

ESL ENGLISH LESSON (60-120 mins) - 10th July 2010

Queen Elizabeth II addresses United Nations

Last week Queen Elizabeth II visited the United Nations in New York where she addressed the UN General Assembly for the first time since 1957. She said: "The UN had moved from being a high-minded aspiration to being a real force for common good." She added, "For over six decades the United Nations has helped to shape international response to global dangers. The challenge now is to continue the security, prosperity and dignity of our fellow human beings." Since her original visit 53 years ago the number of member states have increased from 77 to 192. The Queen praised the UN for its work in reducing conflict, offering humanitarian assistance and tackling the effects of poverty. Her majesty warned of "new challenges such as terrorism and global warming that had emerged and had tested this organisation as much as its member states." On climate change The Queen said: "Careful attention must be taken of the risks facing smaller, more vulnerable nations, many of them from the Commonwealth."

The Queen said that she hoped that, in another 53 years, "Our sincerity, our willingness to take a lead, and our determination to do the right thing, will stand the test of time." The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh spent only 5 hours in New York, sweltering under heat health warnings as temperatures soared to a record 38°C (103°F). They were greeted at the UN's Manhattan headquarters by Ban Ki-Moon, the UN Secretary General, and other dignitaries. The UN Secretary General told the assembly the Queen was an "anchor for our age" and a "leading symbol of grace, constancy and dignity". She was given a standing ovation after giving her speech. After addressing the General Assembly, the Queen briefly met Commonwealth leaders before she was driven to the site of the World Trade Centre. There she laid a wreath to the victims of the September 11 terror attacks and accompanied by Michael Bloomberg, the city's mayor, met rescue workers and relatives of those who died. The British Monarch then opened the nearby British memorial gardens at Hanover Square where she met relatives of the 67 British victims of the WTC attacks and received a flower for each of them. The Queen was last in New York in 1976 as part of the US bicentennial celebrations.

Category: United Nations / New York / The Queen Level: Intermediate / Upper intermediate

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EXERCISES

- 1. The United Nations: Briefly, what three things do you know about the United Nations? Go round the room swapping details.
- 2. Geography: New York: Where is New York? What language do they speak in New York? What US state is New York in? Draw a map on the board then look on Google maps to help you.
- **3. Dictation:** The teacher will read four to six lines of the article slowly and clearly. Students will write down what they hear. The teacher will repeat the passage slowly again. Self correct your work from page one filling in spaces and correcting mistakes. Be honest with yourself on the number of errors. Advise the teacher of your total number of errors. Less than five is very good. Ten is acceptable. Any more is room for improvement! More than twenty we need to do some work!
- **4.** Reading: The students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.
- **5. Vocabulary:** Students should now look through the article and underline any vocabulary they do not know. Look in dictionaries. Discuss and help each other out. The teacher will go through and explain any unknown words or phrases.
- 6. The article: Students should look through the article with the teacher.
 - a) What is the article about?
 - b) What do you think about the article?
- 7. Let's think! Think of five examples of what the United Nations does. Then add five locations where you might find the United Nations (either their Headquarters, or for example, the UN in action as peacekeepers). Write them below. Explain to your partner why you chose these?

Five UN activities	Five UN locations
1	1
2	2
3	3
4	4
5	5

The teacher will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

- **8.** Let's think! Swap partners. With your new partner on the board write as many words to do with '*United Nations'* as you can. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.
- 9. Let's talk! In a pub: In pairs: Imagine you are in a pub. The conversation gets onto: The Queen at the UN in New York. Discuss. 5-minutes.

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10. Pros and Cons: Think of two advantages and disadvantages of the United Nations in New York. Write them below. Explain to your partner why you chose these?

Advantages	Disadvantages
1	1
2	2

The teacher will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

11. Let's do 'The Article Quiz': Have the students quiz each other in pairs. They score a point for each correct answer and half a point each time they have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

Student A

- 1) Name the UN Secretary General.
- 2) How many member states are there at the UN today?
- 3) What year did The Queen originally visit the UN?
- 4) What is the name of The Queen's husband?
- 5) Who is the Mayor of New York?

Student B

- 1) Where are the British Memorial Gardens?
- 2) How many British victims died at the World Trade Centre in 2001?
- 3) What was the temperature in New York?
- 4) Why was the Queen in New York in 1976?
- 5) Sum up what The Queen said!
- 12. Presentation: In pairs, groups or individually: Prepare in class or at home a 2-minute presentation on: **The United Nations**. Stand at the front of the class to give your presentation. The class can vote on the best presentation. Class After the presentations go through the strong and weak points on each presentation.
- 13. The Queen at the UN: In pairs/groups. Look at the list below. Each person chooses to be one of the following. Create a short story that person might do at the United Nations in New York. Tell it to your partner/group. Try to make it interesting, funny, the challenges etc... Students try to interlink student storylines!

1 The Queen	3 A diplomat
2 The UN Secretary General	4 A TV reporter

The teacher will choose some pairs to tell their stories in front of the class.

- 14. Let's write an e-mail: Write and send a 200 word e-mail to your teacher about: **The Queen at the UN.** Your e-mail can be read out in class.
- 15. Sentence starters: Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

a)	The United Nations
b)	The Queen
c)	The LIN Secretary General

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DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Why is New York called The Big Apple?
- 3) What UN stories are in the news this week?
- 4) What UN stories have been in the news in the last month?
- 5) What is The Commonwealth?
- 6) What do you know about the UN Secretary General?
- 7) What do you know about Michael Bloomberg?
- 8) What do you think about the World Trade Centre disaster?
- 9) What were you doing when the terrorists struck on 9/11?
- 10) What is the future of the United Nations?

Student B questions

- 1) What do you think about what you read?
- 2) How important is the UN?
- 3) Do you think the role of the United Nations has changed since it was formed? If yes, how?
- 4) Do you think The Queen gets tired of meeting dignitaries?
- 5) Have you ever seen The Queen 'live'? If yes, where? When?
- 6) What do you think The Queen likes to do on her day off?
- 7) Would you like to visit New York? If yes, why?
- 8) What makes New York so special?
- 9) What do you associate with New York?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

SPEAKING

Let's debate! The United Nations

Allow 10-15 minutes - Small groups / pairs / 1 to 1

Debate the following together:-

The United Nations

The teacher can moderate the session.

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GAP FILL: READING

Put the words into the gaps in the text.

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York where she addressed the UN General Assembly for the	comme
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good." She added, "For over six (1) the United Nations	vulnorablo
has helped to (2) international response to global	vulnerable
dangers. The (3) now is to continue the security,	*.1
(4) and dignity of our fellow human beings." Since her	risks
original visit 53 years ago the number of member states have	
increased from 77 to 192. The (5) praised the UN for its	prosperity
work in reducing (6), offering humanitarian assistance	
and tackling the effects of poverty. Her majesty warned of "new	decades
challenges such as terrorism and global warming that had	
emerged and had tested this organisation as much as its	Queen
member states." On climate change The Queen said: "Careful	
attention must be taken of the (7) facing smaller, more	challenge
(8) nations, many of them from the Commonwealth."	
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Commonwealth leaders before she was driven to the site of the	memorial
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PUT THE ARTICLE BACK TOGETHER

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SPELLING TEST

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards, check your answers with your teacher, using the following ratings: Pass = 12, Good = 15, Very good = 18, Excellent = 20

1	challenges	11	terrorism
2	conflict	12	international
3	humanitarian	13	symbol
4		14	aspiration
	organisation		•
5	vulnerable	15	willingness
6	determination	16	ovation
7	bicentennial	17	memorial
8	the Commonwealth	18	celebrations
9	dignitaries	19	headquarters
10	temperatures	20	constancy

LINKS http://allafrica.com/stories/201007070934.html

http://www.japantoday.com/category/world/view/queen-addresses-un-places-wreath-at-ground-zero

http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=35249&Cr=mdg&Cr1

http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/bed4ba68-8907-11df-8925-00144feab49a.html

http://www.undispatch.com/queen-elizabeth-ii-united-nations

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20100707/ap on re us/us queen elizabeth

http://cnettv.cnet.com/queen-elizabeth-ii-visits-united-nations/9742-1 53-50089943.html

http://uk.reuters.com/article/idUKTRE66557S20100706

ANSWERS

GAP FILL: Queen Elizabeth II addresses United Nations: Last week Queen Elizabeth II visited the United Nations in New York where she addressed the UN General Assembly for the first time since 1957. She said: "The UN had moved from being a high-minded aspiration to being a real force for common good." She added, "For over six **decades** the United Nations has helped to **shape** international response to global dangers. The **challenge** now is to continue the security, **prosperity** and dignity of our fellow human beings." Since her original visit 53 years ago the number of member states have increased from 77 to 192. The Queen praised the UN for its work in reducing conflict, offering humanitarian assistance and tackling the effects of poverty. Her majesty warned of "new challenges such as terrorism and global warming that had emerged and had tested this organisation as much as its member states." On climate change The Queen said: "Careful attention must be taken of the **risks** facing smaller, more **vulnerable** nations, many of them from the Commonwealth." The Queen said that she hoped that, in another 53 years, "Our sincerity, our **willingness** to take a lead, and our determination to do the right thing, will stand the test of time." The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh spent only 5 hours in New York, sweltering under heat health warnings as temperatures soared to a record 38°C (103°F). They were greeted at the UN's Manhattan headquarters by Ban Ki-Moon, the UN Secretary General, and other dignitaries. The UN Secretary General told the assembly the Queen was an "anchor for our age" and a "leading symbol of grace, constancy and dignity". She was given a standing ovation after giving her speech. After addressing the General Assembly, the Queen briefly met Commonwealth leaders before she was driven to the site of the World Trade Centre. There she laid a wreath to the victims of the September 11 terror attacks and accompanied by Michael Bloomberg, the city's mayor, met rescue workers and relatives of those who died. The British Monarch then opened the nearby British memorial gardens at Hanover Square where she met relatives of the 67 British victims of the WTC attacks and received a flower for each of them. The Queen was last in New York in 1976 as part of the US bicentennial celebrations.



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