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Level 6

Boris Johnson – UK's controversial new foreign secretary

16th July, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1607/160716-boris-johnson.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1607/160716-boris-johnson.html>

The new British Prime Minister Theresa May has caused a stir around the world with her appointment of the UK's new Foreign Secretary. She has chosen the controversial former Mayor of London Boris Johnson. Mr Johnson led the campaign for Britain to leave the European Union and has now been given the job of Britain's top diplomat. This has surprised many as Mr Johnson has a track record of being very undiplomatic to world leaders and countries. He once referred to Hillary Clinton as a "sadistic nurse in a mental hospital". He compared Russian President Vladimir Putin to a creature from Harry Potter. He also made racist comments about African countries and the nation of Papua New Guinea.

The British newspaper 'The Independent' said Mrs May, "had managed to unite the international community in bewilderment by her appointment of Boris Johnson as Foreign Secretary". France's foreign secretary said Mr Johnson had lied to the British people during his campaign to get Britain to leave the EU. TV presenters and journalists in Germany speculated whether British politics was becoming a farcical comedy show. The Washington Post asked how Mr Johnson could become Britain's top diplomat after having offended much of the world. Mr Johnson shrugged off comments that he was not the person for the job. He said his task was to reshape Britain's identity as a "great global player".

Sources: <http://edition.cnn.com/2016/07/13/europe/boris-johnson-uk-foreign-secretary/>
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2016/07/14/why-boris-johnson-became-britains-top-diplomat-despite-having-offended-much-of-the-world/>
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/who-is-boris-johnson-uk-foreign-secretary-british-government-theresa-may-cabinet-a7135996.html>

WARM-UPS

1. DIPLOMACY: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about diplomacy. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

appointment / foreign secretary / controversial / campaign / diplomat / hospital / unite / community / bewilderment / journalists / comedy / comments / identity

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

3. DIPLOMAT: Students A **strongly** believe anyone can be a diplomat; Students B **strongly** believe otherwise. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. FOREIGN SECRETARY: Which of these people would make a good foreign secretary? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Good points	Bad points
Banker		
Journalist		
Teacher		
Pilot		
Psychiatrist		
Comedian		

5. FOREIGN: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "foreign". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. GLOBAL PLAYER: Rank these with your partner. Put the things a country most need to be a global player at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- strong currency
- long history
- stable economy
- strong leaders
- military strength
- popular culture
- natural resources
- a universal language

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1607/160716-boris-johnson.html>

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

- a. The article says Theresa May likes to stir things. **T / F**
- b. Boris Johnson was a key campaigner for the UK to leave the EU. **T / F**
- c. Boris Johnson has a history of not being very diplomatic. **T / F**
- d. Mr Johnson made racist comments about Papua New Guinea. **T / F**
- e. A newspaper said the UK leader had united the international community. **T / F**
- f. Boris Johnson called France's foreign secretary a liar. **T / F**
- g. The article says Boris Johnson will soon star in a German comedy. **T / F**
- h. Boris Johnson said Britain's identity does not need to be changed. **T / F**

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

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. caused | a. wondered |
| 2. chosen | b. remarks |
| 3. campaign | c. job |
| 4. track record | d. selected |
| 5. comments | e. ridiculous |
| 6. unite | f. history |
| 7. speculated | g. created |
| 8. farcical | h. disregarded |
| 9. shrugged off | i. drive |
| 10. task | j. unify |

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

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1. the controversial former | a. community |
| 2. Johnson led the campaign for Britain | b. mental hospital |
| 3. a track | c. a farcical comedy show |
| 4. a "sadistic nurse in a | d. Mayor of London |
| 5. He also made racist | e. to leave |
| 6. unite the international | f. diplomat |
| 7. British politics was becoming | g. of the world |
| 8. Johnson could become Britain's top | h. comments |
| 9. offended much | i. Britain's identity |
| 10. his task was to reshape | j. record |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1607/160716-boris-johnson.html>

The new British Prime Minister Theresa May has (1) _____ a stir around the world with her appointment of the UK's new Foreign Secretary. She has chosen the controversial (2) _____ Mayor of London Boris Johnson. Mr Johnson led the (3) _____ for Britain to leave the European Union and has now been given the job of Britain's top (4) _____. This has surprised many as Mr Johnson has a track (5) _____ of being very undiplomatic to world leaders and countries. He once (6) _____ to Hillary Clinton as a "sadistic nurse in a mental hospital". He compared Russian President Vladimir Putin to a (7) _____ from Harry Potter. He also made (8) _____ comments about African countries and the nation of Papua New Guinea.

campaign
referred
caused
racist
record
former
creature
diplomat

The British newspaper 'The Independent' said Mrs May, "had managed to (9) _____ the international community in bewilderment by her (10) _____ of Boris Johnson as Foreign Secretary". France's foreign secretary said Mr Johnson had lied to the British people during his (11) _____ to get Britain to leave the EU. TV presenters and journalists in Germany (12) _____ whether British politics was becoming a (13) _____ comedy show. The Washington Post asked how Mr Johnson could become Britain's top diplomat after having (14) _____ much of the world. Mr Johnson shrugged off comments that he was not the person for the job. He said his (15) _____ was to reshape Britain's (16) _____ as a "great global player".

farcical
appointment
task
speculated
identity
unite
offended
campaign

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1607/160716-boris-johnson.html>

- 1) The new British Prime Minister Theresa May has caused _____ the world
 - a. a star around
 - b. a stir around
 - c. a stair around
 - d. ace tar around
- 2) She has chosen the controversial _____ of London
 - a. former Mayor
 - b. farmer Mayor
 - c. framer Mayor
 - d. firmer Mayor
- 3) This has surprised many as Mr Johnson has a track record of being _____
 - a. very non-diplomatic
 - b. very un-diploma tick
 - c. very under-problematic
 - d. very undiplomatic
- 4) He once referred to Hillary Clinton as a "sadistic nurse in a _____"
 - a. mentally hospital
 - b. mental ill hospital
 - c. mental hospital
 - d. mentally ill hospital
- 5) made racist comments about African countries and _____ Papua New Guinea
 - a. the notion of
 - b. the nation of
 - c. the national of
 - d. the notional of
- 6) France's foreign secretary said Mr Johnson had lied to the British people _____
 - a. enduring his campaign
 - b. during this campaign
 - c. during his campaigns
 - d. during his campaign
- 7) journalists in Germany speculated whether British politics was becoming _____ show
 - a. a farcical comedy
 - b. a far cycle comedy
 - c. a force I call comedy
 - d. a farce I call comedy
- 8) how Mr Johnson could become Britain's top diplomat after having _____ the world
 - a. offend did much of
 - b. offended much of
 - c. offended much off
 - d. off-end did much of
- 9) Mr Johnson shrugged off comments that he was not the _____
 - a. person from the job
 - b. person for the jobs
 - c. person for the job
 - d. person from the jobs
- 10) He said his task was to reshape Britain's _____ "great global player"
 - a. identity as a
 - b. identities as a
 - c. identity has a
 - d. identify as a

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1607/160716-boris-johnson.html>

The new British Prime Minister Theresa May (1) _____ around the world with her appointment of the UK's new Foreign Secretary. She has chosen the (2) _____ Mayor of London Boris Johnson. Mr Johnson (3) _____ for Britain to leave the European Union and has now been given the job of Britain's top diplomat. This has surprised many as Mr Johnson (4) _____ of being very undiplomatic to world leaders and countries. He once referred to Hillary Clinton as (5) _____ in a mental hospital". He compared Russian President Vladimir Putin (6) _____ from Harry Potter. He also made racist comments about African countries and the nation of Papua New Guinea.

The British newspaper 'The Independent' said Mrs May, "had managed to unite the international community (7) _____ by her appointment of Boris Johnson as Foreign Secretary". France's foreign secretary said Mr Johnson (8) _____ British people during his campaign to get Britain to leave the EU. TV presenters and journalists in Germany (9) _____ British politics was becoming a farcical comedy show. The Washington Post asked how Mr Johnson could become Britain's top diplomat after (10) _____ much of the world. Mr Johnson (11) _____ that he was not the person for the job. He said his task (12) _____ Britain's identity as a "great global player".

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1607/160716-boris-johnson.html>

1. What did the article say Theresa May caused around the world?
2. What did Boris Johnson lead a campaign for Britain to leave?
3. What has Boris Johnson got a track record in doing?
4. To what did Mr Johnson compare Vladimir Putin?
5. What nation did Mr Johnson make racist comments about?
6. What is the international community united by?
7. Which country's foreign secretary said Mr Johnson lied?
8. What kind of show did German TV presenters liken British politics to?
9. Who did the Washington Post say Mr Johnson had offended?
10. What did Mr Johnson say he wanted to reshape?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1607/160716-boris-johnson.html>

- 1) What did the article say Theresa May caused around the world?
 - a) a story
 - b) a star
 - c) a stir
 - d) a storm
- 2) What did Boris Johnson lead a campaign for Britain to leave?
 - a) the EU
 - b) Europe
 - c) NATO
 - d) the UN
- 3) What has Boris Johnson got a track record in doing?
 - a) being a foreign secretary
 - b) being diplomatic
 - c) being problematic
 - d) being undiplomatic
- 4) To what did Mr Johnson compare Vladimir Putin?
 - a) a nation
 - b) a creature from Harry Potter
 - c) a statue
 - d) a nurse
- 5) What nation did Mr Johnson make racist comments about?
 - a) Paraguay
 - b) Russia
 - c) Papua New Guinea
 - d) France
- 6) What is the international community united by?
 - a) laughter
 - b) bewilderment
 - c) grief
 - d) appointments
- 7) Which country's foreign secretary said Mr Johnson lied?
 - a) Russia
 - b) the USA
 - c) Germany
 - d) France
- 8) What kind of show did German TV presenters liken British politics to?
 - a) a tragedy
 - b) a comedy
 - c) a documentary
 - d) a children's show
- 9) Who did the Washington Post say Mr Johnson had offended?
 - a) much of the world
 - b) its journalists
 - c) immigrants
 - d) his colleagues
- 10) What did Mr Johnson say he wanted to reshape?
 - a) his stomach
 - b) the world
 - c) his hairstyle
 - d) Britain's identity

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1607/160716-boris-johnson.html>

Role A – A strong currency

You think a strong currency is most important for a country to be a global player. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): military strength, a popular culture or a universal language.

Role B – Military strength

You think military strength is most important for a country to be a global player. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): a strong currency, a popular culture or a universal language.

Role C – A popular culture

You think a popular culture is most important for a country to be a global player. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): military strength, a strong currency or a universal language.

Role D – A universal language

You think a universal language is most important for a country to be a global player. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so important. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): military strength, a popular culture or a strong currency.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1607/160716-boris-johnson.html>

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

foreign	secretary
----------------	------------------

- 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">• stir• former• led• track• once• nation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• unite• lied• whether• much• person• task
---	---

DIPLOMACY SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1607/160716-boris-johnson.html>

Write five GOOD questions about diplomacy 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.

DIPLOMACY DISCUSSION

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

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What springs to mind when you hear the word 'diplomat'?
3. What do you know about Boris Johnson?
4. Why is the world shocked Boris Johnson is the UK's foreign secretary?
5. What do you think of your country's foreign secretary?
6. What do you know about recent politics in Britain?
7. What qualities should a top diplomat have?
8. What advice do you have for Boris Johnson?
9. What do you think of Boris Johnson's comments about world leaders?
10. How can someone who makes racist comments be foreign secretary?

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DIPLOMACY DISCUSSION

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

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What kind of foreign secretary do you think Boris Johnson will be?
13. Is Boris Johnson good or bad for Britain?
14. What should Boris Johnson do in his first few months?
15. What do you think of France's foreign secretary saying Johnson lied?
16. Why might people think British politics is "a farcical comedy show"?
17. How important is the UK to your country?
18. How could Mr Johnson reshape Britain's identity?
19. Are any of your leaders embarrassing?
20. What questions would you like to ask Boris Johnson?

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/1607/160716-boris-johnson.html>

The new British Prime Minister Theresa May has caused a (1) _____ around the world with her appointment of the UK's new Foreign Secretary. She has chosen the controversial (2) _____ Mayor of London Boris Johnson. Mr Johnson led the campaign for Britain to leave the European Union (3) _____ has now been given the job of Britain's top diplomat. This has surprised many as Mr Johnson has a (4) _____ record of being very undiplomatic to world leaders and countries. He once (5) _____ to Hillary Clinton as a "sadistic nurse in a mental hospital". He compared Russian President Vladimir Putin to a (6) _____ from Harry Potter. He also made racist comments about African countries and the nation of Papua New Guinea.

The British newspaper 'The Independent' said Mrs May, "had managed to unite the international community (7) _____ bewilderment by her appointment of Boris Johnson as Foreign Secretary". France's foreign secretary said Mr Johnson had lied to the British people (8) _____ his campaign to get Britain to leave the EU. TV presenters and journalists in Germany speculated whether British politics was becoming a (9) _____ comedy show. The Washington Post asked how Mr Johnson could become Britain's top diplomat after (10) _____ offended much of the world. Mr Johnson shrugged (11) _____ comments that he was not the person for the job. He said his task was to reshape Britain's identity as a "great global (12) _____".

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) stirring | (b) stir-fry | (c) stirrup | (d) stir |
| 2. | (a) firmer | (b) farmer | (c) framer | (d) former |
| 3. | (a) but | (b) and | (c) although | (d) such |
| 4. | (a) lane | (b) groove | (c) track | (d) rail |
| 5. | (a) referred | (b) referenced | (c) referral | (d) refereed |
| 6. | (a) creature | (b) crater | (c) creative | (d) couture |
| 7. | (a) at | (b) of | (c) on | (d) in |
| 8. | (a) during | (b) while | (c) whatsoever | (d) of |
| 9. | (a) farce | (b) farcical | (c) forceps | (d) farces |
| 10. | (a) had | (b) has | (c) having | (d) have |
| 11. | (a) in | (b) up | (c) off | (d) on |
| 12. | (a) playmate | (b) player | (c) plaything | (d) playwright |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1607/160716-boris-johnson.html>

Paragraph 1

1. with her mntpetopani of...
2. led the nmiacgap for Britain to leave
3. the job of Britain's top maltiodp
4. a iscsiatd nurse
5. a etcuraer from Harry Potter
6. He also made iartcs comments

Paragraph 2

7. unite the international community in nmreeidlewtb
8. TV presenters and sojtraliusn
9. a ifcacral comedy show
10. Britain's top tompliad
11. ondedfef much of the world
12. Johnson gerdguhs off comments

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1607/160716-boris-johnson.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () of the world. Mr Johnson shrugged off comments that he was not the person
- () bewilderment by her appointment of Boris Johnson as Foreign Secretary". France's foreign secretary said Mr Johnson had
- () show. The Washington Post asked how Mr Johnson could become Britain's top diplomat after having offended much
- () hospital". He compared Russian President Vladimir Putin to a creature from Harry Potter. He also made
- () journalists in Germany speculated whether British politics was becoming a farcical comedy
- () of the UK's new Foreign Secretary. She has chosen the controversial former Mayor of
- () The British newspaper 'The Independent' said Mrs May, "had managed to unite the international community in
- () London Boris Johnson. Mr Johnson led the campaign for Britain to leave the European Union and has now been
- () given the job of Britain's top diplomat. This has surprised many as Mr Johnson has a track record of being very
- () racist comments about African countries and the nation of Papua New Guinea.
- () undiplomatic to world leaders and countries. He once referred to Hillary Clinton as a "sadistic nurse in a mental
- (**1**) The new British Prime Minister Theresa May has caused a stir around the world with her appointment
- () for the job. He said his task was to reshape Britain's identity as a "great global player".
- () lied to the British people during his campaign to get Britain to leave the EU. TV presenters and

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1607/160716-boris-johnson.html>

1. the Caused world a with stir her around appointment .
2. chosen of the London controversial She former has Mayor .
3. for Britain to leave the EU Johnson led the campaign .
4. track undiplomatic record Johnson of has being a very .
5. comments racist made also He countries African about .
6. international the Unite bewilderment in community .
7. British his had the during Johnson to people campaign lied .
8. British show comedy farcical a becoming was politics .
9. that not for Comments was person job he the the .
10. as identity Britain's Reshape player global great a .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1607/160716-boris-johnson.html>

The new British Prime Minister Theresa May has caused a *stair / stir* around the world with her *appointed / appointment* of the UK's new Foreign Secretary. She has chosen the *controversy / controversial* former Mayor of London Boris Johnson. Mr Johnson *led / leaded* the campaign for Britain to leave the European Union and has now *being / been* given the job of Britain's top diplomat. This has surprised *much / many* as Mr Johnson has a track *recording / record* of being very undiplomatic to world leaders and countries. He once *referred / reflected* to Hillary Clinton as a "sadistic nurse in a mental hospital". He *comparison / compared* Russian President Vladimir Putin to a creature from Harry Potter. He also made racist comments about African countries and the *nation / national* of Papua New Guinea.

The British newspaper 'The Independent' said Mrs May, "had *manager / managed* to *unite / untie* the international community *in / on* bewilderment by her appointment of Boris Johnson *has / as* Foreign Secretary". France's foreign secretary said Mr Johnson had lied *for / to* the British people during his campaign *to / for* get Britain to leave the EU. TV presenters and journalists in Germany speculated *which / whether* British politics was becoming a *farcical / forceps* comedy show. The Washington Post asked how Mr Johnson could become Britain's top diplomat after *had / having* offended much of the world. Mr Johnson shrugged off comments that he was not the person for the job. He said his *task / tusk* was to reshape Britain's identity as a "great global player".

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/1607/160716-boris-johnson.html>

Th_ n_w Br_t_sh Pr_m_ M_n_st_r Th_r_s_ M_y h_s
c__s_d _st_r_r__nd th_ w_rld w_th h_r __pp__ntm_nt
f th _K's n_w F_r__gn S_cr_t_ry. Sh_ h_s ch_s_n th_
c_ntr_v_rs_ _l f_rm_r M_y_r _f L_nd_n B_r_s J_hns_n.
Mr J_hns_n l_d th_ c_mp__gn f_r Br_t__n t_l__v_ th_
__r_p__n _n__n _nd h_s n_w b__n g_v_n th_ j_b _f
Br_t__n's t_p d_pl_m_t. Th_s h_s s_rpr_s_d m_ny _s Mr
J_hns_n h_s _tr_ck r_c_r_d _f b__ng v_ry _nd_pl_m_t_c
t_w_rld l__d_rs _nd c__ntr__s. H_ _nc_r_f_r_r_d t_
H_ll_ry Cl_int_n _s _ "s_d_st_c_n_rs_ _n _m_nt_l
h_sp_t_l". H_ c_mp_r_d R_ss__n Pr_s_d_nt Vl_d_m_r
P_t_n t_ _cr__t_r_f_r_m H_rry P_tt_r. H_ _ls_m_d_
r_c_st c_mm_n_t_s _b__t _fr_c_n c__ntr__s _nd th_
n_t__n _f P_p__ N_w G__n__.

Th_ Br_t_sh n_wsp_p_r 'Th_ _nd_p_nd_nt' s__d Mrs
M_y, "h_d m_n_g_d t_ _n_t_ th_ _nt_rn_t__n_l
c__mm_n_ty _n b_w_ld_rm_nt by h_r __pp__ntm_nt _f
B_r_s J_hns_n _s F_r__gn S_cr_t_ry". Fr_nc_'s f_r__gn
s_cr_t_ry s__d Mr J_hns_n h_d l__d t_ th_ Br_t_sh
p__pl_ d_r_ng h_s c_mp__gn t_g_t Br_t__n t_l__v_
th_ __. TV pr_s_nt_rs _nd j__rn_l_sts _n G_rm_ny
sp_c_l_t_d wh_th_r Br_t_sh p_l_t_cs w_s b_c_m_ng _
f_rc_c_l_c_m_dy sh_w. Th_ W_sh_ngt_n P_st _sk_d h_w
Mr J_hns_n c__ld b_c_m_ Br_t__n's t_p d_pl_m_t _ft_r
h_v_ng _ff_nd_d m_ch _f th_ w_rld. Mr J_hns_n
shr_gg_d _ff_c_mm_n_t_s th_t h_w_s n_t th_p_rs_n f_r
th_j_b. H_ s__d h_s t_sk w_s t_r_sh_p_ Br_t__n's
_d_nt_ty _s _ "gr__t gl_b_l pl_y_r".

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1607/160716-boris-johnson.html>

the new british prime minister theresa may has caused a stir around the world with her appointment of the uk's new foreign secretary she has chosen the controversial former mayor of london boris johnson mr johnson led the campaign for britain to leave the european union and has now been given the job of britain's top diplomat this has surprised many as mr johnson has a track record of being very undiplomatic to world leaders and countries he once referred to hillary clinton as a "sadistic nurse in a mental hospital" he compared russian president vladimir putin to a creature from harry potter he also made racist comments about african countries and the nation of papua new guinea

the british newspaper 'the independent' said mrs may "had managed to unite the international community in bewilderment by her appointment of boris johnson as foreign secretary" france's foreign secretary said mr johnson had lied to the british people during his campaign to get britain to leave the eu tv presenters and journalists in germany speculated whether british politics was becoming a farcical comedy show the washington post asked how mr johnson could become britain's top diplomat after having offended much of the world mr johnson shrugged off comments that he was not the person for the job he said his task was to reshape britain's identity as a "great global player"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1607/160716-boris-johnson.html>

The new British Prime Minister Theresa May has caused a stir around the world with her appointment of the UK's new Foreign Secretary. She has chosen the controversial former Mayor of London Boris Johnson. Mr Johnson led the campaign for Britain to leave the European Union and has now been given the job of Britain's top diplomat. This has surprised many as Mr Johnson has a track record of being very undiplomatic to world leaders and countries. He once referred to Hillary Clinton as a "sadistic nurse in a mental hospital". He compared Russian President Vladimir Putin to a creature from Harry Potter. He also made racist comments about African countries and the nation of Papua New Guinea. The British newspaper 'The Independent' said Mrs May, "had managed to unite the international community in bewilderment by her appointment of Boris Johnson as Foreign Secretary". France's foreign secretary said Mr Johnson had lied to the British people during his campaign to get Britain to leave the EU. TV presenters and journalists in Germany speculated whether British politics was becoming a farcical comedy show. The Washington Post asked how Mr Johnson could become Britain's top diplomat after having offended much of the world. Mr Johnson shrugged off comments that he was not the person for the job. He said his task was to reshape Britain's identity as a "great global player".

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 Boris Johnson. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. WORLD RELATIONS: Make a poster about world relations. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. FOREIGN SECRETARY: Write a magazine article about your country's foreign secretary. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against him/her.

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 an expert on diplomacy. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to get on better with other countries. 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 T c T d T e T f F g F h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. caused | a. created |
| 2. chosen | b. selected |
| 3. campaign | c. drive |
| 4. track record | d. history |
| 5. comments | e. remarks |
| 6. unite | f. unify |
| 7. speculated | g. wondered |
| 8. farcical | h. ridiculous |
| 9. shrugged off | i. disregarded |
| 10. task | j. job |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. A stir
2. The European Union
3. Being very undiplomatic
4. A creature from Harry Potter
5. Papua New Guinea
6. Bewilderment at Johnson's appointment
7. France
8. A farcical comedy show
9. Much of the world
10. Britain's identity

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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