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Level 6

Social media site reverses LGBT ban after outcry

18th April, 2018

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180418-lgbt.html>

Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	15
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	16
Vocabulary	4	Spelling	17
Before Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	18
Gap Fill	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	19
Match The Sentences And Listen	7	Circle The Correct Word	20
Listening Gap Fill	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	21
Comprehension Questions	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	22
Multiple Choice - Quiz	10	Put A Slash (/) Where The Spaces Are	23
Role Play	11	Free Writing	24
After Reading / Listening	12	Academic Writing	25
Student Survey	13	Homework	26
Discussion (20 Questions)	14	Answers	27

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

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180418-lgbt.html>

One of China's largest social media sites, Weibo, has reversed a ban on users posting online content related to LGBT issues. On Friday, the social networking giant issued a statement announcing that for the next three months, it would be deleting images, cartoons and videos that were "related to homosexuality". It also said it would remove content with "pornographic implications" or content that promoted "bloody violence". The Internet company said it was part of a new "clean-up campaign" that intended "to create a sunny and harmonious community environment" within China's online community. It also said it was complying with China's cyber-security laws.

Weibo reversed the decision on Monday following a passionate public outcry from the country's Internet users. Many of Weibo's LGBT community responded to the initial ban by posting photos of themselves with their partners, often adding rainbow emojis. Many people cited China's constitution, which protects minorities. One user said the constitution maintains that the "personal dignity" of citizens is "inviolable" and that insult directed against citizens is prohibited. A woman from Shanghai posted: "I suddenly find that in this strong country, Weibo is discriminating against and attacking this sexual minority." Weibo responded to the outcry by reversing its decision and thanking everyone for the discussion.

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/apr/16/china-weibo-bans-homosexual-content-protest>
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-43779650>
<http://www.scmp.com/news/china/society/article/2141907/online-outcry-forces-chinas-twitter-sina-weibo-backtrack>

WARM-UPS

1. LGBT ISSUES: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about LGBT issues. 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?

social media / sites / online content / giant / homosexuality / violence / sunny / laws / decision / outcry / initial / constitution / minorities / citizens / prohibited / discussion

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

3. INSULTS: Students A **strongly** believe insulting someone should be a crime; Students B **strongly** believe it shouldn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. BAN: What should and shouldn't be banned on social media? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Yes / No?	Why?
Insults		
Fake news		
Violent images		
Paintings of nudes		
Pornography		
Photos of lunch		

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

6. SITES: Rank these with your partner. Put the best sites at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- social media sites
- news sites
- shopping sites
- sports sites
- gaming sites
- video sites
- English study sites
- music sites

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. reversed | a. Belonging to the same family, group, or type; connected. |
| 2. related | b. Happy together and free from disagreement. |
| 3. giant | c. Had a course of action as one's purpose or objective; plan. |
| 4. pornographic | d. The likely consequences (results) of something. |
| 5. implications | e. The display of sexual organs or activity in books, videos, etc. that are made to make people sexually interested or excited. |
| 6. intended | f. Made something the opposite of what it was. |
| 7. harmonious | g. A very, very large company or organization. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 8. outcry | h. Officially stopped; banned; forbidden. |
| 9. initial | i. A smaller group of people, especially one commonly discriminated against in a community, society, or nation. |
| 10. cited | j. All of the rules and principles that guides how a country is ruled or governed. |
| 11. constitution | k. A strong expression of public disapproval or anger. |
| 12. minority | l. Treating people unfairly because of their race, sex, or age, etc. |
| 13. prohibited | m. Happening at the beginning. |
| 14. discriminating | n. Mentioned as an example. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180418-lgbt.html>

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

- a. Weibo is China's largest social media site. **T / F**
- b. Weibo wanted to ban LGBT content for a year. **T / F**
- c. Weibo said it was trying to clean up its online community. **T / F**
- d. Weibo said it hadn't considered China's cyber-security laws. **T / F**
- e. The social media site reversed the ban because people complained. **T / F**
- f. Many people posted rainbow emojis online. **T / F**
- g. China's constitution does not prohibit people insulting others. **T / F**
- h. Weibo thanked people for discussing the ban. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. reversed | a. peaceful |
| 2. issued | b. encouraged |
| 3. deleting | c. referred to |
| 4. promoted | d. abuse |
| 5. harmonious | e. overturned |
| 6. outcry | f. being prejudiced |
| 7. responded | g. protest |
| 8. cited | h. released |
| 9. insult | i. reacted |
| 10. discriminating | j. removing |

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

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. the social networking giant | a. the discussion |
| 2. videos that were related | b. cyber-security laws |
| 3. content that promoted bloody | c. emojis |
| 4. a sunny and harmonious | d. outcry |
| 5. complying with China's | e. violence |
| 6. a passionate public | f. dignity |
| 7. adding rainbow | g. issued a statement |
| 8. personal | h. community environment |
| 9. insult directed against citizens | i. to homosexuality |
| 10. thanking everyone for | j. is prohibited |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180418-lgbt.html>

One of China's largest social media sites, Weibo, has (1) _____ a ban on users posting online content related to LGBT issues. On Friday, the social networking (2) _____ issued a statement announcing that for the next three months, it would be (3) _____ images, cartoons and videos that were "related to homosexuality". It also said it would remove (4) _____ with "pornographic implications" or content that promoted "(5) _____ violence". The Internet company said it was part of a new "clean-up (6) _____ " that intended "to create a (7) _____ and harmonious community environment" within China's online community. It also said it was (8) _____ with China's cyber-security laws.

giant
content
sunny
deleting
complying
reversed
campaign
bloody

Weibo reversed the decision on Monday following a (9) _____ public outcry from the country's Internet users. Many of Weibo's LGBT community responded to the (10) _____ ban by posting photos of themselves with their partners, often adding (11) _____ emojis. Many people cited China's constitution, which protects (12) _____. One user said the constitution maintains that the "personal dignity" of citizens is "inviolable" and that insult directed (13) _____ citizens is prohibited. A woman from Shanghai posted: "I (14) _____ find that in this strong country, Weibo is discriminating against and attacking this sexual (15) _____." Weibo responded to the outcry by reversing its decision and (16) _____ everyone for the discussion.

rainbow
minority
against
passionate
thanking
initial
suddenly
minorities

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180418-lgbt.html>

- 1) reversed a ban on users posting online content related _____ issues
 - a. too LGBT
 - b. two LGBT
 - c. to LGBT
 - d. thru LGBT
- 2) it would be deleting images, cartoons and videos that _____ homosexuality"
 - a. were "relating to
 - b. were "relate it to
 - c. were "relate it too
 - d. were "related to
- 3) It also said it would remove content with " _____ "
 - a. pornographic implications
 - b. phonographic implications
 - c. photographic implications
 - d. phonological implications
- 4) part of a new "clean-up campaign" that intended "to create a sunny and _____"
 - a. harmony as community
 - b. harmony as a community
 - c. harm money as community
 - d. harmonious community
- 5) It also said it was complying with China's cyber-_____
 - a. security flaws
 - b. security laws
 - c. security claws
 - d. security paws
- 6) Weibo reversed the decision on Monday following a passionate _____
 - a. publicity outcry
 - b. public's outcry
 - c. public outcry
 - d. publics outcry
- 7) Many of Weibo's LGBT community responded to _____
 - a. the initial ban
 - b. the inner shall ban
 - c. the in it shall ban
 - d. the in niche all ban
- 8) the "personal dignity" of citizens is "inviolable" and that insult directed against _____
 - a. citizen is prohibited
 - b. citizens is prohibit it
 - c. citizens is prohibited
 - d. citizen is prohibit it
- 9) Weibo is discriminating against and attacking _____
 - a. this sexual minority
 - b. these sexual minority
 - c. those sexual minority
 - d. this sexual minorities
- 10) Weibo responded to the outcry _____ decision
 - a. by reserving its
 - b. by reversal its
 - c. by reversing its
 - d. by reverses its

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180418-lgbt.html>

One of China's (1) _____ sites, Weibo, has reversed a ban on users posting online content related to LGBT issues. On Friday, the social networking (2) _____ statement announcing that for the next three months, it would be deleting images, (3) _____ that were "related to homosexuality". It also said it would remove content with "pornographic implications" (4) _____ promoted "bloody violence". The Internet company said it was part of a new "clean-up campaign" that intended "(5) _____ sunny and harmonious community environment" within China's online community. It also said it was complying with China's (6) _____.

Weibo reversed (7) _____ Monday following a passionate public outcry from the country's Internet users. Many of Weibo's LGBT community responded to (8) _____ by posting photos of themselves with their partners, often adding rainbow emojis. Many people cited China's constitution, (9) _____. One user said the constitution maintains that the "personal dignity" of citizens is "inviolable" and (10) _____ against citizens is prohibited. A woman from Shanghai posted: "I (11) _____ in this strong country, Weibo is discriminating against and attacking this sexual minority." Weibo (12) _____ outcry by reversing its decision and thanking everyone for the discussion.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180418-lgbt.html>

1. On what day of the week did Weibo announce its ban?
2. For how long did Weibo intend to delete content?
3. What kind of violence did Weibo say it would remove?
4. What sunny and harmonious thing did Weibo hope to create?
5. What did Weibo say it was complying with?
6. What was the reaction of the public to the ban?
7. What kind of emojis did people post of themselves?
8. What does the Chinese constitution say is "inviolable"?
9. What minority did a woman say Weibo was attacking?
10. What did Weibo thank people for?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180418-lgbt.html>

- 1) On what day of the week did Weibo announce its ban?
 - a) Sunday
 - b) Wednesday
 - c) Friday
 - d) Tuesday
- 2) For how long did Weibo intend to delete content?
 - a) 3 months
 - b) 2 months
 - c) 3 weeks
 - d) 2 weeks
- 3) What kind of violence did Weibo say it would remove?
 - a) bloody violence
 - b) graphic violence
 - c) domestic violence
 - d) football violence
- 4) What sunny and harmonious thing did Weibo hope to create?
 - a) a song
 - b) an online community
 - c) a website
 - d) an online choir
- 5) What did Weibo say it was complying with?
 - a) internal policy
 - b) Internet guidelines
 - c) morals
 - d) China's cyber-security laws
- 6) What was the reaction of the public to the ban?
 - a) bemusement
 - b) there was an outcry
 - c) wonder
 - d) grief
- 7) What kind of emojis did people post of themselves?
 - a) rainbow emojis
 - b) unicorn emojis
 - c) scales of justice emojis
 - d) heart emojis
- 8) What does the Chinese constitution say is "inviolable"?
 - a) freedom
 - b) trust
 - c) personal dignity
 - d) choice
- 9) What minority did a woman say Weibo was attacking?
 - a) a political minority
 - b) a religious minority
 - c) an ethnic minority
 - d) a sexual minority
- 10) What did Weibo thank people for?
 - a) the discussion
 - b) subscriptions
 - c) getting angry
 - d) their support

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180418-lgbt.html>

Role A – Social Media Sites

You think social media sites are best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sites. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): gaming sites, English study sites or video sites.

Role B – Gaming Sites

You think gaming sites are best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sites. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): social media sites, English study sites or video sites.

Role C – English Study Sites

You think English study sites are best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sites. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): gaming sites, social media sites or video sites.

Role D – Video Sites

You think video sites are best. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their sites. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): gaming sites, English study sites or social media sites.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180418-lgbt.html>

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

social	media

- 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">• largest• giant• next• remove• part• within	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• following• initial• rainbow• insult• suddenly• thanking
---	--

LGBT ISSUES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180418-lgbt.html>

Write five GOOD questions about LGBT issues 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.

LGBT ISSUES DISCUSSION

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

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'social'?
3. What do you think of the initial ban?
4. What kind of people suggested the ban?
5. Why did the site want to implement the ban?
6. What issues does the LGBT community have in your country?
7. How can governments promote greater tolerance?
8. How "sunny and harmonious" is your society?
9. What are the good and bad things about social media sites?
10. What content should be banned on social media sites?

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LGBT ISSUES DISCUSSION

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

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'media'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What has the ban and reversal done for Weibo's image?
15. Why does the LGBT community use the rainbow as an icon?
16. How angry would you be if a site banned your content for being you?
17. What would you do if a social media site banned your content?
18. Where does homophobia come from?
19. What LGBT issues will exist in 50 years from now?
20. What questions would you like to ask Weibo's boss?

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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180418-lgbt.html>

One of China's largest social media sites, Weibo, has (1) _____ a ban on users posting online content related to LGBT issues. On Friday, the social networking (2) _____ issued a statement announcing that for the next three months, it would (3) _____ deleting images, cartoons and videos that were "related to homosexuality". It also said it would remove content with "pornographic implications" or content that promoted "(4) _____ violence". The Internet company said it was part of a new "clean-up campaign" that (5) _____ "to create a sunny and harmonious community environment" within China's online community. It also said it was complying (6) _____ China's cyber-security laws.

Weibo reversed the decision on Monday (7) _____ a passionate public outcry from the country's Internet users. Many of Weibo's LGBT community (8) _____ to the initial ban by posting photos of themselves with their partners, often adding rainbow emojis. Many people cited China's constitution, which (9) _____ minorities. One user said the constitution maintains that the "personal dignity" of citizens is "inviolable" and that insult directed (10) _____ citizens is prohibited. A woman from Shanghai posted: "I suddenly find that in this strong country, Weibo is discriminating against and attacking this sexual (11) _____." Weibo responded to the outcry (12) _____ reversing its decision and thanking everyone for the discussion.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) reserved | (b) reversal | (c) reversion | (d) reversed |
| 2. | (a) dwarf | (b) ogre | (c) unicorn | (d) giant |
| 3. | (a) be | (b) by | (c) been | (d) but |
| 4. | (a) broody | (b) blood | (c) bloody | (d) brood |
| 5. | (a) intention | (b) contended | (c) intended | (d) attended |
| 6. | (a) with | (b) at | (c) for | (d) by |
| 7. | (a) chasing | (b) following | (c) running | (d) shadowing |
| 8. | (a) responded | (b) response | (c) respond | (d) responsive |
| 9. | (a) progress | (b) protects | (c) propels | (d) projects |
| 10. | (a) gain | (b) again | (c) against | (d) gaining |
| 11. | (a) majority | (b) major | (c) minority | (d) minor |
| 12. | (a) on | (b) at | (c) of | (d) by |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180418-lgbt.html>

Paragraph 1

1. issued a eestttanm
2. itelgedn images
3. related to ylxhamtousieo
4. irrpohnopacg implications
5. sunny and rhasnomou
6. It also said it was gplncymoi

Paragraph 2

7. a nsaiaopets public outcry
8. onesdperd to the initial ban
9. protects nrioetsimi
10. the personal idytng of citizens
11. against citizens is orpbithied
12. senervrig its decision

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180418-lgbt.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () minority." Weibo responded to the outcry by reversing its decision and thanking everyone for the discussion.
- () China's online community. It also said it was complying with China's cyber-security laws.
- () homosexuality". It also said it would remove content with "pornographic
- () three months, it would be deleting images, cartoons and videos that were "related to
- () which protects minorities. One user said the constitution maintains that the "personal dignity" of citizens is "inviolable" and
- () themselves with their partners, often adding rainbow emojis. Many people cited China's constitution,
- () implications" or content that promoted "bloody violence". The Internet company said it was part of a new "clean-
- () that insult directed against citizens is prohibited. A woman from Shanghai posted: "I suddenly
- () users. Many of Weibo's LGBT community responded to the initial ban by posting photos of
- () Weibo reversed the decision on Monday following a passionate public outcry from the country's Internet
- () find that in this strong country, Weibo is discriminating against and attacking this sexual
- () to LGBT issues. On Friday, the social networking giant issued a statement announcing that for the next
- () up campaign" that intended "to create a sunny and harmonious community environment" within
- (**1**) One of China's largest social media sites, Weibo, has reversed a ban on users posting online content related

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180418-lgbt.html>

1. of One largest China's social sites . media
2. related homosexuality . and that to were videos Cartoons
3. with remove content implications . It would pornographic
4. clean-up It part of was new campaign . a
5. It complying with was laws . cyber-security China's
6. from users . outcry the A public country's Internet
7. photos partners . of Posting their with themselves
8. The personal constitution the citizens . dignity of maintains
9. against is this Weibo discriminating minority . sexual
10. outcry reversing the to decision . its by Responded

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180418-lgbt.html>

One of China's largest social media sites, Weibo, has *reserved / reversed* a ban on users posting online content *related / relation* to LGBT issues. On Friday, the social networking *giant / gigantic* issued a statement announcing that for the next three months, it would *be / by* deleting images, cartoons and videos that were "related to homosexuality". It also said it would remove *index / content* with "pornographic implications" or content that promoted "*bloody / blood* violence". The Internet company said it was part *of / for* a new "clean-up campaign" that intended "to create a *sun / sunny* and harmonious community environment" *wither / within* China's online community. It also said it was *complying / complaining* with China's cyber-security laws.

Weibo reversed the *decider / decision* on Monday following a passionate public *outing / outcry* from the country's Internet users. Many of Weibo's LGBT community responded to the *initially / initial* ban by posting photos of themselves with their partners, often *added / adding* rainbow emojis. Many people *sighted / cited* China's constitution, which protects minorities. One user said the constitution *maintains / maintenance* that the "personal dignity" of citizens is "inviolable" and that *consult / insult* directed against citizens is prohibited. A woman from Shanghai posted: "I *sudden / suddenly* find that in this strong country, Weibo is discriminating against and attacking this sexual *minor / minority*." Weibo responded to the outcry by reversing its decision and thanking *everyone / someone* for the discussion.

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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180418-lgbt.html>

O n _ _ f C h _ n _ ' s l _ r g _ s t s _ c _ _ l m _ d _ _ s _ t _ s ,
W _ _ b _ , h _ s r _ v _ r _ s _ d _ _ b _ n _ n _ s _ r _ s p _ s _ t _ n _ g _ n
l _ n _ c _ n _ t _ n _ t r _ l _ t _ d t _ L G B T _ s _ s _ _ s . O n F
r _ d _ y , t h _ s _ c _ _ l n _ t _ w _ r _ k _ n _ g g _ _ n _ t _ s _ s _ _ d _
s _ t _ t _ m _ n _ t _ n _ n _ _ n _ c _ n _ g t h _ t f _ r t h _ n _ x _ t t h
r _ _ m _ n _ t h _ s , _ t w _ _ l _ d b _ d _ l _ t _ n _ g _ m _ g _ s , c _ r
t _ _ n _ s _ n _ d v _ d _ _ s t h _ t w _ r _ " r _ l _ t _ d t _
h _ m _ s _ x _ _ l _ t _ y " . I t _ l _ s _ s _ _ d _ t w _ _ l _ d r _ m _ v _
c _ n _ t _ n _ t w _ t h " p _ r _ n _ g _ r _ p _ h _ c _ m _ p _ l _ c _ t _ _ n _ s " _ r
c _ n _ t _ n _ t t h _ t p _ r _ m _ t _ d " b _ l _ _ d _ y v _ _ l _ n _ c _ " . T
h _ I n t _ r _ n _ t c _ m _ p _ n _ y s _ _ d _ t w _ s p _ r _ t _ f _
n _ w " c _ l _ _ n _ - _ p c _ m _ p _ _ g _ n " t h _ t _ n _ t _ n _ d _ d " t _
c _ r _ _ t _ _ s _ n _ n _ y _ n _ d h _ r _ m _ n _ _ s c _ m _ m _ n _ t _ y _ n
v _ r _ n _ m _ n _ t " w _ t h _ n C h _ n _ ' s _ n _ l _ n _ c _ m _ m _ n _ t _ y .
I t _ l _ s _ s _ _ d _ t w _ s c _ m _ p _ l _ y _ n _ g w _ t h C h _ n _ ' s
c _ y _ b _ r - s _ c _ r _ t _ y l _ w _ s .

W _ _ b _ r _ v _ r _ s _ d t h _ d _ c _ s _ _ n _ n M _ n _ d _ y f _ l
l _ w _ n _ g _ _ p _ s _ s _ _ n _ t _ p _ b _ l _ c _ _ t _ c _ r _ y f _ r _ m t h _
c _ _ n _ t _ r _ y ' s I n t _ r _ n _ t _ s _ r _ s . M _ n _ y _ f W _ _ b _ ' s
L G B T c _ m _ m _ n _ t _ y r _ s _ p _ n _ d _ d t _ t h _ _ n _ t _ _ l _ b _ n
b _ y p _ s _ t _ n _ g p h _ t _ s _ f t h _ m _ s _ l _ v _ s w _ t h t h _ _ r
p _ r _ t _ n _ r _ s , _ f _ t _ n _ d _ d _ n _ g r _ _ n _ b _ w _ _ m _ j _ s . M _ n _ y
p _ _ p _ l _ c _ t _ d C h _ n _ ' s c _ n _ s _ t _ t _ t _ _ n , w h _ c h p
r _ t _ c _ t _ s m _ n _ r _ t _ _ s . O n _ s _ r _ s _ _ d t h _ c _ n _ s
t _ t _ t _ _ n m _ _ n _ t _ _ n _ s t h _ t t h _ " p _ r _ s _ n _ l _ d _ g _ n _ t
y " _ f c _ t _ z _ n _ s _ s " _ n _ v _ _ l _ b _ l _ " _ n _ d t h _ t _ n _ s _ l _ t
d _ r _ c _ t _ d _ g _ _ n _ s _ t c _ t _ z _ n _ s _ s p _ r _ h _ b _ t _ d . A
w _ m _ n f _ r _ m S h _ n _ g _ h _ _ p _ s _ t _ d : " I s _ d _ d _ n _ l _ y
f _ n _ d t h _ t _ n t h _ s s _ t _ r _ n _ g c _ _ n _ t _ r _ y , W _ _ b _ _ s
d _ s _ c _ r _ m _ n _ t _ n _ g _ _ g _ _ n _ s _ t _ n _ d _ t _ t _ c _ k _ n _ g t h _ s
s _ x _ _ l _ m _ n _ r _ t _ y . " W _ _ b _ r _ s _ p _ n _ d _ d t _ t h _ _ t
c _ r _ y b _ y r _ v _ r _ s _ n _ g _ t _ s d _ c _ s _ _ n _ n _ d t h _ n _ k _ n _ g
_ v _ r _ y _ n _ f _ r t h _ d _ s _ c _ s _ s _ _ n .

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180418-lgbt.html>

one of china's largest social media sites weibo has reversed a ban on users posting online content related to lgbt issues on friday the social networking giant issued a statement announcing that for the next three months it would be deleting images cartoons and videos that were related to homosexuality it also said it would remove content with pornographic implications or content that promoted bloody violence the internet company said it was part of a new cleanup campaign that intended to create a sunny and harmonious community environment within china's online community it also said it was complying with china's cybersecurity laws

weibo reversed the decision on monday following a passionate public outcry from the country's internet users many of weibo's lgbt community responded to the initial ban by posting photos of themselves with their partners often adding rainbow emojis many people cited china's constitution which protects minorities one user said the constitution maintains that the personal dignity of citizens is inviolable and that insult directed against citizens is prohibited a woman from shanghai posted i suddenly find that in this strong country weibo is discriminating against and attacking this sexual minority weibo responded to the outcry by reversing its decision and thanking everyone for the discussion

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180418-lgbt.html>

One of China's largest social media sites, Weibo, has reversed a ban on users posting online content related to LGBT issues. On Friday, the social networking giant issued a statement announcing that for the next three months, it would be deleting images, cartoons and videos that were "related to homosexuality". It also said it would remove content with "pornographic implications" or content that promoted "bloody violence". The Internet company said it was part of a new "clean-up campaign" that intended "to create a sunny and harmonious community environment" within China's online community. It also said it was complying with China's cyber-security laws. Weibo reversed the decision on Monday following a passionate public outcry from the country's Internet users. Many of Weibo's LGBT community responded to the initial ban by posting photos of themselves with their partners, often adding rainbow emojis. Many people cited China's constitution, which protects minorities. One user said the constitution maintains that the "personal dignity" of citizens is "inviolable" and that insult directed against citizens is prohibited. A woman from Shanghai posted: "I suddenly find that in this strong country, Weibo is discriminating against and attacking this sexual minority." Weibo responded to the outcry by reversing its decision and thanking everyone for the discussion.

FREE WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1804/180418-lgbt.html>

Write about **LGBT issues** for 10 minutes. Comment on 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 this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. LGBT ISSUES: Make a poster about LGBT issues. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. FINES: Write a magazine article about there being a big fine for websites, companies, organizations, etc. banning issues or comments about LGBT issues. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

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 LGBT issues. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how we can end discrimination against the LGBT community. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. f 2. a 3. g 4. e 5. d 6. c 7. b
8. k 9. m 10. n 11. j 12. i 13. h 14. l

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. reversed | a. overturned |
| 2. issued | b. released |
| 3. deleting | c. removing |
| 4. promoted | d. encouraged |
| 5. harmonious | e. peaceful |
| 6. outcry | f. protest |
| 7. responded | g. reacted |
| 8. cited | h. referred to |
| 9. insult | i. abuse |
| 10. discriminating | j. being prejudiced |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. A Friday
2. Three months
3. Bloody violence
4. An online community
5. China's cyber-security laws
6. There was an outcry
7. Rainbow emojis
8. Personal dignity
9. A sexual minority
10. The discussion

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. One of China's largest social media sites.
2. Cartoons and videos that were related to homosexuality.
3. It would remove content with pornographic implications.
4. It was part of a new clean-up campaign.
5. It was complying with China's cyber-security laws.
6. A public outcry from the country's Internet users.
7. Posting photos of themselves with their partners.
8. The constitution maintains the personal dignity of citizens.
9. Weibo is discriminating against this sexual minority.
10. Responded to the outcry by reversing its decision.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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