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Level 5

White man attacked for having dreadlocks

5th April, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1604/160405-dreadlocks-5.html>

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Please try Level 4 (easier) and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1604/160405-dreadlocks-5.html>

A debate is going on in the USA about whether it is OK for white people to have dreadlocks. A YouTube video of a black female student confronting a white male student about his dreadlocks went viral. The woman questioned the guy about his hair. She told him that he should not have the hairstyle because it was part of her culture. He replied that ancient Egyptians had the same hairstyle and that it did not belong to one culture. The university said: "We are taking the matter seriously and will promptly and thoroughly investigate this incident through applicable university channels."

Dreadlocks are bunches of hair that is woven together. They have existed for thousands of years. Historians are not sure where they first originated. They have found evidence of the hairstyle in ancient Egypt, Europe, the Pacific islands, Australia and Africa. A writer suggested there was an issue with white people with dreadlocks. She said black people often have negative experiences in society because of them. She asked if white people with dreadlocks have the same problems. She said: "Hairstyles are not innocuous. There are...racial connotations and stereotypes attached to them."

Sources: <http://www.independent.co.uk/student/news/dreadlocks-cultural-appropriation-row-intensifies-as-students-come-forward-to-provide-more-context-a6963251.html>
<http://edition.cnn.com/2016/03/31/living/white-dreadlocks-cultural-appropriation-feat/index.html>
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2016/03/31/can-a-white-guy-have-dreadlocks-this-puzzling-viral-video-wades-into-the-politics-of-black-hair/>

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1604/160405-dreadlocks-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. A debate is going | a. matter seriously |
| 2. went | b. of her culture |
| 3. it was part | c. this incident |
| 4. ancient | d. to one culture |
| 5. it did not belong | e. on in the USA |
| 6. We are taking the | f. viral |
| 7. thoroughly investigate | g. university channels |
| 8. through applicable | h. Egyptians |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. Dreadlocks are bunches of hair that | a. experiences |
| 2. They have existed for | b. they first originated |
| 3. Historians are not sure where | c. was an issue |
| 4. They have found evidence | d. is woven together |
| 5. A writer suggested there | e. innocuous |
| 6. negative | f. of the hairstyle |
| 7. Hairstyles are not | g. attached to them |
| 8. stereotypes | h. thousands of years |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1604/160405-dreadlocks-5.html>

A debate (1) _____ USA about whether it is OK for white people to have dreadlocks. A YouTube video of a black female student confronting a white male student about his dreadlocks (2) _____. The woman questioned the guy about his hair. She told him that he should not have the hairstyle (3) _____ of her culture. He (4) _____ Egyptians had the same hairstyle and that it did not belong to one culture. The university said: "We are taking (5) _____ and will promptly and thoroughly investigate this incident through applicable (6) _____."

Dreadlocks are bunches of (7) _____ together. They have existed for thousands of years. Historians (8) _____ where they first originated. They have (9) _____ the hairstyle in ancient Egypt, Europe, the Pacific islands, Australia and Africa. A writer suggested there (10) _____ white people with dreadlocks. She said black people often have negative experiences in society because of them. She asked if white people with dreadlocks (11) _____ problems. She said: "Hairstyles are not innocuous. There are...racial connotations and stereotypes (12) _____."

DREADLOCKS SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1604/160405-dreadlocks-5.html>

Write five GOOD questions about dreadlocks 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)

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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)

g)

h)

FREE WRITING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1604/160405-dreadlocks-5.html>

Write about **dreadlocks** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.
