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Level 6

Newly-crowned Miss America suffers racist abuse

19th September, 2013

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1309/130919-miss-america.html>

Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	14
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	15
Before Reading / Listening	4	Spelling	16
While Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	17
Match The Sentences And Listen	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	18
Listening Gap Fill	7	Circle The Correct Word	19
Comprehension Questions	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	20
Multiple Choice - Quiz	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	21
Role Play	10	Put A Slash (/) Where The Spaces Are	22
After Reading / Listening	11	Free Writing	23
Student Survey	12	Academic Writing	24
Discussion (20 Questions)	13	Homework	25
		Answers	26

Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130919-miss-america.html>

America's newly-crowned beauty queen Nina Davuluri has been the subject of a torrent of racist abuse. She is the first woman of Indian descent to be crowned Miss America, but was greeted with a deluge of insults after she won the pageant on Sunday night. Many people left messages on Twitter questioning why a "non-American" had become Miss America. Many tweeters misidentified her as an Arab, while others said she looked like a terrorist. One tweeter said: "Well they just picked a Muslim for Miss America. That must've made Obama happy. Maybe he had a vote." Ms Davuluri was born in New York and grew up in Oklahoma and Michigan. She was raised following the Hindu faith.

The media in India has been full of stories on the "shocking tweets". The Times of India wrote: "The tiara had barely been placed on her head and the customary tears of joy had just emerged when racist taunts erupted on social media, marring the moment of triumph for the first ever Miss America of Indian origin." Ms Davuluri brushed aside the negative comments and said she was not bothered what a minority of people thought. She said: "I have to rise above that. I always viewed myself as first and foremost American." She added: "I'm so happy this organization has embraced diversity." She added: "I'm thankful there are children watching at home who can finally relate to a new Miss America."

Sources: <http://news.sky.com/story/1142271/miss-america-faces-abuse-over-indian-descent>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-india-24122018>
<http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/1st-america-indian-descent-slammed-arab-article-1.1457133#ixzz2f8cugIm4>

WARM-UPS

1. BEAUTY QUEENS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about beauty queens. Change partners often 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.

beauty queen / racist abuse / of Indian descent / insults / terrorist / grew up / Hindu / media / shocking / tears / joy / social media / triumph / minority / American / diversity

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

3. JUDGES: Imagine you are the judge of a beauty contest? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote. Ask your partner(s) the questions in a beauty contest role play.

Topic	The questions you would ask	Why?
Peace		
Marriage		
Honesty		
Charity		
The Internet		
Beauty		

4. A THING OF THE PAST: Students A **strongly** believe beauty contests belong to the past and are irrelevant today; Students B **strongly** believe beauty contests are important today. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. BEAUTY: Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the most beautiful at the top at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- figure
- hair
- smile
- legs
- eyes
- hands
- teeth
- skin

6. RACIST: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "racist". 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/1309/130919-miss-america.html>

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

- | | |
|---|-------|
| a. Beauty queens racially abused the new Miss America at a pageant. | T / F |
| b. The new Miss America was born in Mumbai, India. | T / F |
| c. On Twitter, people asked why a foreigner was now Miss America. | T / F |
| d. Ms Davuluri grew up practicing the Islamic religion. | T / F |
| e. The Indian press published many stories about the abuse. | T / F |
| f. A newspaper said the abuse began before the winner's tears had dried. | T / F |
| g. Ms Davuluri took the negative comments to heart. | T / F |
| h. Ms Davuluri is happy kids get to see a different kind of Miss America. | T / F |

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

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. torrent | a. spoiling |
| 2. descent | b. appalling |
| 3. pageant | c. origin |
| 4. picked | d. broke out |
| 5. following | e. flood |
| 6. shocking | f. welcomed |
| 7. barely | g. chose |
| 8. erupted | h. practising |
| 9. marring | i. hardly |
| 10. embraced | j. contest |

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

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. the subject of a torrent | a. placed on her head |
| 2. is the first woman | b. of people thought |
| 3. greeted with a deluge of | c. of racist abuse |
| 4. tweeters misidentified | d. of Indian descent |
| 5. She was raised following | e. of triumph |
| 6. The tiara had barely been | f. her as an Arab |
| 7. the customary tears | g. diversity |
| 8. marring the moment | h. the Hindu faith |
| 9. not bothered what a minority | i. of joy |
| 10. embraced | j. insults |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130919-miss-america.html>

America's newly-(1) _____ beauty queen Nina Davuluri has been the subject of a (2) _____ of racist abuse. She is the first woman of Indian descent to be crowned Miss America, but was greeted with a deluge of (3) _____ after she won the pageant on Sunday night. Many people left messages on Twitter (4) _____ why a "non-American" had become Miss America. Many tweeters (5) _____ her as an Arab, while others said she looked like a terrorist. One tweeter said: "Well they just (6) _____ a Muslim for Miss America. That must've made Obama happy. Maybe he had a vote." Ms Davuluri was born in New York and grew up in Oklahoma and Michigan. She was (7) _____ following the Hindu (8) _____.

questioning
raised
torrent
faith
crowned
misidentified
insults
picked

The (9) _____ in India has been full of stories on the "shocking tweets". The Times of India wrote: "The tiara had (10) _____ been placed on her head and the customary tears of joy had just (11) _____ when racist taunts erupted on social media, marring the moment of triumph for the first ever Miss America of Indian origin." Ms Davuluri (12) _____ aside the negative comments and said she was not bothered what a (13) _____ of people thought. She said: "I have to rise above that. I always viewed myself as first and (14) _____ American." She added: "I'm so happy this organization has (15) _____ diversity." She added: "I'm thankful there are children watching at home who can finally (16) _____ to a new Miss America."

minority
foremost
brushed
barely
relate
media
emerged
embraced

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130919-miss-america.html>

- 1) beauty queen Nina Davuluri has been the subject of a _____
 - a. torrent of racist abuses
 - b. torrent of racist abuses
 - c. torrent of racist abuse
 - d. torrent of racist abusive
- 2) She is the first woman of Indian descent to be _____
 - a. crowned Miss America
 - b. crown Miss America
 - c. crowns Miss America
 - d. crowning Miss America
- 3) greeted with _____ after she won the pageant on Sunday night
 - a. a refuge of insults
 - b. a deluge of insults
 - c. a delude of insults
 - d. a refute of insults
- 4) Many people left messages on Twitter questioning why _____
 - a. a "no-American"
 - b. a "not-American"
 - c. a "non-American"
 - d. a "known-American"
- 5) She was raised following _____
 - a. the Hindu faiths
 - b. the Hindu faith
 - c. the Hindu faithful
 - d. the Hindu faithless
- 6) The media in India has been full of stories on _____
 - a. the "shocking tweets"
 - b. the "shocker tweets"
 - c. the "shock in tweets"
 - d. the "shock king tweets"
- 7) The tiara had barely been placed on her head and the customary tears of joy _____
 - a. had just emerged
 - b. had just re-emerged
 - c. had just submerged
 - d. had just merged
- 8) racist taunts erupted on social media, marring the _____
 - a. moment of triumphs
 - b. moment of triumphant
 - c. moment of triumphantly
 - d. moment of triumph
- 9) I always viewed myself as first and _____
 - a. for most American
 - b. four most American
 - c. for mostly American
 - d. four mostly American
- 10) She added: "I'm so happy this organization has _____."
 - a. embraced diversity
 - b. embraced diversify
 - c. embraced diversions
 - d. embraced division

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130919-miss-america.html>

America's newly-crowned beauty queen Nina Davuluri (1) _____ of a torrent of racist abuse. She is the first woman (2) _____ be crowned Miss America, but was (3) _____ of insults after she won the pageant on Sunday night. Many people left messages on Twitter questioning why a "non-American" had become Miss America. Many tweeters (4) _____ Arab, while others said she looked like a terrorist. One tweeter said: "Well they just picked a Muslim for Miss America. (5) _____ Obama happy. Maybe he had a vote." Ms Davuluri was born in New York and grew up in Oklahoma and Michigan. She was (6) _____ Hindu faith.

The media in India has been (7) _____ the "shocking tweets". The Times of India wrote: "The tiara had barely been placed on her head and the (8) _____ joy had just emerged when racist taunts erupted on social media, (9) _____ of triumph for the first ever Miss America of Indian origin." Ms Davuluri brushed aside the negative comments and said she was not bothered (10) _____ people thought. She said: "I have to rise above that. I always viewed myself as first and foremost American." She added: "I'm so happy this organization has (11) _____." She added: "I'm thankful there are children watching at home who (12) _____ a new Miss America."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130919-miss-america.html>

1. How many Indian-Americans have now won the Miss America pageant?

2. When did the pageant take place?

3. What race did tweeters incorrectly say she was?

4. Where was Nina born?

5. How many U.S. states does the article say Nina lived in?

6. What Indian newspaper was quoted?

7. What customary things had just appeared?

8. What did Nina brush aside?

9. What does Nina consider herself to be?

10. Why is Nina happy with the Miss America organization?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130919-miss-america.html>

1. How many Indian-Americans have now won the Miss America pageant?
 - a) 2
 - b) 4
 - c) 3
 - d) 1
2. When did the pageant take place?
 - a) Saturday afternoon
 - b) Sunday night
 - c) Tuesday
 - d) at 2pm
3. What race did tweeters incorrectly say she was?
 - a) Asian
 - b) African
 - c) Arab
 - d) Caucasian
4. Where was Nina born?
 - a) New York
 - b) New Delhi
 - c) New Jersey
 - d) New Hampshire
5. How many U.S. states does the article say Nina lived in?
 - a) 1
 - b) 2
 - c) 3
 - d) 4
6. What Indian newspaper was quoted?
 - a) India Today
 - b) The Times of India
 - c) The Indian Gazette
 - d) The India Daily Post
7. What customary things had just appeared?
 - a) presents
 - b) congratulatory messages
 - c) invitations to parties
 - d) tears of joy
8. What did Nina brush aside?
 - a) negative comments
 - b) her hair
 - c) the runner-up
 - d) a fan
9. What does Nina consider herself to be?
 - a) an ambassador
 - b) very beautiful
 - c) American
 - d) a victim
10. Why is Nina happy with the Miss America organization?
 - a) it diversified braces
 - b) it embraced diversity
 - c) it embarrassed division
 - d) it has diverse embraces

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130919-miss-america.html>

Role A – Looks

You think looks are the biggest factor in deciding a beauty contest. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their factors. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): intelligence, a sense of humour or confidence.

Role B – Intelligence

You think intelligence is biggest factor in deciding a beauty contest. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their factors. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): looks, a sense of humour or confidence.

Role C – Sense of humour

You think a sense of humour is biggest factor in deciding a beauty contest. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their factors. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): intelligence, looks or confidence.

Role D – Confidence

You think confidence is biggest factor in deciding a beauty contest. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their factors. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): intelligence, a sense of humour or looks.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130919-miss-america.html>

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

beauty	contest

- 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">• newly• first• left• looked• happy• following	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• full• head• moment• thought• so• finally
---	---

BEAUTY QUEENS SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130919-miss-america.html>

Write five GOOD questions about beauty queens 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.

BEAUTY QUEEN / RACISM 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 'racist'?
- c) What do you think about what you read?
- d) What do you think about beauty contests?
- e) Should Miss America have blonde hair and blue eyes?
- f) Would a winner of Korean, Cuban, Nigerian or Turkish origin also be subjected to such abuse?
- g) Why do people say Nina is "Non-American" when she was born and raised in the USA?
- h) Is race and colour a big issue in the USA?
- i) What do you think of an Indian-American becoming Miss America?
- j) What should Nina do to promote greater racial awareness and understanding?

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BEAUTY QUEEN / RACISM DISCUSSION

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

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) Is the USA a good example of how different races can live together?
- c) What should happen to the tweeters of racial abuse?
- d) Are beauty pageants a thing of the past?
- e) Is Nina right to brush the comments aside?
- f) Have you experienced any racial abuse?
- g) Is racism slowly disappearing or getting worse?
- h) Why is it important to embrace diversity?
- i) What's the best way to deal with racism?
- j) What questions would you like to ask Nina?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130919-miss-america.html>

America's newly-crowned beauty queen Nina Davuluri has been the (1) _____ of a torrent of racist abuse. She is the first woman of Indian (2) _____ to be crowned Miss America, but was greeted with a deluge of (3) _____ after she won the pageant on Sunday night. Many people left messages on Twitter questioning why a "non-American" had become Miss America. Many tweeters misidentified her (4) _____ an Arab, while others said she looked like a terrorist. One tweeter said: "Well they just picked a Muslim for Miss America. That must've made Obama happy. Maybe he had a vote." Ms Davuluri was born in New York and grew up in Oklahoma and Michigan. She was (5) _____ following the Hindu (6) _____.

The media in India has been full of stories on the "shocking tweets". The Times of India wrote: "The tiara had (7) _____ been placed on her head and the customary tears of joy had just emerged when racist taunts (8) _____ on social media, marring the moment of triumph for the first ever Miss America of Indian (9) _____." Ms Davuluri brushed (10) _____ the negative comments and said she was not bothered what a minority of people thought. She said: "I have to rise above that. I always viewed myself as first and (11) _____ American." She added: "I'm so happy this organization has embraced (12) _____." She added: "I'm thankful there are children watching at home who can finally relate to a new Miss America."

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

- | | | | |
|-------------------|---------------|----------------|------------------|
| 1. (a) reject | (b) subject | (c) abject | (d) deject |
| 2. (a) recant | (b) recent | (c) decant | (d) descent |
| 3. (a) insult | (b) insults | (c) insulting | (d) insulted |
| 4. (a) is | (b) was | (c) as | (d) has |
| 5. (a) raised | (b) grown | (c) parented | (d) nurtured |
| 6. (a) faith | (b) trust | (c) sect | (d) hope |
| 7. (a) bared | (b) barred | (c) barren | (d) barely |
| 8. (a) erupted | (b) jumped | (c) shot | (d) spurted |
| 9. (a) origin | (b) original | (c) originated | (d) originality |
| 10. (a) beside | (b) offside | (c) aside | (d) onside |
| 11. (a) formerly | (b) formation | (c) foremost | (d) forebears |
| 12. (a) sternness | (b) diversity | (c) latitude | (d) conviviality |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130919-miss-america.html>

Paragraph 1

1. a orrkten of racist abuse
2. of Indian tneecsd
3. a gueeld of insults
4. Many tweeters nddiemifetiis her
5. looked like a tostirrer
6. That vs'metu made Obama happy

Paragraph 2

7. The iarat had barely been placed on her head
8. racist tuntas
9. the moment of hrmtupi
10. a oytinmri of people
11. first and orsomfte
12. rbcamdee diversity

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130919-miss-america.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () erupted on social media, marring the moment of triumph for the first ever Miss America of Indian
- () The media in India has been full of stories on the "shocking tweets". The Times of India wrote: "The tiara had
- () picked a Muslim for Miss America. That must've made Obama happy. Maybe he had
- () a vote." Ms Davuluri was born in New York and grew up in Oklahoma and Michigan. She was raised following the Hindu faith.
- () and foremost American." She added: "I'm so happy this organization has embraced
- (**1**) America's newly-crowned beauty queen Nina Davuluri has been the subject of a torrent
- () origin." Ms Davuluri brushed aside the negative comments and said she was not bothered what a minority
- () barely been placed on her head and the customary tears of joy had just emerged when racist taunts
- () messages on Twitter questioning why a "non-American" had become Miss America. Many tweeters misidentified her
- () with a deluge of insults after she won the pageant on Sunday night. Many people left
- () diversity." She added: "I'm thankful there are children watching at home who can finally relate to a new Miss America."
- () as an Arab, while others said she looked like a terrorist. One tweeter said: "Well they just
- () of people thought. She said: "I have to rise above that. I always viewed myself as first
- () of racist abuse. She is the first woman of Indian descent to be crowned Miss America, but was greeted

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130919-miss-america.html>

1. abuse a torrent The of subject racist of.

2. woman descent crowned first Indian be The of to.

3. she Greeted deluge after a insults won with of.

4. an as her misidentified tweeters Many Arab.

5. faith Hindu the following raised was She.

6. her The barely on had placed head tiara been.

7. The had customary just tears emerged of joy.

8. aside brushed Davuluri Ms comments negative the.

9. as foremost I myself and viewed first American always.

10. I'm has so embraced happy diversity this organization.

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130919-miss-america.html>

America's newly-crowned beauty queen Nina Davuluri has been the *abject* / *subject* of a torrent of racist *abuse* / *abusive*. She is the first woman of Indian descent to be crowned Miss America, but was greeted with a *delusion* / *deluge* of insults after she won the *pungent* / *pageant* on Sunday night. Many people left messages on Twitter *questioned* / *questioning* why a "non-American" had become Miss America. Many tweeters misidentified her *was* / *as* an Arab, while others said she looked *likes* / *like* a terrorist. One tweeter said: "Well they *just* / *justly* picked a Muslim for Miss America. That must've made Obama happy. Maybe he had a vote." Ms Davuluri was born in New York and *grew* / *grown* up in Oklahoma and Michigan. She was raised following the Hindu *trust* / *faith*.

The *media* / *medium* in India has been full of stories on the "shocking tweets". The Times of India wrote: "The tiara had *rarely* / *barely* been placed on her head and the *customized* / *customary* tears of joy had just emerged when racist taunts erupted *on* / *in* social media, marring the moment of *triumph* / *triumphal* for the first ever Miss America of Indian *original* / *origin*." Ms Davuluri brushed *aside* / *beside* the negative comments and said she was not bothered what a *minorities* / *minority* of people thought. She said: "I have to *raise* / *rise* above that. I always viewed myself as first and foremost American." She added: "I'm so happy this organization has embraced diversity." She added: "I'm thankful there are children watching at home who can finally *relate* / *relative* to a new Miss America."

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130919-miss-america.html>

_m_r_c_'s n_wly-cr_wn_d b__ty q__n N_n_ D_v_l_r_ h_s b__n th_ s_bj_ct _f_ t_rr_nt _f_r_c_st _b_s_. Sh_ _s th_ f_rst w_m_n _f_nd__n d_sc_nt t_ b_ cr_wn_d M_ss _m_r_c_, b_t w_s gr__t_d w_th _ d_l_g_ _f _ns_lts _ft_r sh_ w_n th_ p_g__nt _n S_nd_y n_ght. M_ny p__pl_ l_ft m_ss_g_s _n Tw_tt_r q__st__n_g why _ "n_n-m_r_c_n" h_d b_c_m_ M_ss _m_r_c_. M_ny tw__t_rs m_s_d_nt_f__d h_r _s _n _r_b, wh_l_ _th_rs s__d sh_ l__k_d l_k_ _ t_rr_r_st. _n tw__t_r s__d: "W_ll th_y j_st p_ck_d _ M_sl_m f_r M_ss _m_r_c_. Th_t m_st'v_ m_d_ _b_m_ h_ppy. M_yb_ h_ h_d _ v_t_." Ms D_v_l_r_ w_s b_rn _n N_w Y_rk _nd gr_w _p _n _kl_h_m_ _nd M_ch_g_n. Sh_ w_s r__s_d f_ll_w_ng th_ H_nd_ f__th.

Th_ m_d__ _n _nd__ h_s b__n f_ll _f st_r__s _n th_ "sh_ck_ng tw__ts". Th_ T_m_s _f _nd__ wr_t: "Th_ t__r_ h_d b_r_ly b__n pl_c_d _n h_r h__d _nd th_ c_st_m_ry t__rs _f j_y h_d j_st _m_rg_d wh_n r_c_st t__nts _r_pt_d _n s_c__l m_d__, m_rr_ng th_ m_m_nt _f tr__mph f_r th_ f_rst _v_r M_ss _m_r_c_ _f_nd__n _r_g_n." Ms D_v_l_r_ br_sh_d _s_d_ th_ n_g_t_v_ c_mm_nts _nd s__d sh_ w_s n_t b_th_r_d wh_t _ m_n_r_ty _f p__pl_ th__ght. Sh_ s__d: "_ h_v_t_r_s _b_v_ th_t. _ _lw_ys v__w_d mys_lf _s f_rst _nd f_r_m_st _m_r_c_n." Sh_ _dd_d: "'m s_ h_ppy th_s _rg_n_z_t__n h_s _mbr_c_d d_v_rs_ty." Sh_ _dd_d: "'m th_nkf_l th_r_ _r_ ch_ldr_n w_tch_ng _t h_m_ wh_ c_n f_n_lly r_l_t_ t_ _n_w M_ss _m_r_c_."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130919-miss-america.html>

america's newly-crowned beauty queen nina davuluri has been the subject of a torrent of racist abuse she is the first woman of indian descent to be crowned miss america but was greeted with a deluge of insults after she won the pageant on sunday night many people left messages on twitter questioning why a "non-american" had become miss america many tweeters misidentified her as an arab while others said she looked like a terrorist one tweeter said "well they just picked a muslim for miss america that must've made obama happy maybe he had a vote" ms davuluri was born in new york and grew up in oklahoma and michigan she was raised following the hindu faith

the media in india has been full of stories on the "shocking tweets" the times of india wrote "the tiara had barely been placed on her head and the customary tears of joy had just emerged when racist taunts erupted on social media marring the moment of triumph for the first ever miss america of indian origin" ms davuluri brushed aside the negative comments and said she was not bothered what a minority of people thought she said "i have to rise above that i always viewed myself as first and foremost american" she added "i'm so happy this organization has embraced diversity" she added "i'm thankful there are children watching at home who can finally relate to a new miss america"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130919-miss-america.html>

America's newly-crowned beauty queen Nina Davuluri has been the subject of a torrent of racist abuse. She is the first woman of Indian descent to be crowned Miss America, but was greeted with a deluge of insults after she won the pageant on Sunday night. Many people left messages on Twitter questioning why a "non-American" had become Miss America. Many tweeters misidentified her as an Arab, while others said she looked like a terrorist. One tweeter said: "Well they just picked a Muslim for Miss America. That must've made Obama happy. Maybe he had a vote." Ms Davuluri was born in New York and grew up in Oklahoma and Michigan. She was raised following the Hindu faith. The media in India has been full of stories on the "shocking tweets". The Times of India wrote: "The tiara had barely been placed on her head and the customary tears of joy had just emerged when racist taunts erupted on social media, marring the moment of triumph for the first ever Miss America of Indian origin." Ms Davuluri brushed aside the negative comments and said she was not bothered what a minority of people thought. She said: "I have to rise above that. I always viewed myself as first and foremost American." She added: "I'm so happy this organization has embraced diversity." She added: "I'm thankful there are children watching at home who can finally relate to a new Miss America."

FREE WRITING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130919-miss-america.html>

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

[illegible]

ACADEMIC WRITING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1309/130919-miss-america.html>

People who post racist comments online should go to prison. Discuss.

[illegible]

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 beauty queens. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. BEAUTY QUEENS: Make a poster about beauty queens. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. ABUSE: Write a magazine article about the racist tweets about Nina Davuluri. Include imaginary interviews with Nina and with people who sent them.

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. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to the head of the Miss America competition. Ask him/her three questions about their beauty queen receiving racist abuse. Give him/her three of your opinions on it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. torrent | a. flood |
| 2. descent | b. origin |
| 3. pageant | c. contest |
| 4. picked | d. chose |
| 5. following | e. practising |
| 6. shocking | f. appalling |
| 7. barely | g. hardly |
| 8. erupted | h. broke out |
| 9. marring | i. spoiling |
| 10. embraced | j. welcomed |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. One
2. Sunday night
3. Arab
4. New York
5. 3
6. The Times of India
7. Tears of joy
8. Negative comments
9. American
10. It embraced diversity

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. d 2. b 3. c 4. a 5. c 6. b 7. d 8. a 9. c 10. b

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)