

WORDS IN THE NEWS

Teacher's pack



BBC WORLD SERVICE
LEARNING ENGLISH



Words in the News

Explorers stopped in Russia – 5 April 2006

(story link: http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/newsenglish/witn/2006/03/060405_explorer)

Lesson Plan: Core materials.....	3
Lesson Plan: Supplementary materials.....	8
Worksheet A: Specific information questions.....	10
Worksheet B: Vocabulary building.....	11
Worksheet C: Homographs.....	13
Answer Key	14



Words in the News – Explorers stopped in Russia – 5 April 2006 – Intermediate Reading Skills
Supplementary materials Lesson Plan

Approx

Activity



Words in the News – Explorers stopped in Russia – 5 April 2006 – Intermediate Reading Skills
 Core materials Lesson Plan

Activity	Approx time in mins	Teacher	Boardwork
		<p>Whichever method you use to elicit/present the vocabulary, you should then model it (say it clearly, highlighting the word stress) and get them to repeat the words after you.</p> <p>on the road travelling</p> <p>to pitch a tent to set up a temporary shelter (usually made of light material)</p> <p>an ice floe a large piece of ice floating on the sea</p> <p>a trek a long journey (usually on foot)</p> <p>a fortnight two weeks</p> <p>a border stamp an authorisation usually marked in a passport</p> <p>alarmed really worried</p>	<p>to restrict</p> <p>on the road</p> <p>to pitch a tent</p> <p>an ice floe</p> <p>a trek</p> <p>a fortnight</p> <p>a border stamp</p> <p>alarmed (adj)</p> <p>to detain</p> <p>to hope the matter will be resolved quickly</p> <p>to hinder</p>

4



Words in the News – Explorers stopped in Russia – 5 April 2006 – Intermediate Reading Skills
 Core materials Lesson Plan

Activity	Approx time in mins	Teacher	Boardwork
		to detain to be made to stay with the police or other authorities to hope the matter will be resolved quickly to wish that the problem will be solved to hinder to restrict	
Written record	5 - 10	Write the words on the board, eliciting spelling as you write. Elicit and show the word stress of each item and word class, if appropriate. Give students some time to copy your boardwork into their notebooks.	



Words in the News – Explorers stopped in Russia – 5 April 2006 – Intermediate Reading Skills
 Core materials Lesson Plan

	Activity	Approx time in mins	Teacher	Boardwork										
	Set a skimming question. Students read text the first time.		<p>Tell the students they are going to read a text about someone who is trying to walk around the world. Give them a time limit (1 - 2 minutes) to read the text quickly to find the answer to the question on the board:</p> <p>How many of our problems on the board are mentioned in the text?</p> <p>It's not important that the students predict every way that's mentioned in the text (it's unlikely that they could). The point of this task is to get them interested in the text by predicting what they are going to read about and to get them to skim the whole text.</p>											
	Check answer	2 - 3	<p>Elicit students' answers and write the correct answer on the board.</p> <p>Paragraph 1 mentions being attacked (although it doesn't say if by humans or animals), being kept in jail, being rescued by helicopter, being almost swept into sea.</p> <p>Paragraph 3 mentions being stopped by border guards</p>	<table border="1"> <tr><td>wild animals</td><td>û</td></tr> <tr><td>weather</td><td>û</td></tr> <tr><td>robbery</td><td>û</td></tr> <tr><td>illness</td><td>û</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	wild animals	û	weather	û	robbery	û	illness	û		
wild animals	û													
weather	û													
robbery	û													
illness	û													
	Set specific information questions	5	<p>Use worksheet A or the online quiz to help students understand the text in more detail.</p> <p>Give students a time limit (5 - 6 minutes) to read the text again in more detail and to answer the questions.</p>											

6



Words in the News – Explorers stopped in Russia – 5 April 2006 – Intermediate Reading Skills
 Core materials Lesson Plan

	Activity	Approx time in mins	Teacher	Boardwork
	Check specific information answers	2	Elicit answers True or False. Direct attention to a particular paragraph if an answer is wrong to try to elicit correct answer (see worksheet A and answer key).	
	Vocabulary consolidation/building	5	Before the lesson, make enough copies of worksheet B so that there is 1 worksheet for every 4 – 5 students. Cut up the vocabulary and explanations. In class tell students to match the correct word with the right definition.	
	Check answers	2	Elicit answers. If an answer is wrong, ask other students to try to elicit correct answer.	
Total Time Approx		45 mins		



Words in the News – Explorers stopped in Russia – 5 April 2006 – Intermediate Reading Skills
 Supplementary materials Lesson Plan

	Activity	Approx time in mins	Teacher	Boardwork
	Grammar focus	5 - 10	Use worksheet C to focus on homographs (words that are spelled the same but which have different meanings). Tell students to write two example sentences for each word.	
	Check answers	3	If an answer is wrong, ask other students to try to elicit correct answer. (see worksheet C and answer key)	
	Follow-up activity: writing	15	Ask students if they think Karl and his mum both view his trek in the same way (expected response – No, he thinks it's a fun adventure, she's worried about him and is scared he might die). Tell students they are going to write a letter. Give each student a role (either as Karl or his mother) about put students with similar roles together in small groups. In groups get them to discuss what they will bring up in their letter. Give them 4 – 5 minutes to brainstorm ideas, 4 - 5 minutes to each write their letters individually. Get each 'Karl' to deliver their letter to one 'mum' and each 'mum' to give their letter to a different 'Karl'. Each person should then read the letter they've been given, and if time, write a reply to it (you could also set this final task as homework). If possible, display some or all the letters around the classroom at the end of this activity. While they are speaking and writing, move around the room listening to them unobtrusively. Make notes of any errors you	



Words in the News – Explorers stopped in Russia – 5 April 2006 – Intermediate Reading Skills
 Supplementary materials Lesson Plan

	Activity	Approx time in mins	Teacher	
	Feedback		<p>hear.</p> <p>Give praise for content (for example, who wrote like a convincing, worried mother).</p> <p>Give praise for correct examples you heard.</p> <p>Give feedback on incorrect examples you heard.</p>	<p>Boardwork Examples:</p> <p>Don't forget to brush your teeth every night!. (ü)</p> <p>You believe the things we've saw. (ü)</p>
Total time		30		



Words in the News – Worksheet A – Specific information questions

Explorers stopped in Russia – 5 April 2006

Are the following questions true or false? Read the text again and circle the correct answer:

1.	Bushby has been travelling since 2000.	T/F
2.	Bushby was expecting the Russian part of the trip to be the easiest.	T/F
3.	Bushby and Kieffer had problems at Siberian immigration control.	T/F
4.	Some of the items in their luggage worried the Siberian officials.	T/F
5.	The British embassy said that Bushby and Kieffer were in prison.	T/F
6.	Bushby's father has asked the Russian Authorities not to hold back his son so that he can complete his journey and be home in three year's time.	T/F

This quiz is available online. Go to:

(story link: http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/newsenglish/witn/2006/03/060405_explorer)

At the bottom of the page (Words in the News), follow the link [Do a comprehension test about this story](#)



Words in the News – Worksheet B – Vocabulary building

Explorers stopped in Russia – 5 April 2006

Cut up the following vocabulary items. Ask students to match them correctly with the definitions.

1.	on the road
2.	to pitch a tent
3.	an ice floe
4.	a trek
5.	a fortnight
6.	a border stamp
7.	alarmed
8.	to detain
9.	to hope the matter will be resolved
10.	to hinder



Words in the News – Worksheet B - Vocabulary building

Explorers stopped in Russia – 5 April 2006

Cut up the following definitions. Ask students to match them correctly with the vocabulary items.

A.	to wish that the problem will be solved
B.	two weeks
C.	to set up a temporary shelter (usually made of light material)
D.	really worried
E.	to restrict
F.	a long journey (usually on foot)
G.	an authorisation usually marked in a passport
H.	a large piece of ice floating on the sea
I.	travelling
J.	to be made to stay with the police or other authorities



Words in the News – Worksheet C – Word families

Explorers stopped in Russia – 5 April 2006

In English there are a lot of homographs – words which are spelt the same but which have different meanings. For example, a foot (a part of your body) and a foot (a unit of measurement = 12 inches).

Below are some homographs (some are words from today's text). Create two sentences to show the different meanings of each word.

The first one has been done for you:

	meaning 1	meaning 2
trip	noun	noun
just	adjective	adverb
stretch	verb	noun
stamp	verb	noun
arms	noun	noun
tear	verb	noun
does	verb	noun
present	verb	noun
dove	verb	noun
free	adjective	adjective



Words in the News – Answer key

Explorers stopped in Russia – 5 April 2006

Answers

Worksheet A

1. **False** - Paragraph 1 says 'Karl Bushby has been on the road for more than seven years'.
2. **False** - Paragraph 1 says 'Mr Bushby ... always knew that the most dangerous part would be his trek across ... the Bering Strait.'
3. **True** – Paragraph 2 says They reached ... Siberia ... but without ... the necessary border stamps'.
4. **True** – Paragraph 2 says 'The pair were ... armed with ... items which appear to have alarmed law enforcement officials.'
5. **False** – Paragraph 3 says 'A spokesman for the British embassy ... said the men weren't being detained'.
6. **True** – Paragraph 4 says 'Mr Bushby's father called on the Russians to ... not hinder his son so that he can embark on the next step of his journey ... before arriving ... back home in Britain by 2009. '

Worksheet B

1.	I
2.	C
3.	H
4.	F
5.	B
6.	G
7.	D
8.	J
9.	A
10.	E



Worksheet C

	meaning 1	meaning 2
trip	<p>noun We had a lovely trip to the seaside last weekend.</p>	<p>noun She tripped and broke her leg.</p>
just	<p>adjective The judge's decision was just.</p>	<p>adverb I just saw him yesterday.</p>
stretch	<p>verb The toffee stretched when she pulled it.</p>	<p>noun There's a stretch of sea between England and France.</p>
stamp	<p>verb When my daughter gets really angry, she stamps her foot.</p>	<p>noun You've got some great stamps in your passport.</p>
arms	<p>noun The soldiers have arms and are ready to shoot the enemy.</p>	<p>noun She's got a newspaper under her arm.</p>
tear	<p>verb Don't tear up that book! It's old but it's my favourite one.</p>	<p>noun He cried and a single tear fell down his face.</p>
does	<p>verb When he does that, it drives me crazy.</p>	<p>noun Female deers are called 'does'.</p>
present	<p>verb He had to present the monthly figures to the board of directors yesterday.</p>	<p>noun We gave her a bike as a birthday present. She was thrilled.</p>
dove	<p>verb She dove off the high board at the swimming pool.</p>	<p>noun A white dove is a symbol of peace.</p>
free	<p>adjective Can you believe they're giving away free MP3 players?</p>	<p>adjective After all those years in prison, she was finally set free.</p>

