

Another foolish British royal (Fri 14 Jan)

CHAT: Talk in pairs or groups about Prince Harry / Harry's costume / Nazism / Auschwitz / correct royal etiquette / royal parenting / royal scandals ...

SWASTIKA: Students talk about how they feel about the swastika emblem and how tasteless or provocative Harry's action is.

PUNISHMENT: Decide on a punishment for Harry from the following:

- his title of 'prince' be forever removed
- visit Auschwitz and the Holocaust museum in Jerusalem
- 100 hours community service
- attend a synagogue and publicly ask a rabbi for forgiveness
- be permanently barred from any association with Britain's armed forces
- Harry should never again receive public money from the British taxpayer
- Harry should make a large cash donation to a Holocaust fund

WORD SEARCH: Students look in their dictionaries / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... of the words 'royal', and 'scandal'.

TRUE / FALSE: From the headline predict whether these statements are true or false:

- (a) The British royal family always do ridiculous things in public. T / F
- (b) The ability to create scandal is hereditary in Britain's royal family. T / F
- (c) Harry attended a costume party dressed dressed as a WWII Nazi soldier, complete with swastika arm band. T / F
- (d) Harry previously had a totally clean and princely image. T / F
- (e) Harry has issued a written apology. T / F
- (f) Harry has been barred from attending Britain's top military academy. T / F
- (g) Most Britons see Harry's actions as being an innocent mistake. T / F
- (h) A top British Rabbi said the written apology is not enough. T / F

PRE-READING PHRASE MATCH: Match the following phrases based on the article

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| (a) royal | regret |
| (b) have a | dress party |
| (c) fancy | to attend Britain's top military academy |
| (d) picking | apology |
| (e) underage | mistake |
| (f) issued a written | family |
| (g) show his | be accepted |
| (h) Harry should not be allowed | fight with |
| (i) innocent | drinking |
| (j) the apology should now | knack for |

GAP-FILL: Put the missing words under each paragraph into the gaps.

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bNE: The British royal family seem to have a _____ for creating the most ridiculous of controversies. The ability to _____ scandal seems hereditary and continues with Prince Harry, who _____ dressed as a WWII Nazi soldier, complete with swastika arm band, at a fancy dress party. This follows his previous unprincipled exploits of picking fights with photographers, smoking marijuana, _____ in examinations and underage drinking. It's difficult to say in this case 'I blame the parents' when Harry is third in line to the British throne. A photograph of Harry and the swastika was _____ across Britain's largest circulation newspaper with a giant headline, 'Harry the Nazi'.

splashed
tastelessly
knack
cheating
create

Harry has issued a written _____, saying, "I am very sorry if I caused any _____ or embarrassment to anyone. It was a poor choice of costume and I apologize." However there are calls he should apologize publicly. Jewish leaders and British politicians have urged Harry to _____ his regret at the incident, either by visiting the Auschwitz concentration camp or by attending the Holocaust Memorial Day on the 27th of January. A former British Armed Services Minister said Harry should not be allowed to _____ Britain's top military academy, Sandhurst, later this year, while most Britons see his actions as being _____ and an innocent mistake. "Rabbi Jonathan Romain of the Reform Synagogues of Great Britain, said, "The fact that the palace has issued an apology indicates that this was a mistake by the prince. ... But having been given, the apology should now be accepted."

ill-advised
attend
show
apology
offense

DISCUSSION:

- (a) What do you think of Prince Harry's actions?
- (b) Do you think the scandal is finished with Harry's written apology?
- (c) Harry is twenty, yet his actions are being called 'innocent'. Are they?
- (d) A prince has a major public responsibility to lead by example. What do you think?
- (e) Do you think Harry should be barred from training or serving in the British army?
- (f) Do you respect the British royal family or laugh at them?
- (g) If you were the British Queen, what would you say to your grandson?
- (h) If you were the curator of the Holocaust Museum, what would you say to the British prince?
- (i) Should Harry lose his status as prince?
- (j) Is this a storm in a teacup?
- (k) Do you have a knack for anything?
- (l) Do you have any embarrassing family members?
- (m) Is Prince Charles to blame for Harry's actions?
- (n) Teachers / Students additional questions

FULL TEXT:

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bNE: The British royal family seem to have a knack for creating the most ridiculous of controversies. The ability to create scandal seems hereditary and continues with Prince Harry, who tastelessly dressed as a WWII Nazi soldier, complete with swastika arm band, at a fancy dress party. This follows his previous unprincely exploits of picking fights with photographers, smoking marijuana, cheating in examinations and underage drinking. It's difficult to say in this case 'I blame the parents' when Harry is third in line to the British throne. A photograph of Harry and the swastika was splashed across Britain's largest circulation newspaper with a giant headline, 'Harry the Nazi'.

Harry has issued a written apology, saying, "I am very sorry if I caused any offense or embarrassment to anyone. It was a poor choice of costume and I apologize." However there are calls he should apologize publicly. Jewish leaders and British politicians have urged Harry to show his regret at the incident, either by visiting the Auschwitz concentration camp or by attending the Holocaust Memorial Day on the 27th of January. A former British Armed Services Minister said Harry should not be allowed to attend Britain's top military academy, Sandhurst, later this year, while most Britons see his actions as being ill-advised and an innocent mistake. "Rabbi Jonathan Romain of the Reform Synagogues of Great Britain, said, "The fact that the palace has issued an apology indicates that this was a mistake by the prince. ... But having being given, the apology should now be accepted."