stated it would not be permitted because "it didn't fit the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the head".

The Black Swimming Association (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the decision and called it a step backwards for black swimmers. It warned it would drive away swimmers (8) \_\_\_\_\_. BSA spokeswoman Danielle Obe said: "This will affect younger and up-and-coming swimmers who might want to consider (9) \_\_\_\_\_ swimming." She added: "At the highest level, we're hearing that, 'we want the sport (10) \_\_\_\_\_ and representative; we want to have people of colour in the sport, but we want them to join (11) \_\_\_\_\_'." This will affect their decision because by and large, hair is (12) \_\_\_\_\_, especially for women." The caps are allowed at all Swim England clubs and competitions.



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210705-soul-cap.html>

1. What association is angry about the Soul Cap ban?
2. What hairstyles does the Soul Cap accommodate?
3. What does the company want the Soul Cap certified for?
4. According to FINA, how many times has the cap been used by swimmers?
5. What did FINA say the Soul Cap did not fit?
6. Who did the association say the ban was a "step backwards" for?
7. Who did the BSA say would be driven away from swimming by the ban?
8. Who did the BSA say the ban would affect?
9. Who did the BSA say hair is a "significant barrier" for?
10. Where are the caps allowed in competitions?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210705-soul-cap.html>

- 1) What association is angry about the Soul Cap ban?
  - a) The Olympics Swimmers
  - b) the Black Swimming Association
  - c) FINA
  - d) the IOC
- 2) What hairstyles does the Soul Cap accommodate?
  - a) swimmers' hairstyles
  - b) original hairstyles
  - c) straight hairstyles
  - d) diverse hairstyles
- 3) What does the company want the Soul Cap certified for?
  - a) competitions
  - b) life
  - c) swim clubs
  - d) juniors
- 4) According to FINA, how many times has the cap been used by swimmers?
  - a) once
  - b) three times
  - c) never
  - d) twice
- 5) What did FINA say the Soul Cap did not fit?
  - a) Olympics rules
  - b) the natural form of the head
  - c) international standards
  - d) fashion standards
- 6) Who did the association say the ban was a "step backwards" for?
  - a) black swimmers
  - b) all swimmers
  - c) male swimmers
  - d) synchronised swimmers
- 7) Who did the BSA say would be driven away from swimming by the ban?
  - a) children
  - b) Olympics swimmers
  - c) swimmers from diverse backgrounds
  - d) long-distance swimmers
- 8) Who did the BSA say the ban would affect?
  - a) younger and up-and-coming swimmers
  - b) all of us
  - c) the IOC
  - d) spectators
- 9) Who did the BSA say hair is a "significant barrier" for?
  - a) women
  - b) spectators
  - c) the IOC
  - d) FINA
- 10) Where are the caps allowed in competitions?
  - a) in schools
  - b) the Olympics
  - c) in Asia
  - d) England

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210705-soul-cap.html>

## **Role A – Swimming**

You think swimming is the best aquatic sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sports. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): sailing, diving or windsurfing.

## **Role B – Sailing**

You think sailing is the best aquatic sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sports. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): swimming, diving or windsurfing.

## **Role C – Diving**

You think diving is the best aquatic sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sports. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): sailing, swimming or windsurfing.

## **Role D – Windsurfing**

You think windsurfing is the best aquatic sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sports. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): sailing, diving or swimming.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210705-soul-cap.html>

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

<b>soul</b>	<b>cap</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>• arms</li><li>• body</li><li>• brand</li><li>• types</li><li>• curly</li><li>• form</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• aghast</li><li>• drive</li><li>• affect</li><li>• level</li><li>• join</li><li>• especially</li></ul>
--	---

# SWIMMING SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210705-soul-cap.html>

Write five GOOD questions about swimming 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.

# SWIMMING 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 'swim'?
3. When was the last time you were up in arms?
4. What do you think of the Olympics?
5. What do you think of swimming caps?
6. What do you think of FINA rejecting the Soul Cap?
7. What do you think of our hairstyle?
8. Why does it matter what swim cap people wear?
9. Why won't FINA allow swim caps for people with more voluminous hair?
10. What is the 'natural form of the head'?

*Swimmers angry over afro Soul Cap Olympics ban – 5th July, 2021*  
Thousands more free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

---

# SWIMMING 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 'cap'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. When was the last time you were aghast at something?
15. Should FINA reverse its decision?
16. What might help those from diverse backgrounds to take up swimming?
17. Why are swimming caps necessary?
18. How unfair is it that hair can be a barrier in life?
19. Has your hair ever caused you problems?
20. What questions would you like to ask a FINA executive?

# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

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

Copyright © breakingnewsenglish.com 2021

---

# 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/2107/210705-soul-cap.html>

The Black Swimming Association is up (1) \_\_\_\_\_ arms over a ban on the use of a swim cap at the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Tokyo Olympics. FINA, the body that regulates international swimming, has rejected an application from the brand SOUL CAP. Its product is a cap that (3) \_\_\_\_\_ diverse hairstyles and hair types. The company wants the cap certified (4) \_\_\_\_\_ competition swimming. It wants to help swimmers with afros, braids, dreadlocks, hair extensions, weaves, and thick and curly hair. FINA said it would not permit the Soul Cap because swimmers have never used a cap "of (5) \_\_\_\_\_ size and configuration" before. FINA stated it would not be permitted because "it didn't fit the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ form of the head".

The Black Swimming Association was (7) \_\_\_\_\_ at the decision and called it a step backwards for black swimmers. It warned it would (8) \_\_\_\_\_ away swimmers from diverse backgrounds. BSA spokeswoman Danielle Obe said: "This will affect younger and up-and-(9) \_\_\_\_\_ swimmers who might want to consider taking up elite swimming." She added: "At the highest level, we're hearing that, 'we want the sport to be inclusive and representative; we want to have people (10) \_\_\_\_\_ colour in the sport, but we want them to join on our terms'. This will affect their decision because (11) \_\_\_\_\_ and large, hair is a significant barrier, (12) \_\_\_\_\_ for women." The caps are allowed at all Swim England clubs and competitions.

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

- |     |                |                 |                  |                |
|-----|----------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
| 1.  | (a) in         | (b) over        | (c) at           | (d) out        |
| 2.  | (a) incoming   | (b) welcoming   | (c) upcoming     | (d) outcome    |
| 3.  | (a) houses     | (b) shelters    | (c) accommodates | (d) homes      |
| 4.  | (a) on         | (b) of          | (c) at           | (d) for        |
| 5.  | (a) so         | (b) many        | (c) such         | (d) odd        |
| 6.  | (a) nature     | (b) natural     | (c) naturalised  | (d) nurtured   |
| 7.  | (a) agape      | (b) aghast      | (c) ghosted      | (d) ghostly    |
| 8.  | (a) cycle      | (b) drive       | (c) fly          | (d) sail       |
| 9.  | (a) going      | (b) having      | (c) coming       | (d) diving     |
| 10. | (a) on         | (b) by          | (c) at           | (d) of         |
| 11. | (a) to         | (b) as          | (c) of           | (d) by         |
| 12. | (a) particular | (b) particulars | (c) special      | (d) especially |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210705-soul-cap.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. at the ugpocinm Tokyo Olympics
2. the body that gteearlu international swimming
3. rejected an lipaiaotncp from the brand
4. tmcsdoocaame diverse hairstyles
5. afros, braids, eoksdrcla
6. of such size and gocnroaniftui

## Paragraph 2

7. ghaas at the decision
8. pu-dan-moingc swimmers
9. taking up eeilt swimming
10. we want the sport to be eilsincvu
11. hair is a ctignnasiif barrier
12. clubs and espiomncitto

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210705-soul-cap.html>

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

- ( ) and curly hair. FINA said it would not permit the Soul Cap because swimmers
- ( ) that regulates international swimming, has rejected an application from the brand SOUL CAP. Its product
- ( ) is a cap that accommodates diverse hairstyles and hair types. The company wants the cap certified
- ( ) for competition swimming. It wants to help swimmers with afros, braids, dreadlocks, hair extensions, weaves, and thick
- ( ) barrier, especially for women." The caps are allowed at all Swim England clubs and competitions.
- ( ) hearing that, 'we want the sport to be inclusive and representative; we want to have people of
- ( ) colour in the sport, but we want them to join on our terms'. This will affect their decision because by and large, hair is a significant
- ( ) coming swimmers who might want to consider taking up elite swimming." She added: "At the highest level, we're
- ( ) have never used a cap "of such size and configuration" before. FINA stated it would not
- ( ) be permitted because "it didn't fit the natural form of the head".
- ( ) The Black Swimming Association was aghast at the decision and called it a step
- ( **1** ) The Black Swimming Association is up in arms over a ban on the use of a swim cap at the upcoming Tokyo Olympics. FINA, the body
- ( ) backwards for black swimmers. It warned it would drive away swimmers from diverse
- ( ) backgrounds. BSA spokeswoman Danielle Obe said: "This will affect younger and up-and-

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210705-soul-cap.html>

1. a arms up ban . over in is It
2. cap Its that a hairstyles . accommodates diverse
3. wants the swimming . cap for competition certified It
4. never Swimmers size . a cap of used such
5. head . the of fit natural Didn't form the
6. decision . at swimming the The was association aghast
7. drive would backgrounds . It from away diverse swimmers
8. swimmers . affect This up-and-coming and younger will
9. want sport . of We colour the people in
10. a significant is Hair especially women . for barrier,

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210705-soul-cap.html>

The Black Swimming Association is up in *legs / arms* over a ban on the use of a swim cap at the *incoming / upcoming* Tokyo Olympics. FINA, the body that *irregularities / regulates* international swimming, has rejected an application from the brand SOUL CAP. Its *produce / product* is a cap that accommodates diverse hairstyles and *hairy / hair* types. The company wants the cap *certified / satiated* for competition swimming. It wants to help swimmers with afros, *braids / breads*, dreadlocks, hair extensions, weaves, and thick and curly hair. FINA said it would not *permission / permit* the Soul Cap because swimmers have never used a cap "of *so / such* size and configuration" before. FINA stated it would not be permitted because "it didn't fit the *naturally / natural* form of the head".

The Black Swimming Association was *ghosted / aghast* at the decision and called it a step *backwards / backing* for black swimmers. It warned it would drive away swimmers from *reverse / diverse* backgrounds. BSA spokeswoman Danielle Obe said: "This will affect younger and *up-and-coming / up-and-going* swimmers who might want to consider taking up elite swimming." She added: "At the highest level, we're hearing *what / that*, 'we want the sport to be inclusive and representative; we want to have people of *colour / colouring* in the sport, but we want them to join *in / on* our terms'. This will affect their decision because by and *big / large*, hair is a significant barrier, *special / especially* for women." The caps are allowed at all Swim England *clubs / cubs* and competitions.

**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/2107/210705-soul-cap.html>

Th\_ Bl\_ck Sw\_mm\_ng \_ss\_c\_\_t\_\_n \_s \_p \_n \_rms \_v\_r  
\_ b\_n \_n th\_ \_s\_ \_f \_ sw\_m c\_p \_t th\_ \_pc\_m\_ng  
T\_ky\_ \_lymp\_cs. F\_N\_, th\_ b\_dy th\_t r\_g\_l\_t\_s  
\_nt\_rn\_t\_\_n\_l sw\_mm\_ng, h\_s r\_j\_ct\_d \_n \_ppl\_c\_t\_\_n  
fr\_m th\_ br\_nd S\_\_L C\_P. \_ts pr\_d\_ct \_s \_ c\_p th\_t  
\_cc\_mm\_d\_t\_s d\_v\_rs\_ h\_\_rstyl\_s \_nd h\_\_r typ\_s. Th\_  
c\_mp\_ny w\_nts th\_ c\_p c\_rt\_f\_\_d f\_r c\_mp\_t\_t\_\_n  
sw\_mm\_ng. \_t w\_nts t\_ h\_lp sw\_mm\_rs w\_th \_fr\_s,  
br\_\_ds, dr\_\_dl\_cks, h\_\_r \_xt\_ns\_\_ns, w\_\_v\_s, \_nd th\_ck  
\_nd c\_rly h\_\_r. F\_N\_ s\_\_d \_t w\_\_ld n\_t p\_rm\_t th\_  
S\_\_l C\_p b\_c\_\_s\_ sw\_mm\_rs h\_v\_ n\_v\_r \_s\_d \_ c\_p  
"f\_s\_ch s\_z\_ \_nd c\_nf\_g\_r\_t\_\_n" b\_f\_r\_. F\_N\_ st\_t\_d  
\_t w\_\_ld n\_t b\_ p\_rm\_tt\_d b\_c\_\_s\_ "t\_d\_dn't f\_t th\_  
n\_t\_r\_l f\_rm \_f th\_ h\_\_d".

Th\_ Bl\_ck Sw\_mm\_ng \_ss\_c\_\_t\_\_n w\_s \_gh\_st \_t th\_  
d\_c\_s\_\_n \_nd c\_ll\_d \_t \_ st\_p b\_ckw\_rds f\_r bl\_ck  
sw\_mm\_rs. \_t w\_rn\_d \_t w\_\_ld dr\_v\_ \_w\_y sw\_mm\_rs  
fr\_m d\_v\_rs\_ b\_ckgr\_\_nds. BS\_ sp\_k\_sw\_m\_n D\_n\_\_ll\_  
\_b\_ s\_\_d: "Th\_s w\_ll \_ff\_ct y\_\_ng\_r \_nd \_p\_\_nd\_c\_m\_ng  
sw\_mm\_rs wh\_ m\_gh\_t w\_nt t\_ c\_ns\_d\_r t\_k\_ng \_p  
\_l\_t\_ sw\_mm\_ng." Sh\_ \_dd\_d: "\_t th\_ h\_gh\_st l\_v\_l,  
w\_'r\_ h\_\_r\_ng th\_t, 'w\_ w\_nt th\_ sp\_rt t\_ b\_  
\_ncl\_s\_v\_ \_nd r\_pr\_s\_nt\_t\_v\_; w\_ w\_nt t\_ h\_v\_ p\_\_pl\_  
\_f c\_l\_\_r \_n th\_ sp\_rt, b\_t w\_ w\_nt th\_m t\_ j\_\_n \_n  
\_\_r t\_rms'. Th\_s w\_ll \_ff\_ct th\_\_r d\_c\_s\_\_n b\_c\_\_s\_ by  
\_nd l\_rg\_, h\_\_r \_s\_ \_s\_gn\_f\_c\_nt b\_rr\_\_r, \_sp\_c\_\_lly  
f\_r w\_m\_n." Th\_ c\_ps \_r\_ \_ll\_w\_d \_t \_ll Sw\_m \_ngl\_nd  
cl\_bs \_nd c\_mp\_t\_t\_\_ns.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210705-soul-cap.html>

the black swimming association is up in arms over a ban on the use of a swim cap at the upcoming tokyo olympics fina the body that regulates international swimming has rejected an application from the brand soul cap its product is a cap that accommodates diverse hairstyles and hair types the company wants the cap certified for competition swimming it wants to help swimmers with afros braids dreadlocks hair extensions weaves and thick and curly hair fina said it would not permit the soul cap because swimmers have never used a cap of such size and configuration before fina stated it would not be permitted because it didnt fit the natural form of the head

the black swimming association was aghast at the decision and called it a step backwards for black swimmers it warned it would drive away swimmers from diverse backgrounds bsa spokeswoman danielle obe said this will affect younger and upandcoming swimmers who might want to consider taking up elite swimming she added at the highest level were hearing that we want the sport to be inclusive and representative we want to have people of colour in the sport but we want them to join on our terms this will affect their decision because by and large hair is a significant barrier especially for women the caps are allowed at all swim england clubs and competitions

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210705-soul-cap.html>

The Black Swimming Association is up in arms over a ban on the use of a swim cap at the upcoming Tokyo Olympics. FINA, the body that regulates international swimming, has rejected an application from the brand SOULCAP. Its product is a cap that accommodates diverse hairstyles and hair types. The company wants the cap certified for competition swimming. It wants to help swimmers with afros, braids, dreadlocks, hair extensions, weaves, and thick and curly hair. FINA said it would not permit the Soul Cap because swimmers have never used a cap "of such size and configuration" before. FINA stated it would not be permitted because "it didn't fit the natural form of the head". The Black Swimming Association was aghast at the decision and called it a step backwards for black swimmers. It warned it would drive away swimmers from diverse backgrounds. BSA spokeswoman Danielle Obe said: "This will affect younger and up-and-coming swimmers whom might want to consider taking up elite swimming." She added: "At the highest level, we're hearing that, 'we want the sport to be inclusive and representative; we want to have people of colour in the sport, but we want them to join on our terms'. This will affect their decision because by and large, hair is a significant barrier, especially for women." The caps are allowed at all Swim England clubs and competitions.







# 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. SWIMMING:** Make a poster about swimming. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. SWIM CAPS:** Write a magazine article about allowing any kinds of swim cap. 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 swimming. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your opinions on it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F    2 T    3 T    4 T    5 T    6 F    7 F    8 F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

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

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. The Black Swimming Association
2. Diverse hairstyles
3. Competitions
4. Never
5. The natural form of the head
6. Black swimmers
7. Swimmers from diverse backgrounds
8. Younger and up-and-coming swimmers
9. Women
10. England

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. It is up in arms over a ban.
2. Its a cap that accommodates diverse hairstyles.
3. It wants the cap certified for competition swimming.
4. Swimmers never used a cap of such size.
5. Didn't fit the natural form of the head.
6. The swimming association was aghast at the decision.
7. It would drive away swimmers from diverse backgrounds.
8. This will affect younger and up-and-coming swimmers.
9. We want people of colour in the sport.
10. Hair is a significant barrier, especially for women.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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