

The 4 page 60 minute ESL British English lesson – 25/11/17

Zimbabwe after Mugabe

Today, let's talk about Zimbabwe. It's a country in southern Africa. For the last 37 years Zimbabwe has been led by President Robert Mugabe. On Tuesday, 93 year old Mugabe finally resigned, bringing an end to his ruthless rule.

Following the news, there was wild jubilation on the streets of Harare, the county's capital. Zimbabweans could hardly believe that finally they were free from the man that the majority of people in the country detested.

Mugabe only resigned because he was about to be impeached. Two days earlier he was thrown out of the ruling party ZANU-PF and dismissed as its leader. His wife Grace Mugabe was also expelled from the party and is facing prosecution.

Former vice president Emmerson Mnangagwa, who is also known as 'the Crocodile', has been appointed as the new leader of ZANU-PF. He is likely to become the next president of Zimbabwe.

To recall – two weeks ago things came to a head when Mugabe sacked Mnangagwa. Mugabe had planned for his deeply unpopular wife (Gucci) Grace Mugabe to succeed him. It was the trigger for the military to seize control in Zimbabwe.

On Sunday night, President Mugabe gave a 20 minute rambling speech to the nation. He was expected to resign on live TV. Vast crowds in Harare watched in total disbelief as he resisted resigning.

The army and parliament then gave Mugabe till midday on Monday to resign, otherwise impeachment proceedings would be started against him on Tuesday.

Once again, the deadline on Monday passed. It wasn't until Tuesday evening that a letter was read out in parliament announcing Mugabe had resigned. This dramatic news sent the country into mass celebration. Finally, the people were free from the tyrant. **Continued on page 2...**

SPEAKING – WARM UP

Think of three things you know about Zimbabwe and Robert Mugabe. 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) Where is Zimbabwe?
- 2) Which countries surround Zimbabwe?
- 3) Name the former leader of Zimbabwe.
- 4) Who is known as 'The Crocodile'?
- 5) How did Grace Mugabe get the name Grace 'Gucci' Mugabe?

Student B questions

- 1) Name the political party.
- 2) What did the army do?
- 3) What does 'impeachment' mean?
- 4) What does 'trigger' mean?
- 5) Who could hardly believe what?

Zimbabwe after Mugabe – 25/11/2017

Continued from page 1...

What happens next in Zimbabwe is anyone's guess. In a nutshell, the country desperately needs to unite, and to go forward and prosper.

Zimbabweans desperately want change. Their country used to be the bread basket of Africa, due to its white farmers and advantageous natural resources. It is now a basket case, thanks to Mugabe's disastrous policies.

The economy in Zimbabwe totally collapsed. It is in a total mess. The jobless rate is around 90%. Zimbabwe has suffered from hyperinflation. At one point the country was forced to abandon its own currency when US\$1 was worth Z\$35 quadrillion.

Former opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai has returned to the country. Exactly what he will do in the current situation remains to be seen.

For now, the country of Zimbabwe celebrates. The future is now in the hands of the Zanu-PF party, until the next general election. Zimbabweans can then decide what they want to happen next.

DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) What is next for Zimbabwe's economy?
- 3) What will happen to Robert Mugabe and his wife?
- 4) Is Robert Mugabe a hero or a villain?
- 5) What if anything should happen to Mugabe?
- 6) What will Robert Mugabe be remembered for?
- 7) Would you like to visit Zimbabwe?
- 8) What do we know about the 'Crocodile' Emmerson Mnangagwa?
- 9) What will happen to Zimbabwe's currency?
- 10) Will we see many Zimbabwean exiles now returning home?

SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 1

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: *Zimbabwe after Mugabe.*

- 1) You are a Zimbabwe taxi driver.
- 2) You are a Zimbabwean entrepreneur.
- 3) You are a white Zimbabwe farmer.
- 4) You are a Zimbabwean in exile.

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

SPEAKING – HOST PRESENTATION

In pairs – Student A is a Zimbabwean. Student B is a journalist from CNN. You are both in Harare immediately after the resignation of Robert Mugabe. Start a conversation about his resignation. 3 mins.

SPEAKING - DISCUSSION

Allow 5 minutes – As a class.

Robert Mugabe

The teacher can moderate the session.

DISCUSSION

Student B questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Will there now be free elections in Zimbabwe?
- 3) What advice would you give the people of Zimbabwe?
- 4) Why was Zimbabwe's military takeover the world's strangest coup?
- 5) What happens next in Zimbabwe?
- 6) Would you invest into Zimbabwe? Explain.
- 7) Do you think that Zimbabwe now has an opportunity to forge a new path?
- 8) What will happen to the white farmers in Zimbabwe now?
- 9) Is Mugabe's fall an opportunity for Zimbabwe?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

GAP FILL: READING

Zimbabwe after Mugabe

Today, let's talk about Zimbabwe. It's a country in southern (1)__. For the last 37 years Zimbabwe has been led by President Robert Mugabe. On Tuesday, 93 year old Mugabe finally resigned, bringing an end to his ruthless rule. Following the news, there was wild (2)__ on the streets of Harare, the county's capital. Zimbabweans could hardly believe that (3)__ they were (4)__ from the man that the majority of people in the country detested.

Mugabe only resigned because he was about to be impeached. Two days earlier he was thrown out of the ruling party ZANU-PF and dismissed as its leader. His wife Grace Mugabe was also expelled from the party and is facing (5)__. (6)__ vice president Emmerson Mnangagwa, who is also known as 'the (7)__', has been appointed as the new leader of ZANU-PF. He is likely to become the next president of (8)__.

Zimbabwe / prosecution / finally / Africa / former / crocodile / free / jubilation

To recall – two weeks ago things came to a head when Mugabe sacked Mnangagwa. Mugabe had planned for his deeply (1)__ wife (Gucci) Grace Mugabe to succeed him. It was the (2)__ for the military to seize control in Zimbabwe. On Sunday night, President Mugabe gave a 20 minute rambling speech to the nation. He was expected to (3)__ on live TV. Vast crowds in Harare watched in total (4)__ as he resisted resigning.

The army and parliament then gave Mugabe till midday on Monday to resign, otherwise (5)__ proceedings would be started against him on Tuesday. Once again, the deadline on Monday passed. It wasn't until Tuesday evening that a letter was read out in parliament announcing Mugabe had resigned. This (6)__ news sent the country into mass (7)__. Finally, the people were free from the (8)__.

tyrant / impeachment / disbelief / trigger / unpopular / dramatic / celebration / resign /

GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

Zimbabwe after Mugabe

There are 8 x the – to add in!

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Mugabe only resigned because he was about to be impeached. Two days earlier he was thrown out of ruling party ZANU-PF and dismissed as its leader. His wife Grace Mugabe was also expelled from party and is facing prosecution. Former vice president Emmerson Mnangagwa, who is also known as 'the Crocodile', has been appointed as new leader of ZANU-PF. He is likely to become next president of Zimbabwe.

the / the / the / the / the / the / the / the

To recall – two weeks ago things came to (1)__ head when Mugabe sacked Mnangagwa. Mugabe had planned for (2)__ deeply unpopular wife (Gucci) Grace Mugabe to succeed (3)__. It was the trigger (4)__ the military to seize control (5)__ Zimbabwe. On Sunday night, President Mugabe gave a 20 minute rambling speech to the nation. (6)__ was expected to resign (7)__ live TV. Vast crowds in Harare watched in total disbelief as he resisted resigning.

The army and parliament then gave Mugabe till midday on Monday to resign, otherwise impeachment proceedings would be started against him on Tuesday. Once again, the deadline on Monday passed. (8)__ wasn't until Tuesday evening that a letter was read out in parliament announcing Mugabe had resigned. This dramatic news sent the country into mass celebration. Finally, the people were free from the tyrant.

him / his / for / on / in / it / a / he /

Zimbabwe after Mugabe – 25/11/2017



GAP FILL: LISTENING

Zimbabwe after Mugabe

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Zimbabwe.

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WRITING/SPELLING

1) WRITING / SPEAKING

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

2) In pairs/As a class. On the board list 10 natural resources and businesses that could make Zimbabwe great, once again. Talk briefly about each of them. *Five minutes.*

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

- 1) Zimbabwe _____
- 2) I think _____
- 3) Robert Mugabe _____

4) Homework - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: **Zimbabwe after Mugabe.**

SPELLING

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

- 1) Zimbabwe
- 2) prosecution
- 3) earlier
- 4) crocodile
- 5) Mugabe
- 6) Mnangagwa
- 7) unpopular
- 8) parliament
- 9) dramatic
- 10) finally

SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

Pass = 12

Good = 15

Very good = 18

Excellent = 20

- 11) impeachment
- 12) ruthless
- 13) quadrillion
- 14) jubilation
- 15) majority
- 16) trigger
- 17) military
- 18) seize
- 19) resign
- 20) Harare

Zimbabwe after Mugabe – 25/11/2017