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Putin for president, says Medvedev

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

<http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1109/110924-president.html>

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

24th September, 2011

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1109/110924-president.html>

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev has told Russians that he thinks Vladimir Putin should be Russia's next leader. This makes it almost certain Mr Putin will win the presidential race in 2012. Putin was president for two terms from 2000 to 2008. Straight after Medvedev made his announcement, Putin outlined his plans to the Russian congress in the Kremlin. Russian presidents will soon serve for six years. Two six-year terms means Putin could stay in power until 2024.

Mr Putin still has a lot of power even though he is not president. Many Russians see him as a strong leader. He moved Russia from communism into a country where many people are rich. He said he would focus on education, health care and housing if he became president again. He also promised to make Russia fairer for working people by taxing the rich. He said: "The task of the government is not only to pour honey into a cup, but sometimes to give bitter medicine."

PHRASE MATCH

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1109/110924-president.html>

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Vladimir Putin should be | a. announcement |
| 2. president for two | b. six years |
| 3. Straight after Medvedev made his | c. terms |
| 4. Putin outlined | d. power until 2024 |
| 5. presidents will soon serve for | e. Russia's next leader |
| 6. Putin could stay in | f. his plans |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Putin still has a lot | a. a strong leader |
| 2. Russians see him as | b. the rich |
| 3. He said he would focus | c. of power |
| 4. make Russia fairer | d. into a cup |
| 5. taxing | e. for working people |
| 6. pour honey | f. on education |

LISTENING GAP FILL

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1109/110924-president.html>

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev _____ that he thinks Vladimir Putin should be Russia's next leader. This _____ certain Mr Putin will win the presidential race in 2012. Putin was president _____ 2000 to 2008. Straight after Medvedev made his announcement, Putin _____ to the Russian congress in the Kremlin. Russian presidents will _____ years. Two six-year terms means Putin could _____ 2024.

Mr Putin still has _____ even though he is not president. Many Russians _____ strong leader. He moved Russia from communism into a country where many people are rich. He said he _____ education, health care and housing if he became president again. He also promised to make Russia _____ people by taxing the rich. He said: "The task of the government is not only to _____ a cup, but sometimes to _____."

MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1109/110924-president.html>

Russian President Dmitry Medvedev has (1) _____ Russians that he thinks Vladimir Putin should be Russia's next leader. This makes it (2) _____ certain Mr Putin will win the presidential race in 2012. Putin was president for two (3) _____ from 2000 to 2008. Straight (4) _____ Medvedev made his announcement, Putin outlined his plans (5) _____ the Russian congress in the Kremlin. Russian presidents will soon serve for six years. Two six-year terms means Putin could stay (6) _____ power until 2024.

Mr Putin still has a lot of power even (7) _____ he is not president. Many Russians see him as a strong leader. He (8) _____ Russia from communism into a country (9) _____ many people are rich. He said he would focus on education, health care and (10) _____ if he became president again. He also promised to make Russia (11) _____ for working people by taxing the rich. He said: "The task of the government is not only to pour honey into a cup, but sometimes to (12) _____ bitter medicine."

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------|-------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) said | (b) spoke | (c) told |
| 2. | (a) must | (b) almost | (c) misty |
| 3. | (a) terms | (b) teams | (c) tames |
| 4. | (a) post | (b) after | (c) following |
| 5. | (a) by | (b) to | (c) from |
| 6. | (a) at | (b) of | (c) in |
| 7. | (a) though | (b) through | (c) thought |
| 8. | (a) movement | (b) moved | (c) moving |
| 9. | (a) where | (b) which | (c) whose |
| 10. | (a) house | (b) housed | (c) housing |
| 11. | (a) fairer | (b) fairy | (c) fare |
| 12. | (a) do | (b) cook | (c) give |

SPELLING

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1109/110924-president.html>

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. Medvedev has told ssuanRsi
2. almost ctnerai
3. president for two rsetm
4. tgihatrs after
5. resev for six years
6. stay in rpowe

Paragraph 2

7. even utgohh he is not
8. a strong redale
9. scuof on education
10. health care and ihougsn
11. txinga the rich
12. give tierbt medicine

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1109/110924-president.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () after Medvedev made his announcement, Putin outlined his plans to the
- () race in 2012. Putin was president for two terms from 2000 to 2008. Straight
- () Russian congress in the Kremlin. Russian presidents will soon serve for six years. Two six-
- () Mr Putin still has a lot of power even though he is not president. Many Russians see him as
- (**1**) Russian President Dmitry Medvedev has told Russians that he thinks Vladimir Putin should be Russia's next
- () many people are rich. He said he would focus on education, health care and
- () only to pour honey into a cup, but sometimes to give bitter medicine."
- () leader. This makes it almost certain Mr Putin will win the presidential
- () year terms means Putin could stay in power until 2024.
- () housing if he became president again. He also promised to make Russia
- () a strong leader. He moved Russia from communism into a country where
- () fairer for working people by taxing the rich. He said: "The task of the government is not

WORD JUMBLE

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1109/110924-president.html>

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

1. should Russia's leader Putin be next.

2. terms Putin president two was for.

3. to Putin the outlined Russian his congress plans.

4. for serve soon will Presidents years six.

5. stay could Putin 2024 until power in.

6. a has still Putin power of lot.

7. see leader him as Many a Russians strong.

8. would he said He education on focus.

9. to promised also He fairer Russia make.

10. by Fairer taxing for the working rich people.

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. _____

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. VLADIMIR PUTIN: Search the Internet and find more information about Vladimir Putin. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about Vladimir Putin. Include imaginary interviews with him and Dmitry Medvedev. 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 Vladimir Putin. Ask him three questions about Russia. Give him three of your opinions on what to do if he becomes president. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.