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Level 2 – 12th June, 2020

Statue of Belgian King taken down after protests

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200612-king-leopold-ii-statue-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200612-king-leopold-ii-statue-2.html>

Anti-racism protestors in Antwerp, Belgium covered a statue of former King Leopold II in paint. The city then pulled the statue down. The king ruled from 1865 to 1909. He ruled the Congo Free State in Africa for 23 years. Hundreds of protestors cheered as workers took the statue off its stand. City officials will probably put the statue in a city museum. One official said: "The square where the statue stood will be redesigned in 2023. There will be no room for it there afterwards. It will remain part of the museum's collection."

Over 64,000 people signed an online petition on Tuesday. They want more people to know about what happened in the Congo. The petition said: "In the space of 23 years, this man killed more than 10 million Congolese without ever having set foot in the Congo." A newspaper said these deaths led to the first use of the term, "crime against humanity". Leopold made a huge personal fortune from the rubber plantations he owned. Over 8,000 people signed a different petition. They believe he was not a "slave king". They say the people who ran the Congo caused the millions of deaths.

Sources: <https://www.dw.com/en/belgium-king-leopold-ii-statue-removed-in-antwerp-after-anti-racism-protests/a-53755021>
<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/06/leopold-ii-belgium-antwerp-remove-statue-200609133037080.html>
<https://www.okayafrika.com/black-lives-matter-protests-belgian-statue-removed-from-square/>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leopold_II_of_Belgium

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200612-king-leopold-ii-statue-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. a statue of former | a. the statue stood |
| 2. The city then pulled | b. off its stand |
| 3. Hundreds of protestors | c. museum's collection |
| 4. workers took the statue | d. King Leopold II |
| 5. put the statue | e. no room for it |
| 6. The square where | f. cheered |
| 7. There will be | g. in a city museum |
| 8. It will remain part of the | h. the statue down |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. 64,000 people signed an | a. personal fortune |
| 2. without ever having set foot | b. not a "slave king" |
| 3. crime | c. in the Congo |
| 4. Leopold made a huge | d. millions of deaths |
| 5. rubber | e. different petition |
| 6. Over 8,000 people signed a | f. against humanity |
| 7. They believe he was | g. online petition |
| 8. people who ran the Congo caused the | h. plantations |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200612-king-leopold-ii-statue-2.html>

Anti-racism protestors in Antwerp, Belgium
(1) _____ of former King Leopold II in paint. The city then (2) _____ down. The king ruled from 1865 to 1909. He ruled the Congo Free State in Africa for 23 years. Hundreds of protestors (3) _____ took the statue off its stand. City (4) _____ put the statue in a city museum. One official said: "The square where the (5) _____ be redesigned in 2023. There will be no room for it there afterwards. It will (6) _____ the museum's collection."

Over 64,000 people signed (7) _____ on Tuesday. They want more people to (8) _____ happened in the Congo. The petition said: "In the space of 23 years, this man killed more than 10 million Congolese without ever (9) _____ in the Congo." A newspaper said these deaths led to the first use of the term, "(10) _____". Leopold made a huge (11) _____ the rubber plantations he owned. Over 8,000 people signed a different petition. They believe he was not (12) _____. They say the people who ran the Congo caused the millions of deaths.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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STATUES SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2006/200612-king-leopold-ii-statue-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about statues 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) _____

