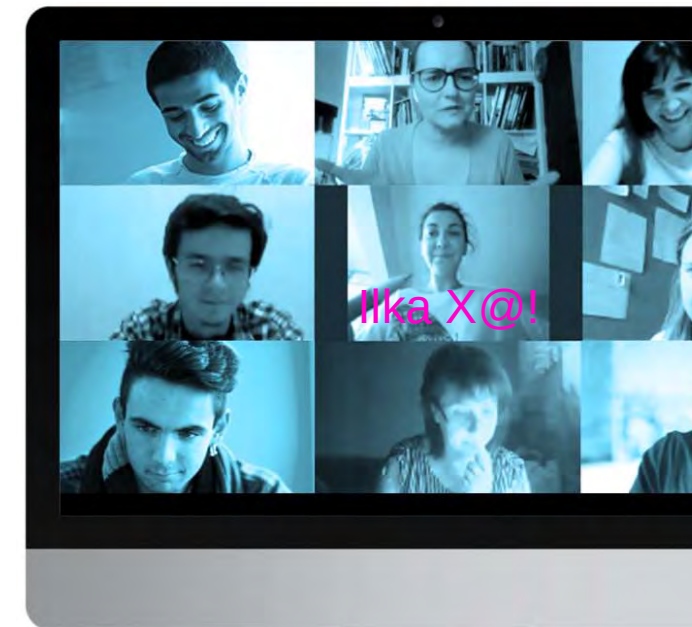


Green news

Theme:
The World of Tomorrow

Before we start, please make sure...

- ✓ **your name on Zoom is clear (use Latin letters)**
- ✓ **your camera is on and mic is off (unmute when needed)**
- ✓ **you are in a quiet area that helps you focus**
- ✓ **you have a notebook or a note app ready to take notes**



Zoom features

Check your audio and video settings



Use Latin letters for your name

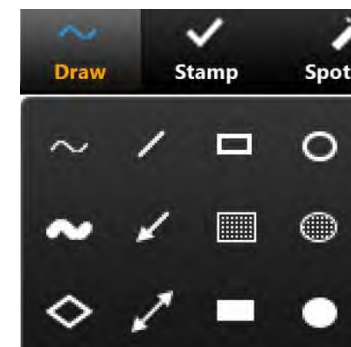


Ask questions in the Chat or use Reactions

Share Screen when the teacher asks



Use Annotate when a screen is shared



Use Save to make screenshots

Welcome to English Online



How does it work?

You need to complete all three parts to get the most out of English Online.



After-class speaking session

Stay back after class for 5 or 10 minutes to talk to your classmates from around the world.

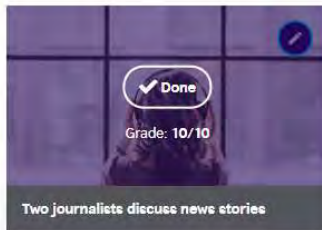
This extra speaking practice will help you...

- improve your conversation skills
- practise using language learnt in class
- support and help your fellow students
- practise using English in a natural context
- become a part of a global learning community



Pre-lesson activities

Prepare



Practise



Lesson objective

What do you expect to learn by the end of this class?



Lesson objectives

In this **live** part of the lesson, you will choose suitable stories for a news programme of entertaining environmental news. You will also practise how to use stress, intonation and pace to fix a monotone voice.

You will also **review** adjectives to describe news stories.

Highlighted skills:

Speaking (live class) and listening (before the lesson)

Language focus:

Vocabulary: describing news stories

Functional language: evaluative phrases

Lead-in

Discuss these questions with your group.

1. How often do you watch the news? Why?
2. What news would you like to hear more/less of?
3. Do you listen to environment-related news?
4. What's the last big news story that really caught your interest?



Language focus 1

Complete words with the missing vowels, then decide if they're positive or negative.

Positive	Negative
sexy	tuned-out
winning	vicious
sincere	silly
passionate	hypocritical
relevant	formulaic

w _ _ rd

_ tt _ nt _ _ n-gr _ bb

h _ ckn _ _ _ d

cr _ ss

l _ g _ t

c _ rr _ nt

Language focus 2

Use stress, pitch, volume and pace of your voice to make these phrases interesting.

That could work really well.

That's crass!

Excellent!

That doesn't really grab me.

Task



Task Preparation

Which of these factors are most relevant in making a story newsworthy?

timing • proximity • significance • prominence • human interest • conflict
incident • extremes or superlatives • scandal • David v Goliath scenario
incompetence or hypocrisy • surprise element

Can you think of any stories you have seen or read lately that have any of these qualities?

Task

You are going to choose a newsworthy story for Green News, a trendy news programme on the environment.

1. Look at the stories your teacher gives you and be prepared to talk about them in your own words
2. With your partner, choose the two best stories to cover in the programme.

- **Tell your colleagues about the story**

Have you heard ...? There's been ..., apparently ...

- **Evaluate the story**

This one looks promising..., sounds interesting ..., it's got pote

- **Decide on the leading items**

I'm not convinced ..., Let's go with ..., you've got a point ...

Student A

A Smoke-free Beach

Brighton Beach is due to be smoke-free, following the introduction of a ban by the local council. This is an extension of the ban already in force in workplaces and public areas and cars carrying children. A spokesman said the ban is in response to public demand and would improve the environment, avoiding exposure to second-hand smoke and reducing cigarette butt litter.

Junk Orchestra

Paraguay's Recycled Orchestra was born out of an association between an environmental consultant and a rubbish picker. An oil drum became the body of a cello; a kitchen fork became a violin tailpiece. From their first cacophonous practice, they have slowly got to grips with the instruments to the point where last year they toured with heavy metal groups Megadeth and Metallica.

Student B

B Orca Release

Activists are seeking the release of Lolita, a killer whale, in Miami Seaquarium. They maintain that her conditions are in violation of the Endangered Species Act. She has been kept for 40 years in one of the smallest whale enclosures in the world. A spokesman for Seaquarium said that she received first-class care and to release her would condemn her to death as she would be rejected by orcas in the wild.

Wind Farm War

The Australian PM has put in jeopardy the country's biggest renewable energy project by referring to wind farms as ugly and noisy. He is at odds with countries like the US by campaigning for coal-fired power. He has shocked the green power industry by cutting state support. Commentators believe that the PM has gone beyond the bounds of his remit and could be challenged.

Student C

C Record Shark Attacks

There has been a rise in shark attacks. Surfers and fisherman have reported noticeably higher numbers of sharks over the last 30 years. However, this increase coincides with more people visiting beaches. One scientist dismissed the rise as anecdotal, saying that you are more likely to be killed by your toaster. 'Studies show sharks don't like humans but may nibble inquisitively.'

Lynx Car Threat

The world's most endangered species, the lynx, is facing a new threat – cars. Last year 22 died through collisions with cars. A spokesman from the WWF blamed the economic crisis. The lack of funding has meant that even basic maintenance has not been done to make roads safer for lynxes, like clearing brush and putting up barriers and creating safe passages for them to pass.

Student D

D Displaced by Disasters

Nearly 20 million people had to flee their homes last year owing to earthquakes, floods and storms. A study revealed that you are 60% more likely to be displaced by disasters now than in the 1970s. Scientists blame greenhouse gas emissions for causing weather extremes like heat waves and heavy rains. They predicted that this phenomenon was likely to rise further in coming decades.

Greek Wildfires Victim

An off-duty policeman was found dead after wild fires were brought under control. He had gone for a walk in the area which was then hit by fires and suffered respiratory problems after inhaling fumes. Two men were arrested on suspicion of starting the fire, allegedly to smoke bees from their hives. Fires are common in the summer in Greece and only add to the government's financial worries.

Task

Join another pair and tell each other about the two items you have decided on and why. Now decide which two of the four stories you will choose.



Feedback

Review



Think/talk about:

3 new words you want to remember from today's lesson

2 activities you liked in today's lesson

1 thing you will do after class to revise what you learned today

Lesson materials

Make sure you have

- **downloaded the *.pdf with this presentation**
- **saved the Zoom Chat**



How can you make more progress?

Complete the Progress activities online.



Review the language we have practised today.



[Does it have a prefix or a suffix? | LearnEnglish Teens - British Council Episode 05 | Podcasts - Series 4 | British Council : Task 5](#)

What's next?

Social

The World of Tomorrow

6 lessons

Brighten your future by attending this theme. You'll learn about green tech, aliens and space. This is a great opportunity to get out of your comfort zone and really improve the dexterity of your English.



Green News



Being green



Working together



Green tech



Aliens



Life on mars

After-class speaking session

You can talk about any topic that interests you!

Use these questions as a guide, if needed.

- What is the role of newspapers in society?
- Do you think that news is censored in some countries?
- Do you think people need to know all news?
- What are some things that your community is doing to help the environment?
- What should we do to increase the awareness about pollution?

For help, contact:

support.englishonline@britishcouncil.org

English Online | www.britishcouncil.org

Dos

- ✓ Treat everyone with respect
- ✓ Keep your camera on and on mute
- ✓ Let others share ideas too
- ✓ Listen to everyone
- ✓ Click 'Leave' if you cannot attend

Don'ts

- ✗ Don't take pictures or recordings
- ✗ Don't share personal details
- ✗ Don't let your children be onscreen

What do you think?

Do you like the platform?

What did you think of the activities?

What further information do you need?

For more information, write to

support.englishonline@britishcouncil.org



Teacher's Notes

This slide deck was made by Chris Lipski

Notes