Canada leader eats raw seal heart

http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/0905/090528-hunting.html

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28th May, 2009
The British Queen’s representative in Canada has caused a scandal by eating the heart of a seal. Canada's governor-general, Michaille Jean, helped to kill the seal to show support for seal hunters. She used a traditional Inuit knife to help cut the animal up and then ate a slice of its heart raw. Ms Jean was visiting Arctic villages in Canada’s far north. She joined hundreds of Inuit for a community feast. She asked one of her hosts: "Could I try the heart?" The governor-general told reporters from Canada TV that it was “absolutely delicious” and that it “tasted like sushi”. She added: “And it's very rich in protein.” Canada’s Inuit leaders praised Ms Jean’s gesture. They said it showed the world that their food culture was important.

The governor-general’s seal-heart snack has deeply upset animal rights groups and the European Union. An EU spokeswoman called Jean’s actions “bizarre”. The Inuit people say seal hunting is a vital part of their culture and economy. Many Arctic economies rely on hunting and the selling of seal fur. The government allows the killing of 300,000 seals a year. The EU recently voted to ban Canadian seal products because they say hunting methods are cruel. Ms Jean explained she feared many Inuit communities would die out because of the EU ban. An Inuit spokesperson Paul Kaludjak said the seal hunt was not a controversial issue among Inuit. "We don't really care about how the outside world thinks," he said.
WARM-UPS

1. **HUNTING:** Walk around the class and talk to other students about hunting. Change partners often. Sit with your first partner(s) and share your findings.

2. **CHAT:** In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

   Britain’s Queen / representatives / seals / the Arctic / hosts / sushi / protein / praise / animal rights / bizarre / seal products / controversial issues / the outside world

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

3. **ANIMAL RIGHTS:** What rights should animals have? Complete this table with your partner(s). Talk about what you wrote to your partner. Change partners and share what you heard.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Right? No right?</th>
<th>Why?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No hunting</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No fur / ivory / skin</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not used for pets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No zoos</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not used for food</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not used for sport</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. **SEALING:** Students A strongly believe traditional Inuit peoples should be able to continue their traditional culture of hunting seals; Students B strongly believe hunting seals is totally wrong. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. **STRANGE FOOD?:** What’s the strangest food you’ve eaten? Rate these and share your ratings with your partner: 10 = would love to try; 1 = absolutely no way. Change partners and share your ratings again.

   - raw seal heart   - pineapple on pizza
   - grilled cockroach - pig’s blood with eggs
   - rice baked in milk - sheep brains
   - dog              - spiders

6. **HEART:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word ‘heart’. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

   Canada leader eats raw seal heart – 28th May, 2009
BEFORE READING / LISTENING

1. TRUE / FALSE: Look at the article’s headline and guess whether these sentences are true (T) or false (F):

   a. Canada’s prime minister had a meal of raw seal heart.  
   b. A Canadian leader ate some seal heart because she supports hunters.  
   c. The woman said the raw seal heart tasted similar to sushi.  
   d. Canada’s indigenous people were happy the woman ate seal.  
   e. The European Union disagreed with the woman eating seal.  
   f. Canada’s government has stopped hunters killing seals.  
   g. The Canadian leader said Inuit people would die if they didn’t eat seals.  
   h. Inuit leaders are very concerned at what the world thinks of them.

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article:

   1. representative a. banquet  
   2. support b. permits  
   3. feast c. essential  
   4. rich in d. bloodthirsty  
   5. praised e. spokesperson  
   6. deeply f. applauded  
   7. vital g. backing  
   8. allows h. topic  
   9. cruel i. greatly  
   10. issue j. full of

3. PHRASE MATCH: Match the following phrases from the article (sometimes more than one combination is possible):

   1. caused a scandal by a. methods are cruel  
   2. show support b. Ms Jean’s gesture  
   3. She joined hundreds of Inuit for c. upset animal rights groups  
   4. it was absolutely d. for seal hunters  
   5. Canada’s Inuit leaders praised e. issue  
   6. deeply f. delicious  
   7. seal hunting is a vital part g. eating the heart of a seal  
   8. they say hunting h. outside world thinks  
   9. a controversial i. a community feast  
   10. We don’t really care about how the j. of their culture
GAP FILL: Put the words into the gaps in the text.

The British Queen’s representative in Canada has __________ a scandal by eating the heart of a seal. Canada's governor-general, Michaeelle Jean, helped to kill the seal to show __________ for seal hunters. She used a traditional Inuit knife to help cut the animal up and then ate a __________ of its heart raw. Ms Jean was visiting Arctic villages in Canada’s __________ north. She joined hundreds of Inuit for a community feast. She asked one of her __________: "Could I try the heart?" The governor-general told reporters from Canada TV that it was “__________ delicious” and that it “tasted like sushi”. She added: “And it's very __________ in protein.” Canada’s Inuit leaders praised Ms Jean’s gesture. They said it showed the world that their food __________ was important.

The governor-general’s seal-heart snack has __________ upset animal rights groups and the European Union. An EU spokeswoman called Jean’s actions “__________”. The Inuit people say seal hunting is a __________ part of their culture and economy. Many Arctic economies __________ on hunting and the selling of seal fur. The government allows the killing of 300,000 seals a year. The EU recently voted to ban Canadian seal products because they say hunting __________ are cruel. Ms Jean explained she feared many Inuit communities would __________ out because of the EU ban. An Inuit spokesperson Paul Kaludjak said the seal hunt was not a controversial __________ among Inuit. "We don’t really care about how the __________ world thinks," he said.
LISTENING: Listen and fill in the gaps.

The British Queen’s representative in Canada has caused ________________ the heart of a seal. Canada's governor-general, Michaëlle Jean, helped to kill the seal ________________ seal hunters. She used a traditional Inuit knife to help cut the animal up and then ate a ________________ raw. Ms Jean was visiting Arctic villages in Canada’s far north. She joined hundreds of Inuit for a community feast. She asked ________________: "Could I try the heart?" The governor-general told reporters from Canada TV that it was “absolutely delicious” and that it “tasted like sushi”. She added: “And it's ________________.” Canada’s Inuit leaders praised Ms Jean’s gesture. They said it showed the world ________________ was important.

The governor-general’s seal-heart snack ________________ animal rights groups and the European Union. An EU spokeswoman called Jean’s actions “bizarre”. The Inuit people say seal hunting ________________ culture and economy. Many Arctic economies rely on hunting ________________ seal fur. The government allows the killing of 300,000 seals a year. The EU recently voted to ban Canadian seal products because they say hunting ________________. Ms Jean explained she feared many Inuit communities ________________ of the EU ban. An Inuit spokesperson Paul Kaludjak said the seal hunt was not a controversial issue among Inuit. "We don't really care about ________________ thinks," he said.
AFTER READING / LISTENING

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionaries / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words ‘raw’ and ‘seal’.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>raw</th>
<th>seal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>caused</th>
<th>deeply</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>support</td>
<td>vital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cut</td>
<td>rely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>joined</td>
<td>ban</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tasted</td>
<td>feared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>culture</td>
<td>care</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STUDENT HUNTING SURVEY

Write five GOOD questions about hunting 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q.1.</th>
<th>STUDENT 1</th>
<th>STUDENT 2</th>
<th>STUDENT 3</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q.2.</th>
<th>STUDENT 1</th>
<th>STUDENT 2</th>
<th>STUDENT 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q.3.</th>
<th>STUDENT 1</th>
<th>STUDENT 2</th>
<th>STUDENT 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q.4.</th>
<th>STUDENT 1</th>
<th>STUDENT 2</th>
<th>STUDENT 3</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q.5.</th>
<th>STUDENT 1</th>
<th>STUDENT 2</th>
<th>STUDENT 3</th>
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</table>

- 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.
HUNTING DISCUSSION

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

a) What did you think when you read the headline?
b) What springs to mind when you hear the word ‘hunting’?
c) Are you concerned about animal rights?
d) Do you think it’s OK to hunt and kill cute, fluffy little baby seals?
e) Would you like to try raw seal heart?
f) What do you think of the idea of eating raw meat and fish?
g) What do you think of Michaelle Jean’s actions?
h) What was the last thing you ate that was “absolutely delicious”?
i) What do you know about Canada’s Inuit people?
j) How important is your country’s food culture to you?

HUNTING DISCUSSION

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

a) Did you like reading this article?
b) What’s your favourite snack?
c) Do you agree that animal rights groups should get angry over seal hunting?
d) Is it OK for the Inuit or any other people to hunt animals if it’s part of their culture?
e) What is the history of hunting in your country?
f) Do you agree with the banning of seal products?
g) Would you like to go hunting?
h) How can we stop traditional cultures from dying out?
i) Do you care what the outside world thinks of your country?
j) What questions would you like to ask Inuit spokesperson Paul Kaludjak?
The British Queen’s representative in Canada has (1) ___ a scandal by eating the heart of a seal. Canada's governor-general, Michabelle Jean, helped to kill the seal to show (2) ___ for seal hunters. She used a traditional Inuit knife to help cut the animal (3) ___ and then ate a slice of its heart raw. Ms Jean was visiting Arctic villages in Canada’s far north. She joined hundreds of Inuit (4) ___ a community feast. She asked one of her hosts: "Could I try the heart?" The governor-general told reporters from Canada TV that it was “absolutely (5) ___” and that it "tasted like sushi". She added: “And it's very rich in protein.” Canada’s Inuit leaders praised Ms Jean’s gesture. They said it showed the world that (6) ___ food culture was important.

The governor-general’s seal-heart snack has (7) ___ upset animal rights groups and the European Union. An EU spokeswoman called Jean’s actions “bizarre”. The Inuit people say seal hunting is a (8) ___ part of their culture and economy. Many Arctic economies rely (9) ___ hunting and the selling of seal fur. The government allows the killing of 300,000 seals a year. The EU recently voted to ban Canadian seal products because they say hunting (10) ___ are cruel. Ms Jean explained she (11) ___ many Inuit communities would die out because of the EU ban. An Inuit spokesperson Paul Kaludjak said the seal hunt was not a controversial issue (12) ___ Inuit. "We don't really care about how the outside world thinks," he said.

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

1. (a) causing (b) causes (c) cause (d) caused
2. (a) support (b) supporting (c) supporter (d) supportive
3. (a) in (b) up (c) out (d) on
4. (a) so (b) from (c) for (d) to
5. (a) deliciously (b) delicacy (c) delicious (d) deliciousness
6. (a) there (b) their (c) they’re (d) they are
7. (a) shortly (b) lengthily (c) shallowly (d) deeply
8. (a) vital (b) virtual (c) virtually (d) vitality
9. (a) in (b) on (c) to (d) of
10. (a) methodology (b) methodical (c) method (d) methods
11. (a) frightened (b) afraid (c) feared (d) fearsome
12. (a) among (b) in (c) between (d) from
Write about **hunting** for 10 minutes. Correct your partner’s paper.
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 seal hunting. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. ANIMAL RIGHTS: Make a poster about animal rights. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. SEALING: Write a magazine article about sealing. Include imaginary interviews with a seal and a hunter.

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. LETTER: Write a letter to an Inuit leader. Ask him/her three questions about sealing. Give him/her three reasons why the Inuit should (not) continue sealing. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.
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