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Level 5

U.S. rock group banned from Russia

6th August, 2013

http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1308/130806-music_festival-5.html

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Please try Level 4 (easier) and the 26–page Level 6 (harder).

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THE READING

From http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1308/130806-music_festival-5.html

An American rock group have been banned from performing at a music festival in Russia after a band member stuffed the Russian flag inside his pants. Jared Hasselhoff, the bass player with the band Bloodhound Gang, put the flag into the front of his pants and pulled it out the back. The band were at a concert in the Ukraine. Hasselhoff grabbed the flag and told the crowd, "Don't tell Putin". His stunt led Russia's Culture Minister to describe the band as "idiots". He banned them from playing at Russia's Kubana music festival this week. Hasselhoff later apologised for his actions.

The band may face criminal charges. The governor of the region holding the festival, tweeted: "For such pranks they should be behind bars." Russian lawmaker Vladimir Markin told reporters that under the Russian Criminal Code, abusing the Russian state flag is a crime. He said: "We will do our best to identify and bring to court every person involved." A comment posted on the Voice of Russia website called Hasselhoff's actions an "unpardonable and inexcusable criminal act" that broke Russian laws and insulted Russians worldwide.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-23560474>
<http://en.ria.ru/russia/20130803/182565516/Russian-Lawmakers-Seek-Tough-Punishment-for-US-Rockers-Over-Flag-Desecration.html>
http://english.ruvr.ru/news/2013_08_04/Americas-Bloodhound-Gang-cut-short-stay-in-Russia-over-flag-incident-7511/

MATCHING

From http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1308/130806-music_festival-5.html

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. banned from | a. inside his pants |
| 2. stuffed the Russian flag | b. as "idiots" |
| 3. bass | c. the flag |
| 4. pulled it | d. for his actions |
| 5. Hasselhoff grabbed | e. player |
| 6. describe the band | f. performing |
| 7. music | g. out the back |
| 8. Hasselhoff later apologised | h. festival |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. The band may face | a. every person involved |
| 2. the region holding | b. is a crime |
| 3. they should be behind | c. the festival |
| 4. abusing the Russian state flag | d. worldwide |
| 5. We will do | e. criminal charges |
| 6. identify and bring to court | f. and inexcusable |
| 7. unpardonable | g. bars |
| 8. insulted Russians | h. our best |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1308/130806-music_festival-5.html

An American rock group (1) _____ performing at a music festival in Russia after a band (2) _____ Russian flag inside his pants. Jared Hasselhoff, the (3) _____ band Bloodhound Gang, put the flag into the front of his pants and pulled it out the back. The band (4) _____ the Ukraine. Hasselhoff grabbed the flag and told the crowd, "Don't tell Putin". (5) _____ Culture Minister to describe (6) _____. He banned them from playing at Russia's Kubana music festival this week. Hasselhoff later apologised for his actions.

The band may (7) _____. The governor of the region holding the festival, tweeted: "For such pranks they (8) _____." Russian lawmaker Vladimir Markin told reporters that under the (9) _____, abusing the Russian state flag is a crime. He said: "We will do (10) _____ and bring to court every person involved." (11) _____ the Voice of Russia website called Hasselhoff's actions an "(12) _____ criminal act" that broke Russian laws and insulted Russians worldwide.

NATIONAL FLAGS SURVEY

From http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1308/130806-music_festival-5.html

Write five GOOD questions about national flags in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

