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Level 4 – 21st June, 2018

Ex-US soccer player criticized for supporting Mexico

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180621-russia-world-cup-4.html>

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Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180621-russia-world-cup-4.html>

An ex-U.S. soccer player is supporting Mexico at the Russia World Cup. Landon Donovan, 35, played for the USA national team 157 times. People say he is the best American player ever. His calls for Americans to back Mexico have angered people. Ex-teammates criticized him for being paid to wear a Mexico soccer jersey. He tweeted a photograph of himself that read: "My other team is Mexico....So join me...to cheer on our other team - Mexico."

Donovan explained why he is cheering for Mexico. He grew up in California. He speaks fluent Spanish. He said his heart "bleeds red, white and blue" and that no one should question his love for Team USA. As a child, he loved the passion of his Mexican teammates and has a strong connection to and respect for Mexico. One U.S. player said Donovan was only doing this for money. A Mexican fan said Mexico fans love to hate two men - Donald Trump and Donovan.

Sources: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/soccer/2018/06/18/landon-donovan-mexico-world-cup/710759002/>
<http://tv5.espn.com/football/united-states/story/3531891/landon-donovan-clarifies-supporting-mexico-in-world-cup-ad-campaign>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-44528016>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180621-russia-world-cup-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. played for the USA national team | a. is Mexico |
| 2. he is the best American | b. to back Mexico |
| 3. His calls for Americans | c. player ever |
| 4. Ex-teammates criticized | d. other team |
| 5. paid to wear a Mexico | e. him |
| 6. He tweeted a photograph | f. soccer jersey |
| 7. My other team | g. 157 times |
| 8. cheer on our | h. of himself |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. He grew | a. Mexican teammates |
| 2. He speaks fluent | b. for money |
| 3. his heart | c. up in California |
| 4. no one should question | d. hate two men |
| 5. the passion of his | e. bleeds |
| 6. a strong | f. his love |
| 7. only doing this | g. Spanish |
| 8. fans love to | h. connection |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180621-russia-world-cup-4.html>

An ex-U.S. soccer (1) _____ Mexico at the Russia World Cup. Landon Donovan, 35, (2) _____ USA national team 157 times. People (3) _____ the best American player ever. His calls for Americans to back Mexico (4) _____. Ex-teammates criticized him for being (5) _____ a Mexico soccer jersey. He tweeted a photograph of himself that read: "My other team is Mexico....So (6) _____ cheer on our other team - Mexico."

Donovan explained why (7) _____ for Mexico. He grew up in California. He speaks fluent Spanish. He said his (8) _____, white and blue" and that no (9) _____ his love for Team USA. As a child, he loved (10) _____ his Mexican teammates and has a strong connection (11) _____ for Mexico. One U.S. player said Donovan was only doing this for money. A Mexican fan said Mexico fans (12) _____ two men - Donald Trump and Donovan.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180621-russia-world-cup-4.html>

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RUSSIA WORLD CUP SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180621-russia-world-cup-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Russia World Cup 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.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

