

The Ice Bucket Challenge

Recently, there's been a lot of celebrities in the news doing the Ice Bucket Challenge, or Cold Water Challenge, as was its original name. 'What is that?' you ask.

It's when famous people and ordinary people, who have been challenged by others, are filmed having a bucket of ice cold water poured over their heads. The lucky person then challenges others to do the same within a 24 hour period or forfeit by way of a financial donation of US\$100. Most celebrities do both i.e. have the bucket of cold water and cough up with the money.

Why? They are doing it as a way of raising money and awareness of the neurodegenerative disease amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). In Britain it is known as Motor Neurone Disease (MND). The campaign has gone viral, thanks largely to social media.

So far this year, the ice bucket challenge has raised more than £37m in America compared to just over £1.3m over the same period last year. The money raised in the UK is going to the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

Whilst the Ice Bucket Challenge is raising millions for charity it is giving celebs a priceless splash of PR. People like Victoria Beckham, Bill Gates and Sarah Palin have taken part, as have former US President George W Bush, Mark Zuckerberg, and singer Rita Ora.

Meanwhile India has started the Rice Bucket Challenge. This alternative idea is to help the hungry in India. The challenge here though encourages people to share a bowl of rice with someone. In Gaza, there is the Rubble Bucket Challenge where participants pour a bucket of rubble from bomb sites over themselves.

SPEAKING – WARM UP

Think of three things you know about the Ice Bucket Challenge. Go round the room swapping details with others.

LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

1) The article – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

2) The article - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

3) Article quiz - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

Student A questions

- 1) Name three celebrities.
- 2) What does ALS stand for?
- 3) What does MND stand for?
- 4) Who are Victoria Beckham and Rita Ora?
- 5) What is a bomb site?

Student B questions

- 1) Explain the alternative idea in India.
- 2) What was the Ice Bucket Challenge's original name?
- 3) In Gaza, what are they doing?
- 4) How much money has been raised?
- 5) What is the forfeit?

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WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs. On the board write as many words as you can to do with '**Ice Bucket Challenge**'. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs – Write down three points from the article. Talk about them.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

Add three other things recent stories you know about the ice bucket challenge. Discuss together.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

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

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs/As a class - On the board – Write down five celebrities in your country that have taken part in the Ice Bucket Challenge. What are these celebrities famous for? Talk about them! *5 mins.*

DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Is the Ice Bucket Challenge a good idea?
- 3) Will you be contributing to the Ice Bucket Challenge?
- 4) Why do you think the Ice Bucket Challenge has proved so popular?
- 5) What do you think of the Rubble Bucket Challenge in Gaza?
- 6) What do you think of the Rice Bucket Challenge in India?
- 7) What challenges do you like to do?
- 8) Have you ever raised any money for charity?
- 9) Which charities do you support?
- 10) Have you learnt anything in today's English lesson?

SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 1

In groups. One of you is the interviewer. There are up to four guests. You are in the BBC News Technology studio. Today's interview is: *Ice Bucket Challenge. 10 mins.*

- 1) Sarah Palin.
- 2) Someone from the Motor Neuron Association.
- 3) A celebrity.
- 4) Bill Gates.

The teacher will choose some groups to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 2

In pairs. *Student A* is going to raise money for a charity by doing something unusual. *Student B* is a journalist who is interviewing *Student A*. (Imagine!) *5-mins.*

SPEAKING – DISCUSSION

Allow 10 minutes – As a class.

*Think of 10 different charities
Write their names on the board
Google them!
Talk about them!*

The teacher can moderate the session.

DISCUSSION

Student B questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) Will you be doing the Ice Bucket Challenge?
- 3) Why is the Ice Bucket Challenge so important for the Motor Neurone disease Association?
- 4) Surely, the Ice Bucket Challenge is just a huge PR exercise for celebrities?
- 5) How has social media helped raise awareness of the Motor Neuron Disease?
- 6) Were you aware of MND/ALS before the Ice Bucket Challenge came along?
- 7) Who would you challenge to do the Ice Bucket Challenge?
- 8) What charities do you support?
- 9) Has this been a difficult lesson for you to understand?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

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GAP FILL: READING

The Ice Bucket Challenge

Recently, there's been a lot of celebrities in the news doing the Ice Bucket (1)___, or Cold Water Challenge, as was its original name. 'What is that?' you ask.

It's when (2)___ people and ordinary people, who have been challenged by others, are filmed having a (3)___ of ice cold water poured over their heads. The lucky person then challenges others to do the same within a 24 hour period or (4)___ by way of a financial (5)___ of US\$100. Most (6)___ do both i.e. have the bucket of cold water and (7)___ with the money.

Why? They are doing it as a way of raising money and awareness of the neurodegenerative disease amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). In Britain it is known as Motor Neurone Disease (MND). The campaign has gone viral, thanks largely to (8)___.

bucket / famous / donation / celebrities / challenge / social media / cough up / forfeit

So far this year, the ice bucket challenge has raised more than £37m in America compared to just over £1.3m over the same period last year. The (1)___ raised in the UK is going to the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

Whilst the Ice Bucket Challenge is raising millions for charity it is giving celebs a (2)___ splash of PR. People like Victoria Beckham, Bill Gates and Sarah Palin have taken part, as have (3)___ US President George W Bush, Mark Zuckerberg, and singer Rita Ora.

Meanwhile India has started the Rice Bucket Challenge. This (4)___ idea is to help the hungry in India. The challenge here though encourages people to (5)___ a (6)___ of rice with someone. In Gaza, there is the Rubble Bucket Challenge where participants pour a bucket of (7)___ from (8)___ over themselves.

bowl / rubble / priceless / alternative / share / bomb sites / former / money

GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

The Ice Bucket Challenge

Recently, there's been a lot of celebrities in the news doing the Ice Bucket Challenge, or Cold Water Challenge, as was its original name. 'What is that?' (1)___ ask.

It's when famous people and ordinary people, (2)___ have been challenged by others, are filmed having (3)___ bucket of ice cold water poured over their heads. The lucky person then challenges others to do the same within a 24 hour period (4)___ forfeit by way of a financial donation of US\$100. Most celebrities do both i.e. have the bucket (5)___ cold water and cough up with the money.

(6)___? They are doing it as a way of raising money and awareness of the neurodegenerative disease amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). (7)___ Britain it is known (8)___ Motor Neurone Disease (MND). The campaign has gone viral, thanks largely to social media.

in / as / of / a / or / you / why / who

So far (1)___ year, the ice bucket challenge has raised (2)___ than £37m in America compared to (3)___ over £1.3m over the same period last year. The money raised in the UK is going to the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

(4)___ the Ice Bucket Challenge is raising millions for charity it is giving celebs a priceless splash of PR. People like Victoria Beckham, Bill Gates and Sarah Palin have taken part, as have former US President George W Bush, Mark Zuckerberg, and singer Rita Ora.

(5)___ India has started the Rice Bucket Challenge. This alternative idea is to help the hungry in India. The challenge here (6)___ encourages people to share a bowl of rice (7)___ someone. In Gaza, there is the Rubble Bucket Challenge (8)___ participants pour a bucket of rubble from bomb sites over themselves.

meanwhile / whilst / though / this / just / where / more / with

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GAP FILL: LISTENING

The Ice Bucket Challenge

Recently, there's been _____ in the news doing the Ice Bucket Challenge, or _____, as was its original name.

'What is that?' you ask.

It's when famous people and ordinary people, who have been challenged by others, are filmed having a bucket of ice cold water poured over their heads.

_____ challenges others to do the same within a 24 hour period or forfeit by way of a financial donation of US\$100. Most celebrities do both i.e. have the bucket of cold water and _____ money.

Why? They are doing it as a way of raising money and awareness of the _____ disease amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). In Britain it is known as Motor Neurone Disease (MND). The campaign has gone viral, thanks largely to social media.

_____, the ice bucket challenge has raised more than £37m in America compared to just over £1.3m over the same period last year. The money raised in the UK is going to the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

Whilst the _____ is raising millions for charity it is giving celebs a priceless splash of PR. People like Victoria Beckham, Bill Gates and Sarah Palin have taken part, as have former US _____, Mark Zuckerberg, and singer Rita Ora.

_____ started the Rice Bucket Challenge. This alternative idea is to help the hungry in India. The challenge here though encourages people to share a bowl of rice with someone. In Gaza, there is the Rubble Bucket Challenge where participants pour _____ from bomb sites over themselves.

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WRITING/SPEAKING

WRITING / SPEAKING

1) On the board - In pairs, as a class - write down **20 things you can use ice for**. Talk about them! 5 mins.

2) Sentence starters - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- 1) I support _____
- 2) The challenge _____
- 3) An ice bucket _____

3) Homework - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: **Ice Bucket Challenge**. Your email can be read out in class.

GAP FILL READING

- 1) challenge
- 2) famous
- 3) bucket
- 4) forfeit
- 5) donation
- 6) celebrities
- 7) cough up
- 8) social media

SPELLING

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

- 1) bucket
- 2) challenge
- 3) lucky
- 4) original
- 5) famous
- 6) period
- 7) forfeit
- 8) donation
- 9) financial
- 10) cough up

ANSWERS

- 1) money
- 2) priceless
- 3) former
- 4) alternative
- 5) share
- 6) bowl
- 7) rubble
- 8) bomb sites

SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

Pass = 12

Good = 15

Very good = 18

Excellent = 20

- 11) awareness
- 12) neurodegenerative
- 13) viral
- 14) just
- 15) whilst
- 16) meanwhile
- 17) priceless
- 18) alternative
- 19) participants
- 20) splash

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