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Level 3 – 25th July, 2018

University ends use of Mr, Ms and Mrs

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180725-titles.html>

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

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180725-titles.html>

A university in South Africa has decided to no longer use titles such as Mr, Ms or Mrs. The University of the Witwatersrand said it will stop using these titles on any form of communication with students. It took this decision to support people who were transgender or gender non-conforming. A statement from officials read: "The university realizes that it is invalidating and distressing for a person who, for example, was...female at birth but identifies as male to be constantly addressed by a non-affirming title." It added that people who were transgender or non-binary are choosing the gender-neutral title "Mx," which is legally recognized in many countries across the world.

The decision has been widely welcomed by the university community. The university said it, "opposes all public and private discrimination on the basis of gender identity and gender expression". A university official said: "We want people in our university community to feel safe, supported and ultimately respected. As a transgender person myself, it means a lot being in a space which is welcoming." A law professor said the action was, "the most wonderful moment for true equality across a multitude of spectrums". She added: "It's a triumph for an understanding of the diversity of gender identity, sexual orientation and the right to be respected for whomever you are."

Sources: <https://www.timeslive.co.za/news/south-africa/2018-07-19-wits-drops-mr-ms-and-mrs-titles/>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/live/world-africa-44922404>
<http://ewn.co.za/2018/07/23/equality-commission-hails-wits-decision-to-remove-gender-prefixes>

WARM-UPS

1. TITLES: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about titles. 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?

university / titles / communication / decision / gender / transgender / female / Mx / welcomed / community / discrimination / safe / space / professor / diversity / respect

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

3. NO TITLES: Students A **strongly** believe people don't need titles; Students B **strongly** believe they do. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. DISCRIMINATION: How does discrimination affect people? How can we reduce it? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

| | How it affects people | How we can reduce it |
|----------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Gender | | |
| Sex | | |
| Race | | |
| Religion | | |
| Income | | |
| Age | | |

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

6. USING TITLES: Rank these with your partner. Put the most important times to use titles at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- job applications
- e-mails
- speeches
- degree certificates
- introducing friends
- talking to customers
- at meetings
- meeting royals

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 1. title | a. Something people make up their mind to do after thinking about it. |
| 2. form | b. A word such as Mrs. or Dr. that is used before someone's name to show their job or if they are married. |
| 3. communication | c. The giving or sharing of information, ideas or news. |
| 4. decision | d. Non-stop over a period of time; always. |
| 5. transgender | e. Acknowledge the existence of someone. |
| 6. constantly | f. A kind or type of something. |
| 7. recognized | g. Someone whose own idea of whether they are male or female is different from their sex at birth. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 8. widely | h. A group of people living in the same place or having a particular thing in common. |
| 9. opposes | i. The state of their being many different kinds of things or people. |
| 10. discrimination | j. The state of being the same as everyone else, especially in status, rights, and opportunities. |
| 11. community | k. The unfair treatment of different kinds of people or things, especially because of race, age, or sex. |
| 12. respected | l. A feeling of really liking someone or something because of their abilities, qualities, or achievements. |
| 13. equality | m. To a large degree or extent. |
| 14. diversity | n. Is against an idea, situation, person, plan, etc. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180725-titles.html>

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

- a. The article said a university will stop using the titles 'Dr' and 'professor'. **T / F**
- b. The university wants to stop using titles to support transgender people. **T / F**
- c. The university said it can be distressing for people to have to use titles. **T / F**
- d. Many transgender people are choosing to use the title 'Mx'. **T / F**
- e. The university's decision is very unpopular in the community. **T / F**
- f. The university said it wants people to feel safe. **T / F**
- g. A law professor said the university's action did little for equality. **T / F**
- h. The professor said taking away titles was disrespectful. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| 1. such as | a. variety |
| 2. form | b. help |
| 3. support | c. prejudice |
| 4. distressing | d. approved of |
| 5. choosing | e. kind |
| 6. welcomed | f. victory |
| 7. discrimination | g. opting for |
| 8. ultimately | h. like |
| 9. triumph | i. basically |
| 10. diversity | j. upsetting |

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

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. no longer use titles such | a. of gender identity |
| 2. stop using these titles on any | b. were transgender |
| 3. support people who | c. university community |
| 4. female at | d. equality |
| 5. legally recognized | e. as Mr, Ms or Mrs |
| 6. widely welcomed by the | f. respected |
| 7. discrimination on the basis | g. birth |
| 8. feel safe, supported and ultimately | h. in many countries |
| 9. the most wonderful moment for true | i. you are |
| 10. whomever | j. form of communication |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180725-titles.html>

A university in South Africa has decided to no (1) _____ use titles such as Mr, Ms or Mrs. The University of the Witwatersrand said it will stop using these titles on any (2) _____ of communication with students. It took this (3) _____ to support people who were transgender or gender non-conforming. A statement from officials read: "The university (4) _____ that it is invalidating and distressing for a person who, for example, was...female at (5) _____ but identifies as male to be constantly (6) _____ by a non-affirming title." It added that people who were (7) _____ or non-binary are choosing the gender-neutral title "Mx," which is (8) _____ recognized in many countries across the world.

decision
longer
transgender
birth
legally
form
addressed
realizes

The decision has been widely welcomed by the university community. The university said it, "(9) _____ all public and private discrimination on the basis of gender identity and gender (10) _____ ". A university official said: "We want people in our university community to feel (11) _____ , supported and ultimately respected. As a transgender person myself, it means a lot being in a (12) _____ which is welcoming." A law professor said the action was, "the most wonderful moment for true (13) _____ across a multitude of spectrums". She added: "It's a (14) _____ for an understanding of the (15) _____ of gender identity, sexual orientation and the right to be respected for (16) _____ you are."

triumph
expression
equality
whomever
safe
diversity
opposes
space

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180725-titles.html>

- 1) A university in South Africa has decided to no longer use _____ Mr
 - a. titles such was
 - b. titles such has
 - c. titles such that's
 - d. titles such as
- 2) Witwatersrand said it will stop using these titles on _____ communication
 - a. any farm of
 - b. any firm of
 - c. any frame of
 - d. any form of
- 3) It took this decision to support people who were transgender _____-conforming
 - a. or gender not
 - b. or gender non
 - c. or gender now
 - d. or gender noon
- 4) It added that people who were transgender _____
 - a. or non-by nary
 - b. or non-buy nary
 - c. or non-bine nary
 - d. or non-binary
- 5) gender-neutral title "Mx," which is legally recognized in many countries _____
 - a. across the worldly
 - b. across the worlds
 - c. across the worldwide
 - d. across the world
- 6) The university said it opposes all public and _____
 - a. private discrimination
 - b. private discriminatory
 - c. private discriminated
 - d. private discriminate
- 7) We want people in our university community _____
 - a. to feeling safe
 - b. to feel safe
 - c. to feel safely
 - d. to feeling safely
- 8) As a transgender person myself, it means a lot being in a _____ welcoming
 - a. space why is
 - b. space which is
 - c. space which this
 - d. space which his
- 9) the most wonderful moment for true equality across _____ spectrums
 - a. a multi tube of
 - b. a multi-tune of
 - c. a multi-chew of
 - d. a multitude of
- 10) ...identity, sexual orientation and the right to be respected _____ are
 - a. for whom never you
 - b. for whom even you
 - c. for whomever you
 - d. for who never you

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180725-titles.html>

A university in South Africa has decided to (1) _____ titles such as Mr, Ms or Mrs. The University of the Witwatersrand said it will stop using these titles (2) _____ of communication with students. It took this decision to support people who were transgender or gender non-conforming. A statement (3) _____: "The university realizes that it is invalidating and distressing for a person who, for example, was... (4) _____ but identifies as male to be constantly (5) _____ non-affirming title." It added that people who were transgender or non-binary are choosing the gender-neutral title "Mx," (6) _____ recognized in many countries across the world.

The decision (7) _____ welcomed by the university community. The university said it, "opposes all public and private discrimination (8) _____ of gender identity and gender expression". A university official said: "We want people in our university community (9) _____, supported and ultimately respected. As a transgender person myself, it means a lot (10) _____ space which is welcoming." A law professor said the action was, "the most wonderful moment (11) _____ across a multitude of spectrums". She added: "It's a triumph for an understanding of the diversity of gender identity, sexual orientation and the (12) _____ respected for whomever you are."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180725-titles.html>

1. Where is the university that will stop using titles?
2. What will the university stop using these titles on?
3. Who does the university want to support?
4. What did the university say titles might be, besides invalidating?
5. What title are many transgender people choosing to use?
6. Who has widely welcomed the decision not to use titles?
7. What does the university oppose?
8. Who said they wanted people at the university to feel safe?
9. Who said the decision was "true equality"?
10. What right did a professor talk about in the last sentence of the article?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180725-titles.html>

- 1) Where is the university that will stop using titles?
 - a) Brazil
 - b) South Africa
 - c) England
 - d) New York
- 2) What will the university stop using these titles on?
 - a) letters
 - b) the Internet
 - c) forums
 - d) all forms of communication
- 3) Who does the university want to support?
 - a) transgender people
 - b) all students
 - c) professors
 - d) people with titles
- 4) What did the university say titles might be, besides invalidating?
 - a) formal
 - b) safe
 - c) distressing
 - d) unnecessary
- 5) What title are many transgender people choosing to use?
 - a) Mz
 - b) Mx
 - c) My
 - d) Me
- 6) Who has widely welcomed the decision not to use titles?
 - a) the university community
 - b) students
 - c) professors
 - d) the government
- 7) What does the university oppose?
 - a) students
 - b) titles
 - c) discrimination
 - d) rights
- 8) Who said they wanted people at the university to feel safe?
 - a) a university official
 - b) students
 - c) a group of professors
 - d) the government
- 9) Who said the decision was "true equality"?
 - a) a law professor
 - b) a sociology professor
 - c) an English professor
 - d) a chemistry professor
- 10) What right did a professor talk about in the last sentence of the article?
 - a) the right and not wrong
 - b) the right to titles
 - c) the right to life
 - d) the right to be respected

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180725-titles.html>

Role A – Job Applications

You think job applications is the most important time to use titles. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their times. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): meeting royals, introducing friends or talking to customers.

Role B – Meeting Royals

You think meeting royals is the most important time to use titles. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their times. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): job applications, introducing friends or talking to customers.

Role C – Introducing Friends

You think introducing friends is the most important time to use titles. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their times. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): meeting royals, job applications or talking to customers.

Role D – Talking to Customers

You think talking to customers is the most important time to use titles. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their times. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): meeting royals, introducing friends or job applications.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180725-titles.html>

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

| | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| university | title |
|-------------------|--------------|

- 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">• such• form• support• example• addressed• world | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• widely• basis• safe• space• true• right |
|---|--|

TITLES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180725-titles.html>

Write five GOOD questions about titles 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.

TITLES 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 'title'?
3. What do you think of the titles used in your country?
4. What title do you like to be called by?
5. What do you think of titles?
6. Should titles tell people what gender someone is?
7. Why do we have titles?
8. Why do some countries have titles and others don't?
9. What do you think of the gender-neutral title "Mx"?
10. Should there be more titles to recognize all kinds of people?

University ends use of Mr, Ms and Mrs – 25th July, 2018
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TITLES 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 'university'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Do you like selecting Mr, Ms, etc. on online forms?
15. Is asking people to use one of three titles a form of discrimination?
16. What other things should change to make transgender people feel safe?
17. How much equality is there in your country?
18. How much equality do transgender people have in your country?
19. How good is the university's action?
20. What questions would you like to ask the university?

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/1807/180725-titles.html>

A university in South Africa has decided to no (1) _____ use titles such as Mr, Ms or Mrs. The University of the Witwatersrand said it will stop using (2) _____ titles on any form of communication with students. It took this decision to (3) _____ people who were transgender or gender non-conforming. A statement from officials read: "The university realizes that it is invalidating and (4) _____ for a person who, for example, was...female at birth but identifies as male to be constantly addressed by a non-affirming title." It (5) _____ that people who were transgender or non-binary are choosing the gender-neutral title "Mx," which is (6) _____ recognized in many countries across the world.

The decision has been widely welcomed by the university community. The university said it, "opposes (7) _____ public and private discrimination on the basis of gender identity and gender expression". A university (8) _____ said: "We want people in our university community to feel safe, (9) _____ and ultimately respected. As a transgender person myself, it means a lot being in a space which is welcoming." A law professor said the action was, "the (10) _____ wonderful moment for true equality across a multitude of spectrums". She added: "It's a (11) _____ for an understanding of the diversity of gender identity, sexual orientation and the right to be respected for whomever you (12) _____."

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. | (a) longer | (b) lengthier | (c) longing | (d) longs |
| 2. | (a) them | (b) they | (c) these | (d) that |
| 3. | (a) report | (b) rapport | (c) support | (d) supplant |
| 4. | (a) distressed | (b) de-stress | (c) distress | (d) distressing |
| 5. | (a) plus | (b) attached | (c) added | (d) appended |
| 6. | (a) legal | (b) legally | (c) legality | (d) legalize |
| 7. | (a) every | (b) all | (c) whole | (d) entire |
| 8. | (a) officially | (b) official | (c) officials | (d) officialdom |
| 9. | (a) supports | (b) support | (c) supported | (d) supporting |
| 10. | (a) mast | (b) many | (c) much | (d) most |
| 11. | (a) triumphant | (b) triumphs | (c) triumvirate | (d) triumph |
| 12. | (a) be | (b) is | (c) have | (d) are |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180725-titles.html>

Paragraph 1

1. decided to no rongle use titles
2. It took this icdneosi
3. proupts people who were transgender
4. idfeienist as male
5. choosing the gender-nralute title
6. elgalyl recognized

Paragraph 2

7. wlydei welcomed
8. public and ptviear discrimination
9. a university fifaciol
10. true tuaeqliy
11. It's a mputhir
12. the right to be ertepcsde

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180725-titles.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () professor said the action was, "the most wonderful moment for true equality across a multitude
- () The decision has been widely welcomed by the university community. The university said it, "opposes all
- () decision to support people who were transgender or gender non-conforming. A statement from
- () respected. As a transgender person myself, it means a lot being in a space which is welcoming." A law
- () official said: "We want people in our university community to feel safe, supported and ultimately
- (**1**) A university in South Africa has decided to no longer use titles such as Mr, Ms or Mrs. The University of the
- () which is legally recognized in many countries across the world.
- () public and private discrimination on the basis of gender identity and gender expression". A university
- () at birth but identifies as male to be constantly addressed by a non-affirming title." It added that
- () identity, sexual orientation and the right to be respected for whomever you are."
- () people who were transgender or non-binary are choosing the gender-neutral title "Mx,"
- () officials read: "The university realizes that it is invalidating and distressing for a person who, for example, was...female
- () Witwatersrand said it will stop using these titles on any form of communication with students. It took this
- () of spectrums". She added: "It's a triumph for an understanding of the diversity of gender

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180725-titles.html>

1. longer No titles use such Mr . as
2. to It this decision took support people .
3. it realizes invalidating . university The that is
4. but as birth at male . Female identifies
5. the recognized world . in countries many Legally across
6. university . The the decision been by has welcomed
7. in people university community . want our We
8. a it person, lot . a As means transgender
9. most The for equality . true moment wonderful
10. of understanding of the diversity An identity . gender

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180725-titles.html>

A university in South Africa has decided to no *length / longer* use titles such as Mr, Ms or Mrs. The University of the Witwatersrand said it will stop *used / using* these titles on any *form / from* of communication with students. It took this *decision / decisions* to support people who were transgender or gender non-conforming. A statement from *officially / officials* read: "The university realizes that it is invalidating and *de-stressing / distressing* for a person who, for example, was...female *for / at* birth but identifies as male to be constantly addressed *by / as* a non-affirming title." It added that people who were transgender or non-binary are choosing the *gander / gender-neutral* title "Mx," which is legally recognized in many countries *across / cross* the world.

The decision has been *widely / width* welcomed by the university community. The university said it, "opposes *tall / all* public and private discrimination on the *basis / oasis* of gender identity and gender expression". A *universal / university* official said: "We want people in our university community to feel safe, *support / supported* and ultimately respected. As a transgender *person / people* myself, it means a lot being in a space which is *welcomed / welcoming*." A law professor said the action was, "the most wonderful *moment / memento* for true equality across a multitude of spectrums". She added: "It's a *triumph / triumphant* for an understanding of the diversity of gender identity, sexual orientation and the right to be *respective / respected* for whomever you are."

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/1807/180725-titles.html>

A _n_v_r_s_t_y _n S__ t_h A_f_r_c_ h_s d_c_d_d t_ n_ l_n_g_r _s_ t_t_l_s s_ch _s M_r, M_s _r M_r_s. T_h_ U_n_v_r_s_t_y _f_ t_h_ W_t_w_t_r_s_r_n_d s__ d _t w_l_l s_t_p _s_n_g t_h_s_ t_t_l_s _n _n_y _f_r_m _f c_m_m_n_c_t__ n w_t_h s_t_d_n_t_s. I_t t__ k t_h_s d_c_s__ n t_ s_p_p_r_t p__ p_l_ w_h_ w_r_ t_r_n_s_g_n d_r _r g_n_d_r _n_n - c_n_f_r_m_n_g. A s_t_t_m_n_t _f r_m _f_f_c__ l_s r__ d: "T_h_ _n_v_r_s_t_y r__ l_z_s t_h_t _t _s _n_v_l_d_t_n_g _n_d d_s_t_r_s_s_n_g _f_r _ p_r_s_n w_h_, _f_r _x_m_p_l_, w_s..._f_m_l_ _t b_r_t h b_t _d_n_t_f__ s _s m_l_ t_ b_ c_n_s_t_n_t_l_y _d_d r_s_s_d b_y _n_n - _f_f_r_m_n_g t_t_l_." I_t _d_d_d t h_t p__ p_l_ w_h_ w_r_ t_r_n_s_g_n_d_r _r _n_n - b_n_r y _r_ c_h__ s_n_g t_h_ g_n_d_r - n__ t_r_l t_t_l_ "M_x, " w_h_c_h _s l_g_l_l_y r_c_g_n_z_d _n m_n_y c__ n_t r__ s _c_r_s_s t_h_ w_r_l_d.

T_h_ d_c_s__ n h_s b__ n w_d_l_y w_l_c_m_d b_y t h_ _n_v_r_s_t_y c_m_m_n_t_y. T_h_ _n_v_r_s_t_y s__ d _t, "_p_p_s_s _l_l p_b_l_c _n_d p_r_v_t_ d_s_c r_m_n_t__ n _n t_h_ b_s_s _f g_n_d_r _d_n_t_t_y _n_d g_n_d_r _x_p_r_s_s__ n". A _n_v_r_s_t_y _f_f_c__ l_s__ d: "W_ w_n_t p__ p_l_ _n __ r _n_v_r_s_t_y c_m m_n_t_y t_ f__ l_s_f_, s_p_p_r_t_d _n_d _l_t_m_t_l_y r_s_p_c_t_d. A_s _t_r_n_s_g_n_d_r p_r_s_n m_y_s_l_f, _t m__ n_s _l_t b__ n_g _n _s_p_c_ w_h_c_h _s w_l_c_m_n_g." A l_w p_r_f_s_s_r s__ d t_h_ c_t__ n w_s, "t_h_ m_s_t w_n_d_r_f_l m_m_n_t _f_r t_r__ _q__ l_t_y _c_r_s_s _m_l_t_t_d_ _f s_p_c_t_r_m_s". S h_ _d_d_d: "I_t's _t_r__ m_p_h _f_r _n _n_d_r_s_t_n d_n_g _f t_h_ d_v_r_s_t_y _f g_n_d_r _d_n_t_t_y, s_x__ l _r__ n_t_t__ n _n_d t_h_ r_g_h_t t_ b_ r_s_p_c t_d _f_r w_h_m_v_r y__ _r_."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180725-titles.html>

a university in south africa has decided to no longer use titles such as mr ms or mrs the university of the witwatersrand said it will stop using these titles on any form of communication with students it took this decision to support people who were transgender or gender nonconforming a statement from officials read the university realizes that it is invalidating and distressing for a person who for example wasfemale at birth but identifies as male to be constantly addressed by a nonaffirming title it added that people who were transgender or nonbinary are choosing the gender neutral title mx which is legally recognized in many countries across the world

the decision has been widely welcomed by the university community the university said it opposes all public and private discrimination on the basis of gender identity and gender expression a university official said we want people in our university community to feel safe supported and ultimately respected as a transgender person myself it means a lot being in a space which is welcoming a law professor said the action was the most wonderful moment for true equality across a multitude of spectrums she added its a triumph for an understanding of the diversity of gender identity sexual orientation and the right to be respected for whomever you are

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1807/180725-titles.html>

A university in South Africa has decided to no longer use titles such as Mr, Ms or Mrs. The University of the Witwatersrand said it will stop using these titles on any form of communication with students. It took this decision to support people who were transgender or gender non-conforming. A statement from officials read: "The university realizes that it is invalidating and distressing for a person who, for example, was... female at birth but identifies as a male to be constantly addressed by a non-affirming title." It added that people who were transgender or non-binary are choosing the gender-neutral title "Mx," which is legally recognized in many countries across the world. The decision has been widely welcomed by the university community. The university said it, "opposes all public and private discrimination on the basis of gender identity and gender expression". A university official said: "We want people in our university community to feel safe, supported and ultimately respected. As a transgender person myself, it means a lot to be in a space which is welcoming." A law professor said the action was, "the most wonderful moment for true equality across a multitude of spectrums". She added: "It's a triumph for an understanding of the diversity of gender identity, sexual orientation and the right to be respected for who we are."

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. TITLES: Make a poster about titles. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. NO TITLES: Write a magazine article about getting rid of all titles. 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 titles. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your opinions on titles. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| 1. such as | a. like |
| 2. form | b. kind |
| 3. support | c. help |
| 4. distressing | d. upsetting |
| 5. choosing | e. opting for |
| 6. welcomed | f. approved of |
| 7. discrimination | g. prejudice |
| 8. ultimately | h. basically |
| 9. triumph | i. victory |
| 10. diversity | j. variety |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. South Africa
2. All forms of communication
3. Transgender or gender non-conforming people
4. Distressing
5. Mx
6. The university community
7. Discrimination
8. A university official
9. A law professor
10. The right to be respected

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

1. No longer use titles such as Mr.
2. It took this decision to support people.
3. The university realizes that it is invalidating.
4. Female at birth but identifies as male.
5. Legally recognized in many countries across the world.
6. The decision has been welcomed by the university.
7. We want people in our university community.
8. As a transgender person, it means a lot.
9. The most wonderful moment for true equality.
10. An understanding of the diversity of gender identity.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. b 2. d 3. a 4. c 5. b 6. a 7. c 8. a 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 ;-)