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Are guitars killing the rainforests?

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

<http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1110/111014-guitars.html>

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ALL ANSWERS ARE IN THE TEXT ON PAGE 2.

14th October, 2011

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1110/111014-guitars.html>

One of the world's best-known guitar makers may be breaking the law and harming the rainforests. U.S. police say the company, Gibson, is using banned wood to make its guitars. Police officers found a lot of rosewood from India at the Gibson factories in Nashville and Memphis. Lawyers say it is illegal to import this kind of wood into the USA because it is protected. A similar thing happened two years ago when the company illegally imported ebony from Madagascar.

Gibson boss Henry Juskiewicz is angry with the police. He says he cares about the rainforests and that his company only uses wood from trees that are not in danger. The environmental group Greenpeace said a lot of "the wood used in musical instruments has come from illegal" places. Top guitarists say it is important to get the right wood to get a good-sounding guitar. Unfortunately, the wood that is best is from endangered trees like the Brazilian rosewood.

PHRASE MATCH

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1110/111014-guitars.html>

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. One of the world's best- | a. two years ago |
| 2. breaking | b. wood |
| 3. using banned | c. of wood |
| 4. illegal to import this kind | d. known guitar makers |
| 5. A similar thing happened | e. from Madagascar |
| 6. imported ebony | f. the law |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Juskiewicz is angry | a. instruments |
| 2. wood from trees that | b. with the police |
| 3. The environmental | c. trees |
| 4. musical | d. group Greenpeace |
| 5. get a good- | e. are not in danger |
| 6. from endangered | f. sounding guitar |

LISTENING GAP FILL

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1110/111014-guitars.html>

One of the _____ guitar makers may be breaking the _____ the rainforests. U.S. police say the company, Gibson, is _____ to make its guitars. Police officers found a lot of rosewood from India at the Gibson factories in Nashville and Memphis. Lawyers _____ to import this kind of wood into the USA because it is protected. _____ happened two years ago when the company _____ ebony from Madagascar.

Gibson boss Henry Juskiewicz _____ police. He says he cares _____ and that his company only uses wood from trees that _____. The environmental group Greenpeace said a lot of "the wood used in _____ has come from illegal" places. Top guitarists say it is important _____ wood to get a good-sounding guitar. Unfortunately, the wood that is best is from _____ like the Brazilian rosewood.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1110/111014-guitars.html>

One of the world's (1) _____-known guitar makers may be (2) _____ the law and harming the rainforests. U.S. police say the company, Gibson, is using (3) _____ wood to make its guitars. Police officers found a lot of rosewood from India at the Gibson factories in Nashville and Memphis. Lawyers say it is illegal (4) _____ import this (5) _____ of wood into the USA because it is protected. A (6) _____ thing happened two years ago when the company illegally imported ebony from Madagascar.

Gibson boss Henry Juskiewicz is angry (7) _____ the police. He says he cares about the rainforests and that his company (8) _____ uses wood from trees that are not (9) _____ danger. The environmental group Greenpeace said a lot of "the wood used in (10) _____ instruments has come from illegal" places. (11) _____ guitarists say it is important to get the right wood to get a good-sounding guitar. Unfortunately, the wood that is best is from endangered trees (12) _____ the Brazilian rosewood.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. | (a) best | (b) good | (c) like |
| 2. | (a) broken | (b) breaks | (c) breaking |
| 3. | (a) binned | (b) banned | (c) banner |
| 4. | (a) to | (b) at | (c) by |
| 5. | (a) gentle | (b) nice | (c) kind |
| 6. | (a) same | (b) simple | (c) similar |
| 7. | (a) to | (b) with | (c) from |
| 8. | (a) only | (b) all | (c) ever |
| 9. | (a) on | (b) in | (c) up |
| 10. | (a) musically | (b) musician | (c) musical |
| 11. | (a) Bottom | (b) Top | (c) Middle |
| 12. | (a) like | (b) love | (c) hate |

SPELLING

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1110/111014-guitars.html>

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. guitar resamk
2. aigrhnm the rainforests
3. using dnnbea wood
4. Lawyers say it is laegill
5. otrpmi this kind of wood
6. A imrails thing happened

Paragraph 2

7. ngrya with the police
8. The environmental progu Greenpeace
9. lacsmui instruments
10. Top tuiasirgts
11. a good-gnuoinds guitar
12. eerdanendg trees

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1110/111014-guitars.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () about the rainforests and that his company only uses wood from trees that are not in
- () instruments has come from illegal" places. Top guitarists say it is important
- () because it is protected. A similar thing happened two years ago
- () to get the right wood to get a good-sounding guitar. Unfortunately,
- () when the company illegally imported ebony from Madagascar.
- () Gibson boss Henry Juskiewicz is angry with the police. He says he cares
- (**1**) One of the world's best-known guitar makers may be breaking the law and harming the
- () danger. The environmental group Greenpeace said a lot of "the wood used in musical
- () its guitars. Police officers found a lot of rosewood from India at the Gibson factories
- () in Nashville and Memphis. Lawyers say it is illegal to import this kind of wood into the USA
- () the wood that is best is from endangered trees like the Brazilian rosewood.
- () rainforests. U.S. police say the company, Gibson, is using banned wood to make

WORD JUMBLE

From: <http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1110/111014-guitars.html>

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

1. the - makers of best guitar One world's known.

2. and law the Breaking rainforests the harming.

3. banned Using guitars its make to wood.

4. import of It to kind illegal this wood is.

5. ago years two happened thing similar A.

6. says He rainforests the about cares he.

7. danger that are Wood not from in trees.

8. in instruments The used musical wood.

9. is right important wood to get It the.

10. the rosewood Endangered like Brazilian trees.

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

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about guitars and endangered wood. Include imaginary interviews with guitarists and conservationists. 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 Gibson. Ask him three questions about the wood he uses for his guitars. Give him three of your opinions on this. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.