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**Level 4 – 5th July, 2021**

## **Swimmers angry over afro Soul Cap Olympics ban**

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210705-soul-cap-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/2107/210705-soul-cap-4.html>

The Black Swimming Association is angry because FINA, swimming's regulatory body, rejected a swim cap for the Tokyo Olympics. The "Soul Cap" allows people with afros, dreadlocks, hair extensions, and thick and curly hair to swim comfortably. FINA said it would not allow the Soul Cap because a cap "of such size" has never been used before. FINA also stated it would not permit the cap because "it didn't fit the natural form of the head".

The BSA warned the decision was a step backwards and would drive away swimmers from diverse backgrounds. A spokeswoman said: "This will affect younger and up-and-coming swimmers who might want to take up elite swimming." She added: "At the highest level, we're hearing that, 'we want the sport to be inclusive;...we want to have people of colour in the sport'....[but] by and large, hair is a significant barrier, especially for women."

Sources: <https://www.skysports.com/more-sports/swimming/news/29876/12346581/black-swimming-association-chair-says-fina-decision-to-reject-caps-for-natural-hair-not-what-inclusion-is-about>  
<https://www.insider.com/natural-hair-swim-caps-not-allowed-olympics-2021-6>  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/newsbeat-57688380>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210705-soul-cap-4.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                 |                       |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. swimming's regulatory        | a. curly hair         |
| 2. rejected a swim cap for      | b. used before        |
| 3. people with                  | c. the Soul Cap       |
| 4. thick and                    | d. fit                |
| 5. FINA said it would not allow | e. afros              |
| 6. never been                   | f. of the head        |
| 7. it didn't                    | g. body               |
| 8. the natural form             | h. the Tokyo Olympics |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                              |                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. the decision was a step   | a. colour in the sport |
| 2. up-and-                   | b. up elite swimming   |
| 3. take                      | c. for women           |
| 4. At the highest            | d. backwards           |
| 5. we want the sport to      | e. barrier             |
| 6. we want to have people of | f. coming swimmers     |
| 7. hair is a significant     | g. be inclusive        |
| 8. especially                | h. level               |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210705-soul-cap-4.html>

The Black Swimming Association (1) \_\_\_\_\_ FINA, swimming's regulatory body, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ cap for the Tokyo Olympics. The "Soul Cap" allows (3) \_\_\_\_\_, dreadlocks, hair extensions, and (4) \_\_\_\_\_ hair to swim comfortably. FINA said it would not allow the Soul Cap because a cap "(5) \_\_\_\_\_" has never been used before. FINA also stated it would not permit the cap because "it didn't (6) \_\_\_\_\_ form of the head".

The BSA warned the decision was (7) \_\_\_\_\_ and would drive away swimmers (8) \_\_\_\_\_. A spokeswoman said: "This will affect younger and (9) \_\_\_\_\_ swimmers who might want to (10) \_\_\_\_\_ swimming." She added: "At the highest level, we're hearing that, 'we want the sport (11) \_\_\_\_\_;...we want to have people of colour in the sport'....[but] by and large, hair is (12) \_\_\_\_\_, especially for women."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210705-soul-cap-4.html>

TheBlackSwimmingAssociationisangrybecauseFINA,swimming'sregulatorybody,rejectedaswimcapfortheTokyoOlympics.The"SoulCap"allowspeoplewithafros,dreadlocks,hairextensions,andthickandcurlyhairtoswimcomfortably.FINAsaiditwouldnotallowtheSoulCapbecause"itdidn'tfitthenaturalformofthehead".FINAalsostateditwouldnotpermitthecapbecause"itdidn'tfitthenaturalformofthehead".TheBSAwarnedthedecisionwasastepbackwardsandwoulddriveawayswimmersfromdiversebackgrounds.Aspokeswomansaid:"Thiswillaffectyoungerandup-and-comingswimmerswhomightwanttotakeupeliteswimming."Sheadded:"Atthehighestlevel,we'rehearingthat,'wewantthesporttobeinclusive;...wewanttohavepeopleofcolourinthesport'....[but]byandlarge,hairisasignificantbarrier,especiallyformen."

# SWIMMING SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2107/210705-soul-cap-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about swimming 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) \_\_\_\_\_

