

NEWS ENGLISH LESSONS.com

Australians want flag with no Union Jack

MANY FLASH AND ONLINE ACTIVITIES FOR THIS LESSON, PLUS A LISTENING, AT:

http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1001/100126-union_jack.html

IN THIS LESSON:

The Reading / Tapescript	2
Phrase Match	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
Multiple Choice	5
Spelling	6
Put the Text Back Together	7
Scrambled Sentences	8
Discussion	9
Writing	10
Homework	11

ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

26th January, 2010

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1001/100126-union_jack.html

Australian politicians are trying to get the Union Jack removed from their national flag. The call came on Australia Day – January 26th. As Australians celebrate their national holiday the country's political leaders want a redesign of their flag. Many Australians think a new flag is a good idea. The current flag has the Union Jack in the top left corner. Many people see it as a reminder of when Australia was a British colony. Australian TV Presenter Ray Martin said: "We're multi-cultural. We don't need the British connection."

A country's flag is a very important thing. It represents everything about a nation. Americans are very proud of their flag, the Stars and Stripes. That flag has a lot of meaning – the red and white stripes are for the original states and the stars are the current ones. Not everyone likes that flag. It is common to see people burning it on the news. Australia is a young country so a new flag might be good for them. The Union Jack was OK when most of the people had British roots. In today's Australia, many people have Asian origins.

PHRASE MATCH

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1001/100126-union_jack.html

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Australian | a. holiday |
| 2. celebrate their national | b. the Union Jack |
| 3. a redesign of | c. politicians |
| 4. The current flag has | d. cultural |
| 5. in the top | e. their flag |
| 6. We're multi- | f. left corner |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. a very important | a. have Asian origins |
| 2. everything about | b. see people |
| 3. the red and white | c. a nation |
| 4. common to | d. thing |
| 5. people had British | e. stripes |
| 6. many people | f. roots |

LISTENING GAP FILL

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1001/100126-union_jack.html

Australian politicians are _____ Union Jack removed from their national flag. The call came on Australia Day – January 26th. As Australians _____ holiday the country's political leaders _____ of their flag. Many Australians think a new flag is a good idea. The current flag has the Union Jack in _____. Many people see it as a reminder of when Australia was _____. Australian TV Presenter Ray Martin said: “_____”. We don't need the British connection.”

A country's _____ important thing. It represents everything about a nation. Americans _____ their flag, the Stars and Stripes. That flag has a lot of meaning – the red and white stripes are for _____ and the stars are the current ones. Not everyone likes that flag. It is common to _____ it on the news. Australia is a young country so a new flag might be good for them. The Union Jack was OK when most of the people _____. In today's Australia, many people _____.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1001/100126-union_jack.html

Australian politicians are trying to get the Union Jack (1) _____ from their national flag. The (2) _____ came on Australia Day – January 26th. As Australians celebrate their national holiday the country's political leaders want a redesign of their flag. Many Australians think a new flag is a good (3) _____. The current flag has the Union Jack in the top left corner. Many people see it as a (4) _____ of when Australia was a British colony. Australian TV Presenter Ray Martin said: "We're (5) _____ -cultural. We don't need the British connection."

A country's flag is a very important thing. It (6) _____ everything about a nation. Americans are very (7) _____ of their flag, the Stars and Stripes. That flag has a lot of meaning – the red and white stripes are for the original states and the stars are the (8) _____ ones. Not everyone likes that flag. It is common to see people (9) _____ it on the news. Australia is a young country so a new flag might be good for them. The Union Jack was OK when most of the people had British (10) _____. In today's Australia, many people have Asian origins.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | |
|-----|----------------|---------------|--------------------|
| 1. | (a) removal | (b) removed | (c) removes |
| 2. | (a) call | (b) calling | (c) called |
| 3. | (a) idea | (b) ideal | (c) ideals |
| 4. | (a) remainder | (b) reminds | (c) reminder |
| 5. | (a) nultiple | (b) multi | (c) multiply |
| 6. | (a) represents | (b) represent | (c) representative |
| 7. | (a) pride | (b) proudly | (c) proud |
| 8. | (a) currant | (b) current | (c) currency |
| 9. | (a) burning | (b) burns | (c) burnt |
| 10. | (a) rooted | (b) rooting | (c) roots |

SPELLING

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1001/100126-union_jack.html

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. Australian sniacpltoii
2. tinlnoaa flag
3. the eurcrtn flag
4. top left nrroce
5. see it as a nmirerde
6. multi-curalltu

Paragraph 2

7. a nniota
8. very dpuro
9. a lot of mgeiann
10. stars and estiprs
11. British otros
12. Asian irsingo

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1001/100126-union_jack.html

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () A country's flag is a very important thing. It represents everything about a nation. Americans are very proud
- () the original states and the stars are the current ones. Not everyone likes that flag. It is common to see
- () of their flag, the Stars and Stripes. That flag has a lot of meaning – the red and white stripes are for
- () people burning it on the news. Australia is a young country so a new flag might be good for
- (**1**) Australian politicians are trying to get the Union Jack removed from their national flag. The call came on
- () Union Jack in the top left corner. Many people see it as a reminder of when Australia was a British
- () Australia Day – January 26th. As Australians celebrate their national holiday the country's political leaders
- () want a redesign of their flag. Many Australians think a new flag is a good idea. The current flag has the
- () them. The Union Jack was OK when most of the people had British roots. In today's Australia, many people have Asian origins.
- () colony. Australian TV Presenter Ray Martin said: "We're multi-cultural. We don't need the British connection."

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1001/100126-union_jack.html

With a partner, put the words back into the correct order.

1. Union from flag the removed national Get Jack their.

2. a redesign Political of leaders their want flag.

3. a is idea think flag good Australians new a.

4. reminder Australia British A when a of was colony.

5. We need British don't the connection.

6. flag thing is a A very country's important.

7. very are Americans flag their of proud.

8. for states and are original red stripes the The white

9. British had people the of Most roots.

10. have people Many origins Asian.

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

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

Copyright © www.NewsEnglishLessons.com

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

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

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. FLAGS: Search the Internet and find more information about the Union Jack. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about the Australian politicians wanting a new flag. Include imaginary interviews with a politician and someone who loves the current flag. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

4. 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.

5. LETTER: Write a letter to an Australian politician. Ask him/her three questions about his/her flag. Give him/her three of your opinions on this story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.