

www.**Breaking News English**.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

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

www.breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html

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

www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html

Level 4

School says Hello Kitty Christmas tree can stay

25th December, 2015

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1512/151225-christmas-tree-4.html>

Contents

The Reading	2
Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
Survey	5
Discussion	6
Writing	7

Please try the harder Level 5 and the 26–page Level 6 (harder).

Twitter



twitter.com/SeanBanville

Facebook



www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176

Google +



<https://plus.google.com/+SeanBanville>

THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1512/151225-christmas-tree-4.html>

A teacher in the USA has been allowed to keep her pink Hello Kitty Christmas tree in her classroom. Maths teacher Catherine Gordon was told to remove it from her classroom last week. The school head said it was an "inappropriate" Christmas decoration that did not fit with the way the school celebrated the holiday season. The head said there was a "concern" over "our balanced approach to holiday observances".

Ms Gordon said her tree had no religious symbols such as crosses or angels on it. She wrote on Facebook that she thought society was now too worried about upsetting people. She said her experience with her tree showed that in today's society, "everything offends everyone all the time". She added that: "It just sucks the joy out of everything." She told a newspaper that: "We've become intolerant to everything."

Sources: <http://abcnews.go.com/US/hs-teacher-told-remove-kitty-christmas-tree-classroom/story?id=35908832>
<http://www.buzzfeed.com/mbvd/teacher-asked-to-remove-hello-kitty-christmas-tree-from-clas#.lmqaZqqK6>
<http://fox4kc.com/2015/12/22/after-forcing-teacher-to-remove-christmas-tree-school-backs-down/>

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1512/151225-christmas-tree-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. A teacher in the USA has been | a. decoration |
| 2. Maths | b. approach |
| 3. remove it from her | c. teacher |
| 4. Christmas | d. observances |
| 5. did not | e. fit |
| 6. celebrated the holiday | f. classroom |
| 7. balanced | g. season |
| 8. holiday | h. allowed |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. religious | a. all the time |
| 2. crosses | b. people |
| 3. she thought society was now | c. society |
| 4. upsetting | d. too worried |
| 5. in today's | e. symbols |
| 6. everything offends everyone | f. to everything |
| 7. It just sucks the joy | g. or angels |
| 8. We've become intolerant | h. out of everything |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1512/151225-christmas-tree-4.html>

A teacher in the USA (1) _____ to keep her pink Hello Kitty Christmas tree in her classroom. Maths teacher Catherine Gordon was told (2) _____ her classroom last week. The school head said it (3) _____ Christmas decoration that (4) _____ the way the school celebrated the holiday season. The head (5) _____ a "concern" over "our balanced approach to (6) _____".

Ms Gordon (7) _____ no religious symbols such as crosses or angels on it. She wrote on Facebook that (8) _____ was now too worried (9) _____ people. She said her experience with her tree showed that in today's society, "(10) _____ everyone all the time". She added that: "It (11) _____ out of everything." She told a newspaper that: "We've (12) _____ everything."

CHRISTMAS TREES SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1512/151225-christmas-tree-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Christmas trees 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) _____
- g) _____
- h) _____

School says Hello Kitty Christmas tree can stay - 25th December, 2015
More free lessons at www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____
- g) _____
- h) _____

