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Level 5

Boris Johnson – UK's controversial new foreign secretary

16th July, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1607/160716-boris-johnson-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1607/160716-boris-johnson-5.html>

Britain's new Prime Minister Theresa May has surprised the world by appointing Boris Johnson as the UK's new Foreign Secretary. Mr Johnson is the controversial former Mayor of London. He led the campaign for Britain to leave the European Union and is now Britain's top diplomat. Mr Johnson has a record of being very undiplomatic to world leaders. He once said Hillary Clinton was a "sadistic nurse in a mental hospital". He compared Russia's Vladimir Putin to a Harry Potter creature. He also made racist comments about African countries and Papua New Guinea.

A British newspaper said Mrs May, "had managed to unite the international community in bewilderment by her appointment of Boris Johnson". France's foreign secretary said Mr Johnson lied to the British people. Journalists in Germany wondered whether British politics was becoming a farcical comedy show. The Washington Post asked how Mr Johnson could become Britain's top diplomat after offending much of the world. Mr Johnson ignored comments about him not being the right person for the position. He said his job was to reshape Britain as a "great global player".

Sources: <http://edition.cnn.com/2016/07/13/europe/boris-johnson-uk-foreign-secretary/>
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2016/07/14/why-boris-johnson-became-britains-top-diplomat-despite-having-offended-much-of-the-world/>
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/who-is-boris-johnson-uk-foreign-secretary-british-government-theresa-may-cabinet-a7135996.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1607/160716-boris-johnson-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. surprised the world by | a. undiplomatic |
| 2. the controversial former Mayor | b. a mental hospital |
| 3. the campaign for Britain to | c. of London |
| 4. a record of being very | d. comments |
| 5. world | e. appointing Boris Johnson |
| 6. a "sadistic nurse in | f. creature |
| 7. a Harry Potter | g. leave the European Union |
| 8. He also made racist | h. leaders |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. unite the | a. reshape Britain |
| 2. Mr Johnson lied | b. wondered |
| 3. Journalists in Germany | c. offending much of the world |
| 4. a farcical comedy | d. player |
| 5. become Britain's top diplomat after | e. for the position |
| 6. the right person | f. show |
| 7. He said his job was to | g. international community |
| 8. a great global | h. to the British people |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1607/160716-boris-johnson-5.html>

Britain's new Prime Minister Theresa May (1) _____ world by appointing Boris Johnson as the UK's new Foreign Secretary. Mr Johnson (2) _____ former Mayor of London. He led the campaign for Britain to leave the European Union and is now (3) _____. Mr Johnson has a record of being (4) _____ to world leaders. He once said Hillary Clinton was a "(5) _____ a mental hospital". He compared Russia's Vladimir Putin to a Harry Potter creature. He also made (6) _____ about African countries and Papua New Guinea.

A British newspaper said Mrs May, "had (7) _____ the international community in (8) _____ appointment of Boris Johnson". France's foreign secretary said Mr Johnson lied to the British people. Journalists in Germany (9) _____ British politics was becoming (10) _____ show. The Washington Post asked how Mr Johnson could become Britain's top diplomat after offending much of the world. Mr Johnson (11) _____ about him not being the right person for the position. He said his job (12) _____ Britain as a "great global player".

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1607/160716-boris-johnson-5.html>

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DIPLOMACY SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1607/160716-boris-johnson-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about diplomacy 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) _____

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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) _____

