

NEWS ENGLISH LESSONS.com

Mayor bans death in his town

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

http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1203/120314-death_ban.html

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14th March, 2012

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1203/120314-death_ban.html

The mayor of a small town in southern Italy has banned residents from dying because there is no cemetery in which to bury them. Giulio Cesare Fava, the mayor of Falciano del Massico, explained to villagers at the beginning of March that it was illegal to die. He told them: "It is forbidden for residents...to go beyond the borders of Earth's life and go into to the afterlife." The village has a population of just over 3,700 people but so far two elderly town folk have not followed his order.

The mayor issued his ban because of a disagreement with a neighbouring village, which has owned the cemetery since 1964. The two towns could not agree on a new plan to make the cemetery bigger, so Mr Fava decided to stop using the old one. Instead, he plans to build a new cemetery in Falciano del Massico. It is unclear what Mr Fava plans to do with the bodies of those who do not follow his ban. The population is aging and more people will die before the new cemetery is built.

PHRASE MATCH

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1203/120314-death_ban.html

Match the following phrases from the article.

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. the mayor of a small | a. which to bury them |
| 2. there is no cemetery in | b. followed his order |
| 3. at the beginning | c. afterlife |
| 4. go beyond the borders of | d. of March |
| 5. go to the | e. town in southern Italy |
| 6. two elderly town folk have not | f. Earth's life |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. a disagreement with a | a. the cemetery bigger |
| 2. owned the cemetery | b. do with the bodies |
| 3. a new plan to make | c. since 1964 |
| 4. unclear what Mr Fava plans to | d. is built |
| 5. The population is | e. neighbouring village |
| 6. before the new cemetery | f. aging |

LISTENING GAP FILL

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1203/120314-death_ban.html

The _____ town in southern Italy has banned residents from dying because _____ in which to bury them. Giulio Cesare Fava, the mayor of Falciano del Massico, _____ at the beginning of March that it was illegal to die. He told them: "It is forbidden for residents...to go _____ of Earth's life and go into to the afterlife."

The village has a population _____ 3,700 people but so far two elderly town folk have not _____.

The mayor _____ because of a disagreement with a neighbouring village, which has owned the cemetery since 1964. The two towns could not _____ plan to make the cemetery bigger, so Mr Fava _____ using the old one. Instead, he _____ a new cemetery in Falciano del Massico. It is unclear what Mr Fava plans to do with the bodies of those _____ his ban. The _____ and more people will die before the new cemetery is built.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1203/120314-death_ban.html

The mayor of a small town in southern Italy has (1) _____ residents from dying because there is no cemetery in (2) _____ to bury them. Giulio Cesare Fava, the mayor of Falciano del Massico, explained to villagers at the (3) _____ of March that it was illegal to die. He told them: "It is forbidden for residents...to go (4) _____ the borders of Earth's life and go into to the afterlife." The village has a population of (5) _____ over 3,700 people but so (6) _____ two elderly town folk have not followed his order.

The mayor issued his ban because of a disagreement (7) _____ a neighbouring village, which has (8) _____ the cemetery since 1964. The two towns could not agree (9) _____ a new plan to make the cemetery bigger, so Mr Fava decided to stop using the old one. (10) _____, he plans to build a new cemetery in Falciano del Massico. It is unclear what Mr Fava plans to do with the (11) _____ of those who do not follow his ban. The population is aging and more people will die before the new cemetery is (12) _____.

Put the correct words from this table into the article.

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1. | (a) binned | (b) banned | (c) banner |
| 2. | (a) which | (b) how | (c) when |
| 3. | (a) starting | (b) early | (c) beginning |
| 4. | (a) yonder | (b) beyond | (c) being |
| 5. | (a) must | (b) just | (c) dust |
| 6. | (a) for | (b) fir | (c) far |
| 7. | (a) with | (b) by | (c) as |
| 8. | (a) owed | (b) owned | (c) downed |
| 9. | (a) in | (b) at | (c) on |
| 10. | (a) Instead | (b) Moreover | (c) Really |
| 11. | (a) body | (b) bodily | (c) bodies |
| 12. | (a) built | (b) building | (c) builds |

SPELLING

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1203/120314-death_ban.html

Spell the jumbled words (from the text) correctly.

Paragraph 1

1. a small town in eruothns Italy
2. at the beniingggn of March
3. deonby the borders of Earth's life
4. go to the afileerft
5. two ylereid town folk
6. edofllwo his order

Paragraph 2

7. The mayor esuisd his ban
8. wdneo the cemetery since 1964
9. ergae on a new plan
10. It is nelaucr what Mr Fava plans to do
11. The population is gangi
12. before the new cemetery is ltbiu

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From: http://www.NewsEnglishLessons.com/1203/120314-death_ban.html

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () one. Instead, he plans to build a new cemetery in Falciano del Massico. It is unclear
- () village, which has owned the cemetery since 1964. The two towns could not agree
- () of Falciano del Massico, explained to villagers at the beginning of
- () people but so far two elderly town folk have not followed his order.
- () what Mr Fava plans to do with the bodies of those who do not follow
- () The mayor issued his ban because of a disagreement with a neighbouring
- (**1**) The mayor of a small town in southern Italy has banned residents from
- () of Earth's life and go to the afterlife." The village has a population of just over 3,700
- () his ban. The population is aging and more people will die before the new cemetery is built.
- () on a new plan to make the cemetery bigger, so Mr Fava decided to stop using the old
- () March that it was illegal to die. He told them: "It is forbidden for residents...to go beyond the borders
- () dying because there is no cemetery in which to bury them. Giulio Cesare Fava, the mayor

THE READING / TAPESCRIPT

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

1. southern The a in of town Italy mayor small.

2. no which them is in bury There cemetery to.

3. of borders the beyond Go life Earth's.

4. of population a has village The 3,700 over just.

5. folk followed town not order elderly have his Two.

6. The his of issued because disagreement mayor ban a.

7. plan The two towns could not agree on a new.

8. Fava stop old Mr to the decided using one.

9. It what plans unclear Fava do is Mr to.

10. built People will die before the new cemetery is.

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/1203/120314-death_ban.html

Write about death 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. DEATH: Search the Internet and find more information about the death ban in Falciano del Massico. Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE: Write a magazine article about the ban on death. Include imaginary interviews with the mayor and a resident. 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 a villager. Ask him/her three questions about the ban on death. Give him/her three of your opinions on it. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Your partner will answer the questions you asked.