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The 4 page 60 minute ESL British English lesson – 25/04/14

## Ukraine - What next?

Today, let's talk about the Ukrainian crisis. To briefly recap events: In November 2013, President of Ukraine Victor Yanukovich rejected an EU pending association agreement, choosing instead to pursue a Russian loan bailout and have closer ties with Russia. This led to many protests in Kiev in Independence Square. These protests became known as 'Euromaidan' by the young pro-European Union Ukrainians.

In January 2014, there were deadly clashes in Independence Square and across other parts of Ukraine. One month later Ukraine appeared to be on the brink of civil war.

On the 21<sup>st</sup> February Yanukovich claimed he had reached agreement with the opposition. Later that day he fled Kiev, ending up in Russia. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> February the Ukrainian parliament voted to remove him on the ground that he was unable to do his job. New elections were set for the 25<sup>th</sup> May. Two days after the president had fled an arrest warrant was issued for his arrest, accusing him of "mass killings of civilians".

The leadership in Crimea considered the ousting of their president illegal and the new interim government in Kiev as illegitimate. They held a referendum to determine what the people in Crimea wanted as their future. Many governments regarded this and Crimea deciding to join Russia as illegal.

The EU and the USA were accused of double standards by many; including Russia when dealing with the Ukrainian and Crimean crisis, as the EU and USA did a similar such thing in Bosnia and Kosovo.

In April 2014, Russian speaking separatists in Eastern Ukraine took over local government buildings demanding independence from the rest of Ukraine. Quite what happens next, who knows?

No one wants to start World War Three. Right now though there is the very real threat Ukraine could still break up. It is East versus West. A new Cold War has started, with gas supplies being used as bait. A new imperial land grab has started. The Ukrainian people remain pawns on a chess board!

### SPEAKING – WARM UP

Think of three things you know about the Ukrainian crisis. 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 the former Ukrainian president.
- 2) Where is Ukraine?
- 3) What is the capital of Ukraine?
- 4) Who had 'double standards'?
- 5) What does 'double standards' mean?

#### Student B questions

- 1) Explain the term 'Euromaidan'.
- 2) What happened in April 2014?
- 3) What happened in November 2013?
- 4) What happened on February 21<sup>st</sup>?
- 5) What happened in Crimea?

**Category: Ukraine / History / Eastern Europe  
Intermediate / Upper Intermediate**

## Ukraine – What next? - 25<sup>th</sup> April 2014

### DRAWING

*In pairs/As a class* - On the board draw two maps. One of Ukraine and Moldova today. The second map as they might look in the future. Discuss as a class. 5-7 mins.

### WRITING / SPEAKING

*In pairs*. On the board write as many words as you can on: **'The Ukrainian Crisis'**. One-two minutes. Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

### WRITING / SPEAKING

*In pairs* – Three things other about the Ukrainian crisis. Write them below. Talk about them.

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

**What is the latest news about the crisis in Ukraine?** Discuss together.

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

### SPEAKING

*In pairs* – 'Double Standards' – Think of any other places in the world where Imperial countries or Imperial powers currently have or have had 'Double Standards'. Talk about them.

*The teacher* will choose some students to read out their work to the class.

### DISCUSSION

#### Student A questions

- 1) Will you be visiting Crimea in the near future?
- 2) Have you ever been to Ukraine?
- 3) How do you think the people in Eastern Ukraine feel right now?
- 4) How does NATO come into this Ukrainian situation?
- 5) Will Russia take over Eastern Ukraine?
- 6) How does Eastern Moldova come into the Ukrainian crisis?
- 7) Is Victor Yanukovich guilty of a mass killing of civilians?
- 8) What is likely to happen next in Ukraine?
- 9) Are we likely to see Ukraine split into two?
- 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 London studio. Today's interview is: *Ukraine – What next?* 10 mins.

- 1) A journalist.
- 2) A tourist who has been in Crimea recently.
- 3) Someone from Kiev.
- 4) A Russian speaking person from Eastern Ukraine.

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

### SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 2

*In pairs*. Student A has been studying in Kiev during Euromaidan. Student B has been in Crimea studying. Describe what you saw. (Imagine!) 5-10 mins.

### SPEAKING – DISCUSSION

Allow 10 minutes – As a class.

Ukraine – What next?

Google it then talk about what you know!

*The teacher* can moderate the session.

### DISCUSSION

#### Student B questions

- 1) Will we see a "new Russia" region being formed out of part of Ukraine?
- 2) How do the people of western Ukraine feel?
- 3) What does Russian President Vladimir Putin and US President Barack Obama think of the Ukrainian situation?
- 4) Why did Crimea join Russia?
- 5) Are you worried about the situation in Ukraine?
- 6) How does the situation in Bosnia and Kosovo in the past compare with Ukraine today?
- 7) How legal is the new unelected Ukrainian government?
- 8) Is what is happening in Ukraine like a game of chess?
- 9) What is the EU doing in this crisis?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

**GAP FILL: READING**

**Ukraine - What next?**

Today, let's talk about the Ukrainian crisis. To briefly recap events: In November 2013, President of Ukraine Victor Yanukovich rejected an EU pending association (1)\_\_, choosing instead to (2)\_\_ a Russian loan (3)\_\_ and have closer ties with Russia. This led to many protests in Kiev in Independence Square. These (4)\_\_ became known as 'Euromaidan' by the young pro-European Union Ukrainians. In January 2014, there were deadly (5)\_\_ in Independence Square and across other parts of Ukraine. One month later Ukraine appeared to be on the brink of civil war. On the 21<sup>st</sup> February Yanukovich claimed he had reached agreement with the opposition. Later that day he fled Kiev, ending up in Russia. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> February the Ukrainian parliament voted to (6)\_\_ him on the ground that he was (7)\_\_ to do his job. New elections were set for the 25<sup>th</sup> May. Two days after the president had fled an arrest warrant was issued for his (8)\_\_, accusing him of "mass killings of civilians".

**protests / remove / pursue / agreement / clashes / arrest / unable / bailout**

The (1)\_\_ in Crimea considered the ousting of their president illegal and the new (2)\_\_ government in Kiev as (3)\_\_. They held a (4)\_\_ to determine what the people in Crimea wanted as their future. Many governments regarded this and Crimea deciding to join Russia as (5)\_\_. The EU and the USA were accused of double standards by many; including Russia when dealing with the Ukrainian and Crimean (6)\_\_, as the EU and USA did a similar such thing in Bosnia and Kosovo. In April 2014, Russian speaking (7)\_\_ in Eastern Ukraine took over local government buildings demanding independence from the rest of Ukraine. Quite what happens next, who knows?

No one wants to start World War Three. Right now though there is the very real (8)\_\_ Ukraine could still break up. It is East versus West.

**separatists / referendum / illegal / threat / illegitimate / crisis / leadership / interim**

**GAP FILL: GRAMMAR**

**Ukraine - What next?**

Today, let's talk about the Ukrainian crisis. To briefly recap events: In November 2013, President of Ukraine Victor Yanukovich rejected (1)\_\_ EU pending association agreement, choosing instead to pursue a Russian loan bailout and have closer ties with Russia. This led to many protests in Kiev (2)\_\_ Independence Square. These protests became known as 'Euromaidan' (3)\_\_ the young pro-European Union Ukrainians. In January 2014, there were deadly clashes in Independence Square and across other parts (4)\_\_ Ukraine. One month later Ukraine appeared to be on the brink of civil war. On the 21<sup>st</sup> February Yanukovich claimed he had reached agreement with the opposition. Later that day he fled Kiev, ending up in Russia. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> February the Ukrainian parliament voted to remove him on the ground that (5)\_\_ was unable to do (6)\_\_ job. New elections were set for the 25<sup>th</sup> May. Two days after the president had fled an arrest warrant was issued (7)\_\_ his arrest, accusing (8)\_\_ of "mass killings of civilians".

**of / in / an / he / by / him / his / for**

The leadership in Crimea considered the ousting of their president illegal and the new interim government in Kiev as illegitimate. They held a referendum to determine (1)\_\_ the people in Crimea wanted as their future. (2)\_\_ governments regarded (3)\_\_ and Crimea deciding to join Russia as illegal. The EU and the USA were accused of double standards by many; including Russia (4)\_\_ dealing with the Ukrainian and Crimean crisis, as the EU and USA did a similar such thing in Bosnia and Kosovo. In April 2014, Russian speaking separatists in Eastern Ukraine took over local government buildings demanding independence from the rest of Ukraine. (5)\_\_ what happens next, who knows? No one wants to start World War Three. Right now (6)\_\_ there is the (7)\_\_ real threat Ukraine (8)\_\_ still break up. It is East versus West.

**could / what / quite / many / though / this / when / very**

## GAP FILL: LISTENING

### Ukraine - what next?

Today, let's talk about \_\_\_\_\_. To briefly recap events: In November 2013, President of Ukraine Victor Yanukovich rejected an EU pending association agreement, choosing instead to pursue a Russian loan bailout and have closer ties with Russia. This led \_\_\_\_\_ Kiev in Independence Square. These protests became known as 'Euromaidan' by the young pro-European Union Ukrainians. In January 2014, there were deadly clashes in \_\_\_\_\_ and across other parts of Ukraine. One month later Ukraine appeared to be on the brink of civil war. On the 21<sup>st</sup> February Yanukovich claimed he had reached agreement with the opposition. Later that day he fled Kiev, \_\_\_\_\_. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> February the Ukrainian parliament voted to remove him on the ground that he was unable to do his job. New elections were set for the 25<sup>th</sup> May.

Two days after the president had fled an arrest warrant was issued for his arrest, accusing him of "\_\_\_\_\_". The leadership in Crimea considered the ousting of their president illegal and the new interim government in Kiev as illegitimate. They held a \_\_\_\_\_ what the people in Crimea wanted as their future. Many governments regarded this and Crimea deciding to join Russia as illegal. The \_\_\_\_\_ were accused of double standards by many; including Russia when dealing with the Ukrainian and Crimean crisis, as the EU and USA \_\_\_\_\_ in Bosnia and Kosovo. In April 2014, Russian speaking separatists in Eastern Ukraine took over local government buildings demanding independence from \_\_\_\_\_. Quite what happens next, who knows? No one wants to start World War Three. Right now though there is the very real threat Ukraine could still break up. \_\_\_\_\_.

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## WRITING/SPELLING

### WRITING / SPEAKING

**1) On the board** - *In pairs, as a class* - write down 20 different things you know about Ukraine. Talk about them! 5 mins.

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

- 1) Kiev \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) The crisis \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) Mr Putin \_\_\_\_\_

**3) Homework** - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: **Ukraine – What next?** Your email can be read out in class.

### GAP FILL READING

- 1) Agreement
- 2) Pursue
- 3) Bailout
- 4) Protests
- 5) Clashes
- 6) Remove
- 7) Unable
- 8) arrest

### ANSWERS

- 1) leadership
- 2) interim
- 3) illegitimate
- 4) referendum
- 5) illegal
- 6) crisis
- 7) separatists
- 8) threat

### SPELLING

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

- 1) briefly
- 2) recap
- 3) agreement
- 4) pursue
- 5) association
- 6) bailout
- 7) brink
- 8) opposition
- 9) parliament
- 10) warrant

### SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

**Pass = 12**

**Good = 15**

**Very good = 18**

**Excellent = 20**

- 11) leadership
- 12) civilians
- 13) illegal
- 14) interim
- 15) illegitimate
- 16) referendum
- 17) separatists
- 18) quite
- 19) bait
- 20) chess board

Ukraine – What next? - 25<sup>th</sup> April 2014