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The 4 page 60 minute ESL British English lesson – 05/10/17

A new European map is unfolding

If you look at a map of Europe today, it's hard to imagine what it might look like in 100 years. It might be much the same as it is now, or it could be totally different, with new countries added and border lines changed.

Consider the situation 100 years ago. One could never have imagined the breakup of the German Empire and the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Who could have imagined the creation of Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia?

The UK has voted to leave the EU. Crimea is now Russian. Catalonia is currently in the news. It wants independence from Spain. Who knows what the outcome will be?

There are many nationalities in Europe who wish to create their own country. The Basque Country in northern Spain and south Western France would like independence. The people of Wallonia and Flanders in Belgium want separate countries.

Other breakaway regions could include Venice in Italy and Bavaria in Germany. The Rusyns in Eastern Europe would also like their own country. Corsica wants independence from France. Bosnia Herzegovina might also split up.

Scotland wants independence. In 2014, it had a legal referendum in which the Scots voted to remain part of the UK. Scottish Nationalists would, however, like another vote.

The Hungarian minorities in the countries surrounding Hungary would like to re-join Hungary. South Tyrol in Italy that was seceded to Italy after WW1 would like to re-join Austria. Northern Ireland might become part of Ireland.

Any breakaway regions in the European Union could lead to the breakup of the bloc – something the EU will thus not allow. The EU is anti-separatist, as it goes against its own values of creating a federal United States of Europe.

SPEAKING – WARM UP

Think of three things you know about the map of Europe. 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) What do we mean by breakaway regions?
- 2) What do we mean by Hungarian minorities?
- 3) Where is South Tyrol?
- 4) Where is Catalonia?
- 5) Where is Corsica?

Student B questions

- 1) Who is anti-separatist?
- 2) What happened after WW1?
- 3) Where is Flanders?
- 4) Where is Bosnia Herzegovina?
- 5) Where is the Basque Country?

Category: Europe / Geography / History
Level: Intermediate / Upper Intermediate

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs. On the board write as many words as you can about '**Map of Europe**'. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs – Choose three of the possible breakaway regions that were in the article. Write them below. Discuss whether they might breakaway or not? What are your conclusions?

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

WRITING / SPEAKING

In pairs/As a class – What are the main reasons nationalities wish to create their own country? Bearing this in mind, think of three economic advantages and disadvantages of a region breaking away from its current country. Discuss together. *5 mins.*

SPEAKING – 2 – PRESENTATION

On your own/In pairs - Prepare a two minute speech about one of the potential breakaway regions listed in the article. Should it break away or not from its current status? Will it be allowed to break away? Stand up and deliver it. *Allow 3 mins to prepare.*

DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) Do you think Catalonia will break away from Spain?
- 3) Will the EU create a federal United States of Europe?
- 4) Will Scotland become independent?
- 5) Will Bosnia Herzegovina split up?
- 6) Will the Hungarian minorities re-join Hungary?
- 7) Will Venice become its own country?
- 8) Will the Basques separate from Spain?
- 9) Will Northern Ireland become part of Ireland?
- 10) Will the EU collapse like a pack of cards if too many regions breakaway from the countries in it?

SPEAKING – 3 - ROLEPLAY

In groups. One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Discussion FM* radio studio in London. Today's interview is about: *A new European map is unfolding.*

- 1) A Scots person.
- 2) A Catalanian.
- 3) A Flanders person.
- 4) A Venetian.

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

SPEAKING – 1 - ROLEPLAY

Student A thinks Catalonia should become independent. *Student B* thinks Catalonia should remain a part of Spain. *2-3 mins.*

SPEAKING – 4 - DISCUSSION

Allow 10 minutes – As a class.

Discuss several potential breakaway regions in Europe. Project your new map of Europe onto the board.

What are your thoughts on it all? Would the EU allow it? Consider the advantages and disadvantages

(YouTube has many future maps of Europe for you to look at and discuss in this discussion)

The teacher can moderate the session.

DISCUSSION

Student B questions

- 1) Can you think of any countries in Europe that successfully split up?
- 2) Why is the EU anti-separatist?
- 3) Will South Tyrol become part of Austria again?
- 4) Will we see the re-emergence of the former empires, like Austro-Hungary?
- 5) Will the EU break up?
- 6) Will we see Europe return to smaller countries?
- 7) Will the nationalities, who do not currently have their own country, ever realise their dream of getting their own country?
- 8) Which region might be next to declare independence?
- 9) What should the Catalanians do?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

GAP FILL: READING

A new European map is unfolding

If you look at a (1)___ of Europe today, it's hard to imagine what it might look like in 100 years. It might be much the same as it is now, or it could be totally different, with new countries added and (2)___ lines changed. Consider the situation 100 years ago. One could never have imagined the (3)___ of the German Empire and the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Who could have imagined the (4)___ of Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia?

The UK has voted to leave the EU. Crimea is now Russian. Catalonia is currently in the news. It wants (5)___ from Spain. Who knows what the (6)___ will be?

There are many (7)___ in Europe who wish to create their own country. The Basque Country in northern Spain and south Western France would like independence. The people of Wallonia and Flanders in Belgium want (8)___ countries.

separate / outcome / creation / border / map / nationalities / independence / breakup

Other breakaway (1)___ could include Venice in Italy and Bavaria in Germany. The Rusyns in Eastern Europe would also like their own country. Corsica wants independence from France. Bosnia Herzegovina might also split up.

Scotland wants independence. In 2014, it had a legal referendum in which the Scots voted to (2)___ part of the UK. Scottish Nationalists would, however, like another (3)___.

The Hungarian (4)___ in the countries surrounding Hungary would like to re-join Hungary. South Tyrol in Italy that was seceded to Italy after WW1 would like to re-join Austria. Northern Ireland might become part of Ireland. Any (5)___ regions in the European Union could lead to the breakup of the (6)___ – something the EU will thus not allow. The EU is anti-separatist, as it goes against its own (7)___ of creating a (8)___ United States of Europe.

vote / federal / bloc / regions / breakaway / minorities / remain / values

GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

A new European map is unfolding

If you look at a map of Europe today, it's hard to imagine what it might look like in 100 years. It (1)___ be (2)___ the same as it is now, or it could be totally different, (3)___ new countries added and border lines changed. Consider the situation 100 years ago. One (4)___ never have imagined the breakup of the German Empire and the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Who could have imagined the creation of Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia?

The UK has voted to leave the EU. Crimea is now Russian. Catalonia is currently in the news. It wants independence from Spain. Who knows (5)___ the outcome will be?

There are (6)___ nationalities in Europe who wish to create (7)___ own country. The Basque Country in northern Spain and south Western France (8)___ like independence. The people of Wallonia and Flanders in Belgium want separate countries.

their / what / could / many / might / would / with / much

Other breakaway regions could include Venice in Italy (1)___ Bavaria (2)___ Germany. The Rusyns in Eastern Europe would also like their own country. Corsica wants independence from France. Bosnia Herzegovina might also split up.

Scotland wants independence. In 2014, it had a legal referendum in which the Scots voted to remain part (3)___ the UK. Scottish Nationalists would, however, like another vote.

The Hungarian minorities in (4)___ countries surrounding Hungary would like to re-join Hungary. South Tyrol in Italy that was seceded to Italy after WW1 would like to re-join Austria. Northern Ireland might become part of Ireland. (5)___ breakaway regions in the European Union could lead to the breakup of the bloc – something the EU will (6)___ not allow. The EU is anti-separatist, as (7)___ goes against (8)___ own values of creating a federal United States of Europe.

thus / in / any / it / its / of / and / the

A new European map is unfolding – 05th Oct 2017



GAP FILL: LISTENING

A new European map is unfolding

If you look at a map of Europe today, it's hard to imagine _____ in 100 years. It might be much the same as it is now, or it could be totally different, with new countries added and border lines changed.

_____ 100 years ago. One could never have imagined the breakup of the German Empire and the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Who could have imagined the creation of _____ Yugoslavia?

The UK has voted to leave the EU. Crimea is now Russian. Catalonia is currently in the news. It wants independence from Spain. Who knows what the outcome will be?

There are _____ Europe who wish to create their own country. The Basque Country in northern Spain and south Western France would like independence. The people of _____ in Belgium want separate countries.

Other breakaway regions could include Venice in Italy and Bavaria in Germany. The Rusyns in Eastern Europe would also like their own country. Corsica wants independence from France. _____ might also split up.

Scotland wants independence. In 2014, it had a legal referendum in which the Scots voted to remain part of the UK. _____ would, however, like another vote.

The Hungarian minorities in the countries surrounding Hungary would like to re-join Hungary. South Tyrol in Italy that was seceded to Italy after WW1 would like to re-join Austria. _____ might become part of Ireland.

Any breakaway regions in the European Union could lead to the breakup of the bloc – something the EU will thus not allow. The EU is _____, as it goes against its own values of creating a federal _____.

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WRITING/SPELLING

WRITING / SPEAKING

1) On the board - *In pairs/As a class*, list 5-10 other regions in the world that might break away, from the country/countries they are part of, to form their own independent country e.g. Kurdistan. Draw their location on the board. *5-10 minutes. Talk briefly about each of them.*

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

- 1) Catalonia _____
- 2) I think _____
- 3) Europe _____

3) Write down 50 words about: *A new European map is unfolding.* Your words can be read out in class.

4) Homework - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: ***A new European map is unfolding.***

SPELLING

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

- 1) consider
- 2) minorities
- 3) might
- 4) breakaway
- 5) breakup
- 6) thus
- 7) federal
- 8) values
- 9) any
- 10) currently

SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

Pass = 12

Good = 15

Very good = 18

Excellent = 20

- 11) nationalities
- 12) separate
- 13) imagine
- 14) much
- 15) totally
- 16) Czechoslovakia
- 17) Yugoslavia
- 18) outcome
- 19) independence
- 20) bloc