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British aid to be linked to gay rights

http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1110/111031-gay_rights.html

Contents

The Article	2
Warm-ups	3
Before Reading / Listening	4
While Reading / Listening	5
Listening Gap Fill	6
After Reading / Listening	7
Student Survey	8
Discussion	9
Language Work	10
Writing	11
Homework	12
Answers	13

31st October, 2011

THE ARTICLE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1110/111031-gay_rights.html

The United Kingdom has told countries that have banned homosexuality that they risk losing overseas aid if they do not end their discrimination. Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron told reporters he is considering holding back aid from countries that do not recognize gay rights. "Britain is now one of the premier aid givers in the world. We want to see countries that receive our aid adhering to proper human rights, and that includes how people treat gay and lesbian people," Cameron told the BBC. He added: "British aid should have more strings attached, in terms of do you persecute people for their faith or their Christianity, or do you persecute people for their sexuality. We don't think that's acceptable."

Mr Cameron raised the issue of gay rights at the recent Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting held in Australia. The Commonwealth is the group of countries that have Britain's Queen Elizabeth as their head of state. Cameron said he personally spoke with several African countries, but did not say which ones. As many as 41 nations of the 54-member Commonwealth have laws against homosexuality. Many of these laws were introduced at the time of the British Empire. Cameron accepted that change would happen slowly, saying: "They are in a different place from us on this issue....I think these countries are all on a journey and it's up to us to try and help them along on that journey."

WARM-UPS

1. GAY RIGHTS: Walk around the class and talk to other students about gay rights. 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.

banned / homosexuality / overseas aid / discrimination / human rights / persecute / issue / head of state / personally / British Empire / change / accepted / journey

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

3. EQUALITY: How can nations bring change in these issues? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners and share what you wrote. Change and share again.

	How is your country on this?	How to bring greater equality
Gay rights		
Religious freedom		
Racial equality		
Gender equality		
Wealth gap		
Digital divide		

4. DISCRIMINATION: Students A **strongly** believe there will be no discrimination in the world one day; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. RIGHTS: Which are most important? Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners and share your rankings again.

- gay
- workers'
- animal
- minority
- children's
- human
- prisoner
- disability

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

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1110/111031-gay_rights.html

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

- | | |
|--|-------|
| a. Britain is thinking about stopping aid to countries with no gay rights. | T / F |
| b. Britain is one of the world's leading aid givers. | T / F |
| c. The U.K. prime minister wants to ban strings attached to aid parcels. | T / F |
| d. The prime minister said sexual persecution was unacceptable. | T / F |
| e. David Cameron raised the issue of gay rights at the African Union. | T / F |
| f. Cameron listed the countries he was considering banning. | T / F |
| g. Most Commonwealth countries have no laws against homosexuality. | T / F |
| h. Cameron said countries could not change their laws quickly. | T / F |

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

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. banned | a. withholding |
| 2. considering | b. matter |
| 3. holding back | c. leader |
| 4. premier | d. brought up |
| 5. persecute | e. thinking about |
| 6. raised | f. down to |
| 7. head of state | g. gradually |
| 8. slowly | h. prohibited |
| 9. issue | i. victimize |
| 10. up to | j. top |

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

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. countries that have banned | a. of gay rights |
| 2. risk losing overseas | b. and lesbian people |
| 3. he is considering holding | c. happen slowly |
| 4. how people treat gay | d. aid |
| 5. should have more strings | e. member Commonwealth |
| 6. Cameron raised the issue | f. head of state |
| 7. Queen Elizabeth as their | g. attached |
| 8. nations of the 54- | h. homosexuality |
| 9. change would | i. along on that journey |
| 10. try and help them | j. back aid |

WHILE READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1110/111031-gay_rights.html

GAP FILL: Put the words into the gaps in the text.

The United Kingdom has told countries that have (1) _____ homosexuality that they (2) _____ losing overseas aid if they do not end their discrimination. Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron told reporters he is considering holding (3) _____ aid from countries that do not recognize gay rights. "Britain is now one of the premier aid (4) _____ in the world. We want to see countries that receive our aid adhering to proper human rights, and that includes how people (5) _____ gay and lesbian people," Cameron told the BBC. He added: "British aid should have more (6) _____ attached, in terms of do you persecute people for their (7) _____ or their Christianity, or do you persecute people for their sexuality. We don't think that's (8) _____."

acceptable

strings

risk

givers

banned

faith

back

treat

Mr Cameron raised the (9) _____ of gay rights at the recent Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting held in Australia. The Commonwealth is the group of countries that have Britain's Queen Elizabeth as their (10) _____ of state. Cameron said he personally spoke with (11) _____ African countries, but did not say which ones. As many as 41 nations of the 54-(12) _____ Commonwealth have laws against homosexuality. Many of these laws were (13) _____ at the time of the British Empire. Cameron accepted that change would happen (14) _____, saying: "They are in a different (15) _____ from us on this issue....I think these countries are all on a (16) _____ and it's up to us to try and help them along on that journey."

several

place

introduced

issue

head

journey

member

slowly

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1110/111031-gay_rights.html

The United Kingdom has told _____ homosexuality that they risk losing overseas aid if they do not end their discrimination. Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron told reporters he is _____ aid from countries that do not recognize gay rights. "Britain is now one of the _____ in the world. We want to see countries that receive _____ to proper human rights, and that includes how people treat gay and lesbian people," Cameron told the BBC. He added: "British aid should have _____, in terms of do you persecute people for their faith or their Christianity, or do you persecute people for their sexuality. We don't _____."

Mr Cameron _____ gay rights at the recent Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting held in Australia. The Commonwealth is the group of countries that have Britain's Queen Elizabeth as _____. Cameron said he _____ several African countries, but did not say which ones. As many as 41 nations of the 54-member Commonwealth have laws against homosexuality. Many of these laws were _____ of the British Empire. Cameron accepted that change _____, saying: "They are in a different place from us on this issue....I think these countries are all on a journey and it's up to us to try and help them _____."

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1110/111031-gay_rights.html

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

gay	rights
------------	---------------

- 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">• banned• end• back• proper• strings• faith	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• raised• head• ones• slowly• place• help
--	--

STUDENT GAY RIGHTS SURVEY

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1110/111031-gay_rights.html

Write five GOOD questions about gay rights 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.

GAY RIGHTS 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 term 'gay rights'?
- c) How are gay rights in your country?
- d) What do you think of David Cameron's linking of aid to gay rights?
- e) What do you think of countries that ban homosexuality?
- f) Do you think Cameron should be awarded for his position on gay rights?
- g) Do you agree that countries should attach more strings to the giving of overseas aid?
- h) Should the United Nations be doing more to promote gay rights?
- i) Should countries that discriminate against homosexuality be banned from international organizations?
- j) What forms of persecution exist in your country?

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GAY RIGHTS DISCUSSION

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

- a) Did you like reading this article?
- b) What three adjectives best describe this article and why?
- c) Do you think more leaders will follow Cameron's lead?
- d) What do you think the leaders of the African countries Cameron spoke to said to him?
- e) Is this just another example of Britain meddling in other country's affairs?
- f) Why do you think Cameron didn't name the countries?
- g) Do you think these countries will care about not receiving British aid?
- h) Will discrimination against gays disappear in the future?
- i) What would you say to the African countries?
- j) What questions would you like to ask David Cameron?

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LANGUAGE – MULTIPLE CHOICE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1110/111031-gay_rights.html

The United Kingdom has told countries that have banned homosexuality that they risk losing (1) ____ aid if they do not end their discrimination. Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron told reporters he is considering holding (2) ____ aid from countries that do not (3) ____ gay rights. "Britain is now one of the premier aid givers in the world. We want to see countries that receive our aid adhering (4) ____ proper human rights, and that includes how people treat gay and lesbian people," Cameron told the BBC. He added: "British aid should have more (5) ____ attached, in (6) ____ of do you persecute people for their faith or their Christianity, or do you persecute people for their sexuality. We don't think that's acceptable."

Mr Cameron (7) ____ the issue of gay rights at the recent Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting held in Australia. The Commonwealth is the group of countries that have Britain's Queen Elizabeth as their head of (8) _____. Cameron said he personally spoke with (9) ____ African countries, but did not say which ones. As many as 41 nations of the 54-member Commonwealth have laws against homosexuality. Many of these laws were introduced (10) ____ the time of the British Empire. Cameron accepted that change would happen slowly, saying: "They are in a different place from us (11) ____ this issue....I think these countries are all on a journey and it's (12) ____ to us to try and help them along on that journey."

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1. | (a) intercontinental | (b) immigrant | (c) abroad | (d) overseas |
| 2. | (a) down | (b) back | (c) on | (d) in |
| 3. | (a) recognize | (b) know | (c) understand | (d) view |
| 4. | (a) of | (b) up | (c) to | (d) on |
| 5. | (a) ropes | (b) cords | (c) strings | (d) cotton |
| 6. | (a) teams | (b) terms | (c) tomes | (d) tames |
| 7. | (a) raised | (b) increased | (c) upped | (d) arose |
| 8. | (a) leader | (b) position | (c) nationality | (d) state |
| 9. | (a) a few of | (b) several | (c) a number | (d) numeral |
| 10. | (a) up | (b) so | (c) of | (d) at |
| 11. | (a) to | (b) as | (c) on | (d) via |
| 12. | (a) up | (b) as | (c) for | (d) on |

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 gay rights. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

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

4. AID: Write a magazine article about linking overseas aid to gay rights. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against it.

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 David Cameron. Ask him three questions about gay rights and aid. Give him three of your opinions on this. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE:

- a. T b. T c. F d. T e. F f. F g. F h. T

SYNONYM MATCH:

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. banned | a. prohibited |
| 2. considering | b. thinking about |
| 3. holding back | c. withholding |
| 4. premier | d. top |
| 5. persecute | e. victimize |
| 6. raised | f. brought up |
| 7. head of state | g. leader |
| 8. slowly | h. gradually |
| 9. issue | i. matter |
| 10. up to | j. down to |

PHRASE MATCH:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. countries that have banned | a. homosexuality |
| 2. risk losing overseas | b. aid |
| 3. he is considering holding | c. back aid |
| 4. how people treat gay | d. and lesbian people |
| 5. should have more strings | e. attached |
| 6. Cameron raised the issue | f. of gay rights |
| 7. Queen Elizabeth as their | g. head of state |
| 8. nations of the 54- | h. member Commonwealth |
| 9. change would | i. happen slowly |
| 10. try and help them | j. along on that journey |

GAP FILL:

British aid to be linked to gay rights

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Mr Cameron raised the (9) **issue** of gay rights at the recent Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting held in Australia. The Commonwealth is the group of countries that have Britain's Queen Elizabeth as their (10) **head** of state. Cameron said he personally spoke with (11) **several** African countries, but did not say which ones. As many as 41 nations of the 54-(12) **member** Commonwealth have laws against homosexuality. Many of these laws were (13) **introduced** at the time of the British Empire. Cameron accepted that change would happen (14) **slowly**, saying: "They are in a different (15) **place** from us on this issue....I think these countries are all on a (16) **journey** and it's up to us to try and help them along on that journey."

LANGUAGE WORK

- 1 - d 2 - b 3 - a 4 - c 5 - c 6 - b 7 - a 8 - d 9 - b 10 - d 11 - c 12 - a

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