

NEWS ENGLISH LESSONS.com

Brits angry at Xmas reindeer steaks

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

<http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1011/101116-christmas.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.

16th November, 2010

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1011/101116-christmas.html>

British people are angry at a discount supermarket for selling reindeer meat. The store, Lidl, is offering "Rudolph steaks" as an alternative to the traditional turkey. The German chain is selling the frozen steaks along with other "luxury meats" such as pheasant, venison and springbok. The vegetarian campaign group Viva! say that "Lidl is destroying the magic of Christmas". Animal rights group PETA said: "The idea of 'Rudolph' being slaughtered and sliced into steaks for a novelty Christmas dinner is revolting."

Viva! spokesman Justin Kerswell is worried the reindeer suffer a horrible death. He claimed the Siberian reindeer are chased by snowmobiles and helicopters and may be killed in a cruel way. He added that transporting the meat from Siberia to Britain increased the supermarket's carbon footprint. A PETA spokesperson agreed, saying: "Christmas is supposed to remind us of peace and goodwill - and the rest of the animal kingdom could do with a taste of it, rather than being tasted."

PHRASE MATCH

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1011/101116-christmas.html>

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. people are angry | a. the traditional turkey |
| 2. an alternative to | b. with other "luxury meats" |
| 3. along | c. the magic of Christmas |
| 4. destroying | d. at a discount supermarket |
| 5. Animal rights | e. steaks |
| 6. sliced into | f. group |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. the reindeer suffer | a. and goodwill |
| 2. chased | b. a cruel way |
| 3. killed in | c. footprint |
| 4. the supermarket's carbon | d. a horrible death |
| 5. remind us of peace | e. of the animal kingdom |
| 6. the rest | f. by snowmobiles |

LISTENING GAP FILL

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1011/101116-christmas.html>

British people _____ discount supermarket for selling reindeer meat. The store, Lidl, is offering "Rudolph steaks" as an _____ traditional turkey. The German chain is selling the frozen steaks _____ "luxury meats" such as pheasant, venison and springbok. The vegetarian campaign group Viva! say that "Lidl is _____ of Christmas". _____ PETA said: "The idea of 'Rudolph' being slaughtered and _____ for a novelty Christmas dinner is revolting."

Viva! spokesman Justin Kerswell is worried the reindeer _____ death. He claimed the Siberian reindeer are chased by snowmobiles and helicopters _____ in a cruel way. He added _____ meat from Siberia to Britain increased the supermarket's _____. A PETA spokesperson agreed, saying: "Christmas is supposed to _____ and goodwill - and the rest of the animal kingdom could do with a taste of it, _____ tasted."

MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1011/101116-christmas.html>

British people are angry (1) _____ a discount supermarket for selling reindeer meat. The store, Lidl, is offering "Rudolph steaks" (2) _____ an alternative to the traditional turkey. The German (3) _____ is selling the frozen steaks along with other "luxury meats" such as pheasant, venison and springbok. The (4) _____ campaign group Viva! say that "Lidl is destroying the (5) _____ of Christmas". Animal rights group PETA said: "The idea of 'Rudolph' being slaughtered and (6) _____ into steaks for a novelty Christmas dinner is revolting."

Viva! spokesman Justin Kerswell is worried the reindeer (7) _____ a horrible death. He (8) _____ the Siberian reindeer are chased by snowmobiles and helicopters and may be killed in a (9) _____ way. He added that transporting the meat from Siberia to Britain increased the supermarket's carbon (10) _____. A PETA spokesperson agreed, saying: "Christmas is supposed to remind us of (11) _____ and goodwill - and the rest of the animal kingdom could do with a taste of it, (12) _____ than being tasted."

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) on | (b) to | (c) at |
| 2. | (a) as | (b) was | (c) has |
| 3. | (a) lock | (b) chain | (c) key |
| 4. | (a) vegetable | (b) vegetarian | (c) vegetate |
| 5. | (a) magician | (b) magically | (c) magic |
| 6. | (a) sliced | (b) diced | (c) iced |
| 7. | (a) suffering | (b) suffer | (c) sufferable |
| 8. | (a) claiming | (b) claim | (c) claimed |
| 9. | (a) cruel | (b) cruelty | (c) cruelly |
| 10. | (a) fingerprint | (b) footprint | (c) hoof print |
| 11. | (a) piece | (b) peas | (c) peace |
| 12. | (a) rather | (b) instead | (c) prefer |

SPELLING

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1011/101116-christmas.html>

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. a nuoidcts supermarket
2. as an etarinevtal
3. onferz steaks
4. other "ylurxu meats"
5. the giacm of Christmas
6. eslicd into steaks

Paragraph 2

7. suffer a horrible daeht
8. aechds by snowmobiles
9. killed in a reucL way
10. norcab footprint
11. peace and oidlglwo
12. hrreat than being tasted

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1011/101116-christmas.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () goodwill - and the rest of the animal kingdom could do with a taste of it, rather than being tasted."
- () "Rudolph steaks" as an alternative to the traditional turkey. The German chain is selling the frozen
- (**1**) British people are angry at a discount supermarket for selling reindeer meat. The store, Lidl, is offering
- () Siberian reindeer are chased by snowmobiles and helicopters and may be killed in a cruel way. He
- () added that transporting the meat from Siberia to Britain increased the supermarket's carbon
- () "The idea of 'Rudolph' being slaughtered and sliced into steaks for a novelty Christmas dinner is revolting."
- () footprint. A PETA spokesperson agreed, saying: "Christmas is supposed to remind us of peace and
- () Viva! spokesman Justin Kerswell is worried the reindeer suffer a horrible death. He claimed the
- () steaks along with other "luxury meats" such as pheasant, venison and springbok. The vegetarian
- () campaign group Viva! say that "Lidl is destroying the magic of Christmas". Animal rights group PETA said:

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

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

1. are supermarket angry at British a people discount.

2. alternative the turkey An to traditional.

3. steaks is selling The the German frozen chain.

4. of magic the destroying is Lidl Christmas.

5. slaughtered sliced steaks Being and into.

6. a suffer reindeer the Worried death horrible.

7. Siberian The snowmobiles by chased are reindeer.

8. Increased footprint carbon supermarket's the.

9. of supposed peace to remind Christmas us is.

10. do The with animal a kingdom taste could.

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. _____

WRITING

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1011/101116-christmas.html>

Write about Christmas for 10 minutes. Show your partner your paper. Correct each other's work.

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. REINDEER STEAKS: Search the Internet and find more information about reindeer steaks. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about the Christmas reindeer steaks. Include imaginary interviews with some reindeer. 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 the boss of the Lidl supermarket. Ask him/her three questions about the reindeer steaks. Give him/her three of your opinions on them. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.