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Level 6

Russia faces athletics suspension

13th November, 2015

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1511/151113-athletics.html>

Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	14
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	15
Before Reading / Listening	4	Spelling	16
While Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	17
Match The Sentences And Listen	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	18
Listening Gap Fill	7	Circle The Correct Word	19
Comprehension Questions	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	20
Multiple Choice - Quiz	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	21
Role Play	10	Put A Slash (/) Where The Spaces Are	22
After Reading / Listening	11	Free Writing	23
Student Survey	12	Academic Writing	24
Discussion (20 Questions)	13	Homework	25
		Answers	26

Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1511/151113-athletics.html>

A new and damning report from the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has turned the athletics world upside down. The report focuses on Russia and claims that doping is prevalent throughout Russian athletics. The country could be suspended from all international competitions if it does not acknowledge the claims made in the report and take drastic actions to address them. The report goes so far to say that doping in Russian athletics was state sponsored. Senior figures in the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) will recommend that Russia be suspended from competitions. WADA also called for lifetime bans for 10 Russian athletes.

Russian officials have hit back at the findings of the WADA report and called them "groundless". Russian Sports Minister Vitaly Mutko commented on the possibility of Russia being banned from taking part in the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. He said it was inconceivable that this could happen. He stated: "I would not like to consider such an option. We have young sportsmen, for whom it will be their first Olympics." He added that: "Clean sportsmen should not suffer. They achieve their results by hard work. We must protect them." A spokesman for Russian President Vladimir Putin said: "As long as there is no evidence, it is difficult to consider the accusations, which appear rather unfounded."

Sources: <http://www.theguardian.com/sport/2015/nov/10/russia-iaaf-facing-suspension-wada-doping-report>
<http://www.ctvnews.ca/sports/no-evidence-of-doping-conspiracy-putin-s-spokesman-1.2652010>
<https://www.rt.com/news/321459-ioc-disciplinary-action-russia/>

WARM-UPS

1. ATHLETICS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about athletics. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

report / athletics / upside down / suspended / drastic actions / sponsored / competition / officials / findings / possibility / option / sportsmen / results / hard work / accusations

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. SPORT: How can we protect sports from these things? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How it affects the sport	How to clean it up
Drugs		
Corruption		
Politics		
Money		
Gambling		
Cheating		

4. LIFETIME BAN: Students A **strongly** believe drug cheats should get a lifetime ban; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. SPORTS: Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- athletics
- football
- tennis
- Formula 1
- rugby
- skiing
- golf
- sailing

6. DOPING: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "doping". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1511/151113-athletics.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- | | |
|---|-------|
| a. The world of athletics has been turned upside down. | T / F |
| b. Russia has been suspended from all international athletics competitions. | T / F |
| c. A report says that the Russian state knew about the doping. | T / F |
| d. An organization called WADA wants 10 athletes suspended. | T / F |
| e. Russia has said there is no truth in the claims in the report. | T / F |
| f. The Russian Sports Minister said Russia could pull out of Brazil 2016. | T / F |
| g. The Minister said all Russian athletes have previous Olympic experience. | T / F |
| h. Russian President has not yet commented on the report. | T / F |

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. damning | a. serious |
| 2. prevalent | b. likelihood |
| 3. acknowledge | c. barred |
| 4. drastic | d. damaging |
| 5. findings | e. charges |
| 6. possibility | f. conclusions |
| 7. banned | g. widespread |
| 8. taking part | h. proof |
| 9. evidence | i. participating |
| 10. accusations | j. admit |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. A new and damning | a. Russian athletics |
| 2. turned the athletics world upside | b. could happen |
| 3. claims that doping is prevalent throughout | c. down |
| 4. take drastic | d. back at the findings |
| 5. lifetime | e. consider the accusations |
| 6. Russian officials have hit | f. report |
| 7. banned from taking | g. evidence |
| 8. it was inconceivable that this | h. actions |
| 9. there is no | i. bans |
| 10. it is difficult to | j. part |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1511/151113-athletics.html>

A new and (1) _____ report from the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has turned the athletics world (2) _____ down. The report focuses on Russia and claims that doping is (3) _____ throughout Russian athletics. The country could be (4) _____ from all international competitions if it does not acknowledge the claims made in the report and take (5) _____ actions to address them. The report goes so (6) _____ to say that doping in Russian athletics was state sponsored. Senior (7) _____ in the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) will recommend that Russia be suspended from competitions. WADA also called for (8) _____ bans for 10 Russian athletes.

prevalent
damning
far
upside
drastic
lifetime
suspended
figures

Russian officials have hit (9) _____ at the findings of the WADA report and called them "groundless". Russian Sports Minister Vitaly Mutko commented on the (10) _____ of Russia being banned from taking part in the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. He said it was (11) _____ that this could happen. He stated: "I would not like to consider such an (12) _____. We have young sportsmen, for whom it will be their first Olympics." He added that: "Clean sportsmen should not (13) _____. They achieve their results by hard work. We must (14) _____ them." A spokesman for Russian President Vladimir Putin said: "As long as there is no (15) _____, it is difficult to consider the (16) _____, which appear rather unfounded."

inconceivable
suffer
evidence
back
option
accusations
possibility
protect

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1511/151113-athletics.html>

- 1) the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has turned the athletics world _____
 - a. upside around
 - b. upside up
 - c. upside down
 - d. upside side
- 2) The report focuses on Russia and claims that doping is prevalent throughout _____
 - a. Russian athleticism
 - b. Russian athletics
 - c. Russian athletic
 - d. Russian athletes
- 3) if it does not acknowledge the claims made in the report and take _____
 - a. drastically actions
 - b. drastic actioned
 - c. drastic actions
 - d. drastic action
- 4) The report goes so far to say that doping in Russian athletics was _____
 - a. states sponsored
 - b. stated sponsored
 - c. status sponsored
 - d. state sponsored
- 5) WADA also called for lifetime _____ Russian athletes
 - a. bans for 10
 - b. banners for 10
 - c. bans for 10
 - d. banes for 10
- 6) Russian officials have hit back at the findings of the WADA report and called _____
 - a. there "groundless"
 - b. them "grounded"
 - c. them "grind less"
 - d. them "groundless"
- 7) Mutko commented on the possibility of Russia being banned _____
 - a. from taking parts
 - b. from talking part
 - c. from taking part
 - d. from talking parts
- 8) He stated: "I would not like to consider _____"
 - a. such an option
 - b. such the option
 - c. such an options
 - d. much an option
- 9) They achieve their results by hard work. We must _____
 - a. protect them
 - b. protective them
 - c. protection them
 - d. protects them
- 10) it is difficult to consider the accusations, which appear _____
 - a. rather dumbfounded
 - b. rather unfolded
 - c. rather unfounded
 - d. rather unfrowned

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1511/151113-athletics.html>

A new (1) _____ from the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has turned the athletics world (2) _____. The report focuses on Russia and claims that doping (3) _____ throughout Russian athletics. The country could be suspended from all international competitions if it does not acknowledge the claims made in the report and take (4) _____ to address them. The report goes (5) _____ that doping in Russian athletics was state sponsored. Senior figures in the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) will recommend that Russia be suspended from competitions. WADA also called (6) _____ for 10 Russian athletes.

Russian officials have (7) _____ findings of the WADA report and called them "groundless". Russian Sports Minister Vitaly Mutko commented (8) _____ Russia being banned from taking part in the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. He said it was inconceivable that this could happen. He stated: "I would not (9) _____ such an option. We have young sportsmen, for whom it will be their first Olympics." He added that: "Clean sportsmen (10) _____. They achieve their (11) _____ work. We must protect them." A spokesman for Russian President Vladimir Putin said: "As long as there is no evidence, (12) _____ consider the accusations, which appear rather unfounded."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1511/151113-athletics.html>

1. How does the report say athletics has been turned?

2. Where did the report say doping was prevalent?

3. What kind of actions does the report suggest Russia makes?

4. Who does the report say sponsored the doping?

5. What does WADA want for 10 athletes?

6. What did Russian officials call the findings in the report?

7. What could Russia be barred from in 2016?

8. Who did the Russian Sports Minister say should not suffer?

9. According to the Sports Minister, how do athletes achieve their results?

10. Who said the accusations were difficult to consider without evidence?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1511/151113-athletics.html>

1. How does the report say athletics has been turned?
 - a) backwards
 - b) upside down
 - c) inside out
 - d) over
2. Where did the report say doping was prevalent?
 - a) at the Olympics
 - b) in changing rooms
 - c) on the track
 - d) throughout Russian athletics
3. What kind of actions does the report suggest Russia makes?
 - a) drastic actions
 - b) sporting ones
 - c) long-lasting ones
 - d) permanent ones
4. Who does the report say sponsored the doping?
 - a) Nike
 - b) the IAAF
 - c) the state
 - d) a mysterious businessman
5. What does WADA want for 10 athletes?
 - a) medals
 - b) a lifetime ban
 - c) more training
 - d) investigator badges
6. What did Russian officials call the findings in the report?
 - a) groundless
 - b) interesting
 - c) total lies
 - d) fabricated
7. What could Russia be barred from in 2016?
 - a) attending a conference
 - b) all world sport
 - c) the Rio Olympics
 - d) the IAAF meeting
8. Who did the Russian Sports Minister say should not suffer?
 - a) clean sportsmen
 - b) its 100-metre champion
 - c) the president
 - d) Olympians
9. According to the Sports Minister, how do athletes achieve their results?
 - a) through hard work
 - b) by attaining perfection
 - c) day by day
 - d) through competition
10. Who said the accusations were difficult to consider without evidence?
 - a) Usain Bolt
 - b) Vitaly Mutko
 - c) WADA
 - d) Vladimir Putin

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1511/151113-athletics.html>

Role A – Athletics

You think athletics is the best sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their sports aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): golf, basketball or soccer.

Role B – Golf

You think golf is the best sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their sports aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): athletics, basketball or soccer.

Role C – Basketball

You think basketball is the best sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their sports aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): golf, athletics or soccer.

Role D – Football (soccer)

You think soccer is the best sport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their sports aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): golf, basketball or athletics.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1511/151113-athletics.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'upside' and 'down'.

upside	down

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• damning• throughout• claims• address• state• 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• hit• possibility• 2016• option• clean• appear
--	--

ATHLETICS SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1511/151113-athletics.html>

Write five GOOD questions about athletics 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.

ATHLETICS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- 1) What did you think when you read the headline?
- 2) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'athletics'?
- 3) What do you think about what you read?
- 4) How serious is this scandal?
- 5) How many other countries do you think take part in doping?
- 6) How serious is this report for Russian athletics?
- 7) Why are there so many scandals in sport?
- 8) How can sport clean up its act?
- 9) Why did this report only focus on Russia?
- 10) What can the Russian athletes do if they are banned?

Russia faces athletics suspension – 13th November, 2015
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ATHLETICS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- 11) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- 12) Why does Russia think the report's claims are "groundless"?
- 13) Are the right people leading sports organisations?
- 14) How important is Russia to the 2016 Olympics?
- 15) Should athletes be allowed to take performance-enhancing drugs?
- 16) Do you think the 2016 Olympics will be hit by more scandals?
- 17) How unfair would a ban on clean Russian athletes be?
- 18) How does this scandal compare to the FIFA scandal?
- 19) What advice would you give to the head of the IAAF?
- 20) What questions would you like to ask the head of the IAAF?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1511/151113-athletics.html>

A new and (1) _____ report from the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has turned the athletics world upside down. The report focuses (2) _____ Russia and claims that doping is prevalent throughout Russian athletics. The country could be suspended from all international competitions if it does not (3) _____ the claims made in the report and take drastic actions to address them. The report goes so (4) _____ to say that doping in Russian athletics was state sponsored. Senior (5) _____ in the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) will recommend that Russia be suspended from competitions. WADA also called for (6) _____ bans for 10 Russian athletes.

Russian officials have (7) _____ back at the findings of the WADA report and called them "groundless". Russian Sports Minister Vitaly Mutko commented (8) _____ the possibility of Russia being banned from (9) _____ part in the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. He said it was inconceivable that this could happen. He stated: "I would not like to consider (10) _____ an option. We have young sportsmen, for whom it will be their first Olympics." He added that: "Clean sportsmen should not suffer. They achieve their results (11) _____ hard work. We must protect them." A spokesman for Russian President Vladimir Putin said: "As long as there is no evidence, it is difficult to consider the accusations, which appear (12) _____ unfounded."

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. | (a) damned | (b) damn | (c) damning | (d) damnation |
| 2. | (a) on | (b) in | (c) to | (d) at |
| 3. | (a) acknowledge | (b) acknowledges | (c) acknowledging | (d) acknowledgment |
| 4. | (a) for | (b) far | (c) fair | (d) fear |
| 5. | (a) digits | (b) numerals | (c) numbers | (d) figures |
| 6. | (a) lifeline | (b) lifetime | (c) lifestyle | (d) life-and-death |
| 7. | (a) hit | (b) punched | (c) smacked | (d) poked |
| 8. | (a) by | (b) of | (c) on | (d) as |
| 9. | (a) raking | (b) faking | (c) making | (d) taking |
| 10. | (a) much | (b) such | (c) this | (d) that |
| 11. | (a) by | (b) of | (c) at | (d) very |
| 12. | (a) choose | (b) ready | (c) prefer | (d) rather |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1511/151113-athletics.html>

Paragraph 1

1. A new and mngdnia report
2. venprtael throughout Russian athletics
3. The country could be npsedsedu
4. aegdnockew the claims
5. take crsitda actions
6. state sordseonp

Paragraph 2

7. called them rgdlneouss
8. Mutko tncemeodm on the possibility
9. He said it was enaoccliibvne
10. there is no ceivnede
11. consider the iscutnaacos
12. appear rather ddofnnueu

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1511/151113-athletics.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

()	down. The report focuses on Russia and claims that doping is prevalent throughout Russian
()	in the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) will recommend that Russia be suspended
()	from taking part in the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. He said it was inconceivable that this could
()	as there is no evidence, it is difficult to consider the accusations, which appear rather unfounded."
()	"groundless". Russian Sports Minister Vitaly Mutko commented on the possibility of Russia being banned
()	from competitions. WADA also called for lifetime bans for 10 Russian athletes.
()	work. We must protect them." A spokesman for Russian President Vladimir Putin said: "As long
()	athletics. The country could be suspended from all international competitions if it does not acknowledge
()	far to say that doping in Russian athletics was state sponsored. Senior figures
()	Russian officials have hit back at the findings of the WADA report and called them
()	the claims made in the report and take drastic actions to address them. The report goes so
()	first Olympics." He added that: "Clean sportsmen should not suffer. They achieve their results by hard
(1)	A new and damning report from the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has turned the athletics world upside
()	happen. He stated: "I would not like to consider such an option. We have young sportsmen, for whom it will be their

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1511/151113-athletics.html>

1. Doping World report new Agency Anti from and - the damning A .

2. prevalent Russian is throughout athletics Doping .

3. in made claims the acknowledge not does it If report the .

4. sponsored state was athletics Russian in Doping .

5. Russian also lifetime 10 WADA for for athletes called bans .

6. officials the have findings hit back Russian at .

7. said inconceivable could He was this it that happen .

8. to an I like such not consider option would .

9. should that : "Clean not added suffer" . He sportsmen

10. as to evidence long difficult no As is is it there consider , .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1511/151113-athletics.html>

A new and *darning* / *damning* report from the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has turned the athletics world upside *up* / *down*. The report focuses on Russia and claims that doping is *prevalence* / *prevalent* throughout Russian athletics. The country could be *suspended* / *suspension* from all international competitions if it does not *acknowledged* / *acknowledge* the claims made in the report and take *drastic* / *drastically* actions to address them. The report goes *so* / *such* far to say that doping in Russian athletics was state *sponsor* / *sponsored*. Senior figures in the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) will *recommend* / *commend* that Russia be suspended from competitions. WADA also called for lifetime *bans* / *bars* for 10 Russian athletes.

Russian officials have hit *forward* / *back* at the findings of the WADA report and called them "*groundless*" / "*groundlings*". Russian Sports Minister Vitaly Mutko commented on the *possibility* / *possible* of Russia being banned from *taking* / *taken* part in the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. He said it was inconceivable that this could *happen* / *happening*. He stated: "I would not like to consider *such* / *so* an option. We have young sportsmen, for *whom* / *they* it will be their first Olympics." He added that: "Clean sportsmen should not *suffer* / *suffering*. They achieve their results *at* / *by* hard work. We must protect them." A spokesman for Russian President Vladimir Putin said: "As long as there is no evidence, it is difficult to consider the accusations, which appear rather *unfounded* / *finding*."

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1511/151113-athletics.html>

_ n _ w _ nd d _ mn _ ng r _ p _ rt fr _ m th _ W _ rld _ nt _ -D _ p _ ng
_ g _ ncy (W _ D _) h _ s t _ rn _ d th _ _ thl _ t _ cs w _ rld _ ps _ d _
d _ wn. Th _ r _ p _ rt f _ c _ s _ s _ n R _ ss _ _ nd cl _ _ ms th _ t
d _ p _ ng _ s pr _ v _ l _ nt thr _ _ gh _ t R _ ss _ _ n _ thl _ t _ cs. Th _
c _ _ ntry c _ _ ld b _ _ s _ sp _ nd _ d fr _ m _ ll _ nt _ rn _ t _ _ n _ l
c _ mp _ t _ t _ _ ns _ f _ t d _ _ s _ n _ t _ ckn _ wl _ dg _ th _ cl _ _ ms
m _ d _ _ n th _ r _ p _ rt _ nd t _ k _ dr _ st _ c _ ct _ _ ns t _
_ ddr _ ss th _ m. Th _ r _ p _ rt g _ _ s _ s _ f _ r t _ s _ y th _ t
d _ p _ ng _ n R _ ss _ _ n _ thl _ t _ cs w _ s st _ t _ sp _ ns _ r _ d.
S _ n _ _ r f _ g _ r _ s _ n th _ _ nt _ rn _ t _ _ n _ l _ ss _ c _ _ t _ _ n _ f
_ thl _ t _ cs F _ d _ r _ t _ _ ns (_ _ _ F) w _ ll r _ c _ mm _ nd th _ t
R _ ss _ _ b _ _ s _ sp _ nd _ d fr _ m c _ mp _ t _ t _ _ ns. W _ D _ _ ls _
c _ ll _ d f _ r l _ f _ t _ m _ b _ ns f _ r 10 R _ ss _ _ n _ thl _ t _ s.

R _ ss _ _ n _ ff _ c _ _ ls h _ v _ h _ t b _ ck _ t th _ f _ nd _ ngs _ f th _
W _ D _ r _ p _ rt _ nd c _ ll _ d th _ m "gr _ _ ndl _ ss". R _ ss _ _ n
Sp _ rts M _ n _ st _ r V _ t _ ly M _ tk _ c _ mm _ nt _ d _ _ n th _
p _ ss _ b _ l _ ty _ f R _ ss _ _ b _ _ ng b _ nn _ d fr _ m t _ k _ ng p _ rt
_ n th _ 2016 _ lymp _ cs _ n R _ _ d _ J _ n _ _ r _ . H _ s _ _ d _ t
w _ s _ nc _ nc _ _ v _ bl _ th _ t th _ s c _ _ ld h _ pp _ n. H _ st _ t _ d:
" _ w _ _ ld n _ t l _ k _ t _ c _ ns _ d _ r _ s _ ch _ _ n _ pt _ _ n. W _
h _ v _ y _ _ ng sp _ rtsm _ n, f _ r wh _ m _ t w _ ll b _ th _ _ r f _ rst
_ lymp _ cs." H _ _ dd _ d th _ t: "Cl _ _ n sp _ rtsm _ n sh _ _ ld n _ t
s _ ff _ r. Th _ y _ ch _ _ v _ th _ _ r r _ s _ lts by h _ rd w _ rk. W _
m _ st pr _ t _ ct th _ m." _ _ sp _ k _ sm _ n f _ r R _ ss _ _ n
Pr _ s _ d _ nt Vl _ d _ m _ r P _ t _ n _ s _ _ d: " _ s l _ ng _ s th _ r _ _ s
n _ _ v _ d _ nc _ , _ t _ _ s _ d _ ff _ c _ lt _ t _ c _ ns _ d _ r th _
_ cc _ s _ t _ _ ns, wh _ ch _ pp _ r _ r _ th _ r _ nf _ _ nd _ d."

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1511/151113-athletics.html>

a new and damning report from the world anti-doping agency (wada) has turned the athletics world upside down the report focuses on russia and claims that doping is prevalent throughout russian athletics the country could be suspended from all international competitions if it does not acknowledge the claims made in the report and take drastic actions to address them the report goes so far to say that doping in russian athletics was state sponsored senior figures in the international association of athletics federations (iaaf) will recommend that russia be suspended from competitions wada also called for lifetime bans for 10 russian athletes

russian officials have hit back at the findings of the wada report and called them "groundless" russian sports minister vitaly mutko commented on the possibility of russia being banned from taking part in the 2016 olympics in rio de janeiro he said it was inconceivable that this could happen he stated "i would not like to consider such an option we have young sportsmen for whom it will be their first olympics" he added that "clean sportsmen should not suffer they achieve their results by hard work we must protect them" a spokesman for russian president vladimir putin said "as long as there is no evidence it is difficult to consider the accusations which appear rather unfounded"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1511/151113-athletics.html>

A new and damning report from the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has turned the athletics world upside down. The report focuses on Russia and claims that doping is prevalent throughout Russian athletics. The country could be suspended from all international competitions if it does not acknowledge the claims made in the report and take drastic actions to address them. The report goes so far to say that doping in Russian athletics was state-sponsored. Senior figures in the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) will recommend that Russia be suspended from competitions. WADA also called for lifetime bans for 10 Russian athletes. Russian officials have hit back at the findings of the WADA report and called them "groundless". Russian Sports Minister Vitaly Mutko commented on the possibility of Russia being banned from taking part in the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. He said it was inconceivable that this could happen. He stated: "I would not like to consider such an option. We have young sportsmen, for whom it will be their first Olympics." He added that: "Clean sportsmen should not suffer. They achieve their results by hard work. We must protect them." A spokesman for Russian President Vladimir Putin said: "As long as there is no evidence, it is difficult to consider the accusations, which appear rather unfounded."

FREE WRITING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1511/151113-athletics.html>

Write about **athletics** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

ACADEMIC WRITING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1511/151113-athletics.html>

Athletes who take drugs should be banned for life. Discuss.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about the athletics scandal. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. ATHLETICS: Make a poster about athletics. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. SUSPENDED: Write a magazine article about WADA wanting Russia suspended from international athletics competitions. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on doping. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to stop it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a T b F c T d T e T f F g F h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. damning | a. damaging |
| 2. prevalent | b. widespread |
| 3. acknowledge | c. admit |
| 4. drastic | d. serious |
| 5. findings | e. conclusions |
| 6. possibility | f. likelihood |
| 7. banned | g. barred |
| 8. taking part | h. participating |
| 9. evidence | i. proof |
| 10. accusations | j. charges |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Upside down
2. Throughout Russian athletics
3. Drastic actions
4. The state
5. Lifetime bans
6. Groundless
7. The Rio Olympics
8. Clean sportsmen
9. Through hard work
10. Vladimir Putin

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. b 2. d 3. a 4. c 5. b 6. a 7. c 8. a 1. b 2. d

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)