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Level 6 – 7th March, 2022

UK government gives twice-fired politician top honour

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2203/220307-uk-knighthood.html>

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

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2203/220307-uk-knighthood.html>

The U.K. government has awarded one of its highest honours to a former minister who was fired twice by successive Prime Ministers. Gavin Williamson, 45, will receive a knighthood for services to public life. He will become "Sir" Gavin Williamson. The award has angered many politicians in Britain due to Mr Williamson's somewhat checkered career. He was fired as Defence Secretary by then Prime Minister Theresa May in 2019 over a national security leak over discussions about the UK's national security and Chinese telecoms company Huawei. Ms May said she had, "lost confidence in his ability to serve". Current PM Boris Johnson fired him from being Education Secretary in September 2021 following a series of gaffes.

Knighthoods are awarded to Britons who have excelled in their field or in areas of public life. Recipients have usually spent decades as incredible leaders or winners. Williamson only became a politician in 2010. Other politicians have said he is undeserving of the honour. One said the only award he should get was "worst Education Secretary in history". Another said his record in government was "disgraceful". She said: "Williamson left children to go hungry, created two years of complete chaos over exams, and failed to get laptops out to kids struggling to learn during lockdowns." Some newspapers said the award is in return for Williamson keeping quiet about allegations surrounding Boris Johnson.

Sources: <https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/politics/breaking-tory-ex-education-secretary-26379946>
<https://news.sky.com/story/ex-education-secretary-gavin-williamson-given-a-knighthood-12556701>
<https://www.reuters.com/world/uk/uk-awards-knighthood-minister-who-was-fired-over-security-leak-2022-03-03/>

WARM-UPS

1. HONOURS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about honours. 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?

government / honour / service / public life / politicians / defence / discussions / gaffes
excelled / field / decade / politician / record / disgraceful / learn / lockdowns / quit

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

3. HONOURS: Students A **strongly** believe all honours should be decided on by the general public; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. HONOUR: Who would you honour? Why? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Who?	Why?
World leader		
Hero		
Sports star		
Business leader		
Environmentalist		
Ordinary person		

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

6. MOST DESERVING: Rank these with your partner. Put the person most deserving of an honour at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Politician
- Soldier
- Scientist
- Nurse
- Environmentalist
- Aid volunteer
- Mother
- Teacher

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 1. fired | a. An unintentional act or remark causing embarrassment to its originator. |
| 2. former | b. Following one another or following others. |
| 3. successive | c. Marked by periods of varied fortune or discreditable incidents. |
| 4. knighthood | d. Dismissed an employee from a job. |
| 5. checkered | e. An intentional disclosure of secret information. |
| 6. leak | f. Having previously been a particular thing. |
| 7. gaffe | g. The title, rank, or status of a knight. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 8. excelled | h. Shockingly unacceptable. |
| 9. recipient | i. Complete disorder and confusion. |
| 10. undeserving | j. A claim or assertion that someone has done something illegal or wrong, typically one made without proof. |
| 11. disgraceful | k. A person or thing that receives or is awarded something. |
| 12. chaos | l. Trying to achieve or attain something in the face of difficulty or resistance. |
| 13. struggling | m. Not worthy of something positive, especially help or praise. |
| 14. allegation | n. Was exceptionally good at or proficient in an activity or subject. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2203/220307-uk-knighthood.html>

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

1. A U.K. politician received Britain's highest award. **T / F**
2. The politician received the award for his service to private life. **T / F**
3. The politician was first fired when he was the UK Defence Secretary. **T / F**
4. The politician was also fired from his position as Education Secretary. **T / F**
5. The UK gives knighthoods to people from all across the world. **T / F**
6. Gavin Williamson became a politician in the year 2000. **T / F**
7. Another politician said Mr Williamson's record was a disgrace. **T / F**
8. A politician said Mr Williamson gave a laptop to every struggling child. **T / F**

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

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------|
| 1. awarded | a. shone |
| 2. fired | b. infuriated |
| 3. angered | c. battling |
| 4. leak | d. shameful |
| 5. gaffes | e. sacked |
| 6. excelled | f. claims |
| 7. disgraceful | g. revelation |
| 8. chaos | h. given |
| 9. struggling | i. mayhem |
| 10. allegations | j. errors |

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

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. awarded one of its | a. about allegations |
| 2. The award has | b. in his ability to serve |
| 3. a national security | c. in areas of public life |
| 4. she had lost confidence | d. "disgraceful" |
| 5. following a series of | e. leak |
| 6. excelled in their field or | f. angered many politicians |
| 7. his record in government was | g. during lockdowns |
| 8. two years of complete | h. gaffes |
| 9. kids struggling to learn | i. highest honours |
| 10. keeping quiet | j. chaos |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2203/220307-uk-knighthood.html>

The U.K. government has awarded one of its highest honours to a (1) _____ minister who was fired twice by (2) _____ Prime Ministers. Gavin Williamson, 45, will (3) _____ a knighthood for services to public life. He will become "Sir" Gavin Williamson. The award has (4) _____ many politicians in Britain due to Mr Williamson's somewhat (5) _____ career. He was fired as Defence Secretary by then Prime Minister Theresa May in 2019 over a national security (6) _____ over discussions about the UK's national security and Chinese telecoms company Huawei. Ms May said she had, "(7) _____ confidence in his ability to serve". Current PM Boris Johnson fired him from being Education Secretary in September 2021 following a series of (8) _____.

leak
receive
gaffes
former
angered
lost
checkered
successive

Knighthoods are awarded to Britons who have (9) _____ in their field or in areas of public life. Recipients have usually spent (10) _____ as incredible leaders or winners. Williamson only became a politician in 2010. Other politicians have said he is (11) _____ of the honour. One said the only award he should get was "worst Education Secretary in (12) _____". Another said his record in government was "(13) _____". She said: "Williamson left children to go hungry, created two years of complete (14) _____ over exams, and failed to get laptops out to kids (15) _____ to learn during lockdowns." Some newspapers said the award is in return for Williamson keeping quiet about (16) _____ surrounding Boris Johnson.

undeserving
struggling
chaos
excelled
history
decades
allegations
disgraceful

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2203/220307-uk-knighthood.html>

- 1) highest honours to a former minister who was fired twice by _____
 - a. successively Prime Ministers
 - b. succeeding Prime Ministers
 - c. success sieve Prime Ministers
 - d. successive Prime Ministers
- 2) angered many politicians in Britain due to Mr Willamsons' _____
 - a. somewhat checked career
 - b. somewhat check aired career
 - c. somewhat checkered career
 - d. somewhat checker the career
- 3) Secretary by then Prime Minister Theresa May in 2019 over a _____
 - a. national security leak
 - b. national security bleak
 - c. national security leek
 - d. national security lick
- 4) Ms May said she had, "lost confidence in his _____"
 - a. ability for serve
 - b. ability to serve
 - c. ability at serve
 - d. ability to save
- 5) Education Secretary in September 2021 following a _____
 - a. series of giraffes
 - b. series of gaps
 - c. series of gaffes
 - d. series of gaffe
- 6) Knighthoods are awarded to Britons who have excelled in their field or in areas _____
 - a. of public live
 - b. of public lifer
 - c. of public lively
 - d. of public life
- 7) Recipients have usually spent decades as incredible _____
 - a. leaders sore winners
 - b. leader sore winners
 - c. leaders awe winners
 - d. leaders or winners
- 8) Another said his record in _____"
 - a. government was "disgrace full
 - b. government was "this grease full
 - c. government was "disgraceful
 - d. government was this "graceful
- 9) She said: "Williamson left children to go hungry, created two years _____
 - a. of completed chaos
 - b. of complete chaotic
 - c. of complete chasm
 - d. of complete chaos
- 10) in return for Williamson keeping quiet about allegations _____
 - a. surround din Boris Johnson
 - b. surrounding Boris Johnson
 - c. surround in Boris Johnson
 - d. surround ding Boris Johnson

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2203/220307-uk-knighthood.html>

The U.K. government has awarded one of its highest honours to a former minister who was fired (1) _____ Prime Ministers. Gavin Williamson, 45, will receive (2) _____ services to public life. He will become "Sir" Gavin Williamson. The award has angered many politicians in Britain due to Mr Willamsons' (3) _____. He was fired as Defence Secretary by then Prime Minister Theresa May in 2019 over a national (4) _____ discussions about the UK's national security and Chinese telecoms company Huawei. Ms May said she had, "lost confidence in his (5) _____". Current PM Boris Johnson fired him from being Education Secretary in September 2021 following a (6) _____.

Knighthoods are awarded to Britons who (7) _____ their field or in areas of public life. Recipients have usually spent decades as (8) _____ winners. Williamson only became a politician in 2010. Other politicians have said he is undeserving of the honour. One said the (9) _____ should get was "worst Education Secretary in history". Another said his record in government was "disgraceful". She said: "Williamson left children to go hungry, created two years (10) _____ over exams, and failed to get laptops out to kids (11) _____ during lockdowns." Some newspapers said the award is in return for Williamson keeping (12) _____ surrounding Boris Johnson.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2203/220307-uk-knighthood.html>

1. How old is Gavin Williamson?
2. What is the title Mr Williamson will be able to use?
3. What kind of career does the article say Mr Williamson had?
4. What was Mr Williamson fired over in 2019?
5. What was Mr Williamson's role when he was fired for the second time?
6. How long do recipients of a knighthood usually spend excelling?
7. When did Mr Williamson become a politician?
8. How did a politician describe Mr Williamson's record as being?
9. What did a politician say Mr Williamson created in education?
10. Who said Mr Williamson was keeping quiet?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2203/220307-uk-knighthood.html>

- 1) How old is Gavin Williamson?
 - a) 42
 - b) 44
 - c) 45
 - d) 54
- 2) What is the title Mr Williamson will be able to use?
 - a) Sir
 - b) Dame
 - c) Lord
 - d) His Royal Highness
- 3) What kind of career does the article say Mr Williamson had?
 - a) a checkered career
 - b) a stellar career
 - c) an interesting career
 - d) a superlative career
- 4) What was Mr Williamson fired over in 2019?
 - a) falling asleep
 - b) a security leak
 - c) impropriety
 - d) breaking lockdown rules
- 5) What was Mr Williamson's role when he was fired for the second time?
 - a) Transport Minister
 - b) Sports Minister
 - c) Chief Whip
 - d) Education Minister
- 6) How long do recipients of a knighthood usually spend excelling?
 - a) 22 years
 - b) decades
 - c) more than a year
 - d) over 30 years
- 7) When did Mr Williamson become a politician?
 - a) 2010
 - b) 2012
 - c) 2011
 - d) 2014
- 8) How did a politician describe Mr Williamson's record as being?
 - a) unblemished
 - b) not bad
 - c) disgraceful
 - d) enviable
- 9) What did a politician say Mr Williamson created in education?
 - a) stunning results
 - b) major reforms
 - c) nothing
 - d) two years of chaos
- 10) Who said Mr Williamson was keeping quiet?
 - a) some newspapers
 - b) his friends
 - c) his colleagues
 - d) Mr Williamson himself

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2203/220307-uk-knighthood.html>

Role A – Politician

You think a politician is most deserving of an honour. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their people are not as deserving. Also, tell the others which is the least deserving of these (and why): environmentalist, teacher or soldier.

Role B – Environmentalist

You think an environmentalist is most deserving of an honour. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their people are not as deserving. Also, tell the others which is the least deserving of these (and why): politician, teacher or soldier.

Role C – Teacher

You think a teacher is most deserving of an honour. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their people are not as deserving. Also, tell the others which is the least deserving of these (and why): environmentalist, politician or soldier.

Role D – Soldier

You think a soldier is most deserving of an honour. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their people are not as deserving. Also, tell the others which is the least deserving of these (and why): environmentalist, teacher or politician.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2203/220307-uk-knighthood.html>

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

honour	politician
---------------	-------------------

- 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">• highest• twice• due• leak• lost• series	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• excelled• decades• 2010• worst• laptops• return
--	--

HONOURS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2203/220307-uk-knighthood.html>

Write five GOOD questions about honours 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.

HONOURS 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 'politician'?
3. What do you think of politicians?
4. What do you think of your politician?
5. Would you be a good politician?
6. Who should get top honours?
7. What do you know about Britain's knighthoods?
8. Should someone with a 'checkered career' get a top honour?
9. Have you ever made any gaffes?
10. What gaffes have politicians in your country made?

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HONOURS 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 'honour'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What would you do if you were a politician?
15. What should we honour people for?
16. Who would you give an honour to?
17. What should you be honoured for?
18. Have you ever excelled in anything?
19. Should the general public decide who gets national honours?
20. What questions would you like to ask Britain's leader?

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/2203/220307-uk-knighthood.html>

The U.K. government has (1) _____ one of its highest honours to a former minister who was fired twice by (2) _____ Prime Ministers. Gavin Williamson, 45, will receive a knighthood for services to public life. He will become "Sir" Gavin Williamson. The award has (3) _____ many politicians in Britain due to Mr Williamson's somewhat checkered career. He was fired as Defence Secretary by (4) _____ Prime Minister Theresa May in 2019 over a national security leak over discussions about the UK's national security and Chinese telecoms company Huawei. Ms May said she had, "(5) _____ confidence in his ability to serve". Current PM Boris Johnson fired him from being Education Secretary in September 2021 following a series (6) _____ gaffes.

Knighthoods are awarded to Britons who have excelled (7) _____ their field or in areas of public life. Recipients have usually spent decades (8) _____ incredible leaders or winners. Williamson only became a politician in 2010. Other politicians have said he is undeserving (9) _____ the honour. One said the only award he should get was "worst Education Secretary in history". Another said his record in government was "disgraceful". She said: "Williamson (10) _____ children to go hungry, created two years of complete (11) _____ over exams, and failed to get laptops out to kids struggling to learn during lockdowns." Some newspapers said the award is in return for Williamson keeping quiet about (12) _____ surrounding Boris Johnson.

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|-------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) warder | (b) forwarded | (c) rewarded | (d) awarded |
| 2. | (a) victory | (b) consecutively | (c) in a row | (d) successive |
| 3. | (a) angers | (b) angered | (c) anger | (d) angry |
| 4. | (a) what | (b) that | (c) then | (d) thus |
| 5. | (a) lost | (b) given | (c) mislaid | (d) misplaced |
| 6. | (a) of | (b) on | (c) at | (d) by |
| 7. | (a) under | (b) over | (c) by | (d) in |
| 8. | (a) as | (b) was | (c) is | (d) has |
| 9. | (a) on | (b) of | (c) at | (d) under |
| 10. | (a) right | (b) put | (c) left | (d) awarded |
| 11. | (a) chasm | (b) chaotic | (c) chaos | (d) charlatan |
| 12. | (a) algorithms | (b) allegations | (c) allegories | (d) Allegra |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2203/220307-uk-knighthood.html>

Paragraph 1

1. fired twice by cceuiSSsve Prime Ministers
2. receive a doiontkhhg for services to public life
3. The award has dnaeerg many politicians
4. due to Mr Willamsons' somewhat ercdkeehc career
5. lost cofcdnenie in his ability to serve
6. following a series of asffge

Paragraph 2

7. Britons who have cxdleeel in their field
8. csetepinir have usually spent decades
9. he is nudvnesirge of the honour
10. his record in government was dceagiurfls
11. complete ochsa
12. ilseaanlotg surrounding Boris Johnson

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2203/220307-uk-knighthood.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () in 2010. Other politicians have said he is undeserving of the honour. One said the only award he should get was
- () life. Recipients have usually spent decades as incredible leaders or winners. Williamson only became a politician
- () Knighthoods are awarded to Britons who have excelled in their field or in areas of public
- () serve". Current PM Boris Johnson fired him from being Education Secretary in September 2021 following a series of gaffes.
- () "worst Education Secretary in history". Another said his record in government was "disgraceful". She said: "Williamson left
- () get laptops out to kids struggling to learn during lockdowns." Some newspapers said the award is in
- () children to go hungry, created two years of complete chaos over exams, and failed to
- () return for Williamson keeping quiet about allegations surrounding Boris Johnson.
- () then Prime Minister Theresa May in 2019 over a national security leak over discussions about the UK's national
- (**1**) The U.K. government has awarded one of its highest honours to a former minister who was fired twice
- () security and Chinese telecoms company Huawei. Ms May said she had, "lost confidence in his ability to
- () by successive Prime Ministers. Gavin Williamson, 45, will receive a knighthood for services to
- () public life. He will become "Sir" Gavin Williamson. The award has angered many politicians in Britain due
- () to Mr Williamson's somewhat checkered career. He was fired as Defence Secretary by

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2203/220307-uk-knighthood.html>

1. one highest honours . awarded The its U.K. of
2. for a knighthood Receive public to services life .
3. award The politicians in many angered has Britain .
4. leak discussions over Britain's security . national about A
5. lost his serve . ability in She to confidence
6. Britons to Awarded their who excelled in field .
7. have as usually decades incredible Recipients spent leaders .
8. of said the is Politicians he undeserving honour .
9. Another was his record in said disgraceful . government
10. during to out struggling Get laptops kids lockdowns .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2203/220307-uk-knighthood.html>

The U.K. government has *awarded / rewarded* one of its highest honours to a former minister who was fired twice by *succession / successive* Prime Ministers. Gavin Williamson, 45, will receive a *knighthood / knight* for services to *public / publicly* life. He will become "Sir" Gavin Williamson. The award has *angry / angered* many politicians in Britain due to Mr Williamson's somewhat *choked / checkered* career. He was fired *was / as* Defence Secretary by then Prime Minister Theresa May in 2019 over a national security *leak / leaky* over discussions about the UK's national security and Chinese telecoms company Huawei. Ms May said she had, "lost confidence *on / in* his ability to serve". Current PM Boris Johnson fired him from being Education Secretary in September 2021 following a *serious / series* of gaffes.

Knighthoods are awarded to Britons who have excelled *in / of* their field or in areas of public life. *Omnipotence / Recipients* have usually spent decades as incredible leaders or *winner / winnings*. Williamson only became a politician in 2010. Other politicians have said he is undeserving *of / to* the honour. One said the only award he should get *was / be* "worst Education Secretary in history". Another said his record *in / to* government was "disgraceful". She said: "Williamson left children to go *hunger / hungry*, created two years of complete *chaos / chaotic* over exams, and failed to get laptops *work / out* to kids struggling to learn during lockdowns." Some newspapers said the award is in return for Williamson keeping quiet about allegations *circumnavigating / surrounding* Boris Johnson.

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/2203/220307-uk-knighthood.html>

Th_ _K. g_v_rnm_nt h_s _w_r_d_d _n_ _f _ts h_gh_st
h_n__rs t_ _f_rm_r m_n_st_r wh_ w_s f_r_d tw_c_ by
s_cc_ss_v_ Pr_m_ M_n_st_rs. G_v_n W_ll__ms_n, 45,
w_ll r_c__v_ _ kn_ghth__d f_r s_rv_c_s t_ p_bl_c l_f_.
H_ w_ll b_c_m_ "S_r" G_v_n W_ll__ms_n. Th_ _w_r_d
h_s _ng_r_d m_ny p_l_t_c__ns _n Br_t__n d__ t_ Mr
W_ll_ms_ns' s_m_wh_t ch_ck_r_d c_r__r. H_ w_s f_r_d
_s D_f_nc_ S_cr_t_ry by th_n Pr_m_ M_n_st_r Th_r_s_
M_y _n 2019 _v_r _ n_t__n_l s_c_r_ty l__k _v_r
d_sc_ss__ns _b__t th_ _K's n_t__n_l s_c_r_ty _nd
Ch_n_s_ t_l_c_ms c_m_p_ny H__w__. Ms M_y s__d sh_
h_d, "l_st c_nf_d_nc_ _n h_s _b_l_ty t_ s_rv_".
C_rr_nt PM B_r_s J_hns_n f_r_d h_m fr_m b__ng
_d_c_t__n S_cr_t_ry _n S_pt_mb_r 2021 f_ll_w_ng _
s_r__s _f g_ff_s.

Kn_ghth__ds _r_ _w_r_d_d t_ Br_t_ns wh_ h_v_ _xc_ll_d
_n th__r f__ld _r _n _r__s _f p_bl_c l_f_. R_c_p__nts
h_v_ _s__lly sp_nt d_c_d_s _s _ncr_d_bl_ l__d_rs _r
w_nn_rs. W_ll__ms_n _nly b_c_m_ _ p_l_t_c__n _n
2010. _th_r p_l_t_c__ns h_v_ s__d h_ _s _n-d_s_rv_ng
f th h_n__r. _n_ s__d th_ _nly _w_r_d h_ sh__ld g_t
w_s "w_rst _d_c_t__n S_cr_t_ry _n h_st_ry". _n_th_r
s__d h_s r_c_r_d _n g_v_rnm_nt w_s "d_sgr_c_f_l". Sh_
s__d: "W_ll__ms_n l_ft ch_ldr_n t_ g_ h_ngry, cr__t_d
tw_ y__rs _f c_mpl_t_ ch__s _v_r _x_ms, _nd f__ld
t_ g_t l_pt_ps __t t_ k_ds str_ggl_ng t_ l__rn d_r_ng
l_ckd_wns." S_m_ n_wsp_p_rs s__d th_ _w_r_d _s _n
r_t_rn f_r W_ll__ms_n k__p_ng q__t _b__t _ll_g_t__ns
s_rr__nd_ng B_r_s J_hns_n.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2203/220307-uk-knighthood.html>

the uk government has awarded one of its highest honours to a former minister who was fired twice by successive prime ministers gavin williamson 45 will receive a knighthood for services to public life he will become sir gavin williamson the award has angered many politicians in britain due to mr williamsons somewhat checkered career he was fired as defence secretary by then prime minister theresa may in 2019 over a national security leak over discussions about the uks national security and chinese telecoms company huawei ms may said she had lost confidence in his ability to serve current pm boris johnson fired him from being education secretary in september 2021 following a series of gaffes

knighthoods are awarded to britons who have excelled in their field or in areas of public life recipients have usually spent decades as incredible leaders or winners williamson only became a politician in 2010 other politicians have said he is undeserving of the honour one said the only award he should get was worst education secretary in history another said his record in government was disgraceful she said williamson left children to go hungry created two years of complete chaos over exams and failed to get laptops out to kids struggling to learn during lockdowns some newspapers said the award is in return for williamson keeping quiet about allegations surrounding boris johnson

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2203/220307-uk-knighthood.html>

The U.K. government has awarded one of its highest honours to a former minister who was fired twice by successive Prime Ministers. Gavin Williamson, 45, will receive a knighthood for services to public life. He will become "Sir" Gavin Williamson. The award has angered many politicians in Britain due to Mr Williamson's somewhat checkered career. He was fired as Defence Secretary by then Prime Minister Theresa May in 2019 over an international security leak over discussions about the UK's national security and Chinese telecoms company Huawei. Ms May said she had "lost confidence in his ability to serve". Current PM Boris Johnson fired him from being Education Secretary in September 2021 following a series of gaffes. Knighthoods are awarded to Britons who have excelled in their field or in areas of public life. Recipients have usually spent decades as incredible leaders or winners. Williamson only became a politician in 2010. Other politicians have said he is undeserving of the honour. One said the only award he should get was "worst Education Secretary in history". Another said his record in government was "disgraceful". She said: "Williamson left children going hungry, created two years of complete chaos over exams, and failed to get laptops out to kids struggling to learn during lockdowns." Some newspapers said the award is in return for Williamson keeping quiet about allegations surrounding Boris Johnson.

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

4. MERIT: Write a magazine article about members of the general public deciding who in a country gets top honours. 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 honours. Ask him/her three questions about them. Tell him/her about three people you would like to honour. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

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

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F 2 F 3 T 4 T 5 F 6 F 7 T 8 F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. h	2. e	3. b	4. g	5. j
6. a	7. d	8. i	9. c	10. f

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- 45
- Sir
- A checkered career
- A security leak
- Education Minister
- Decades
- 2010
- Disgraceful
- Two years of chaos
- Some newspapers

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

- The U.K. awarded one of its highest honours.
- Receive a knighthood for services to public life.
- The award has angered many politicians in Britain.
- A leak over discussions about Britain's national security.
- She lost confidence in his ability to serve.
- Awarded to Britons who excelled in their field.
- Recipients have usually spent decades as incredible leaders.
- Politicians said he is undeserving of the honour.
- Another said his record in government was disgraceful.
- Get laptops out to kids struggling during lockdowns.

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 ;-)