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Arbetsblad

av Sara Håkansson



Vocabulary

The following words are specific to the context of the programme. Make sure that you are familiar with them before listening.

Word	Description	Synonym
resident	a person who lives or has their home in a place	citizen; inhabitant
chieftain	a leader of a tribe	tribal chief; headman
carnal	relating to physical feelings and desires of the body	bodily; corporal
breach	an act of breaking the law, an agreement or promise	offence; transgression
emissions	substances/gases that are produced and sent out into the air and that are harmful to the environment, for example carbon dioxide	diffusion; transmission
playwright	a person who writes plays	author; dramatist
capacitate	to make someone or something capable of a particular action or legally competent to act	enable; empower
Inuit	people indigenous to the Arctic regions of Canada, Alaska and Greenland	

The following words are general in nature. Take note of these to expand your general vocabulary of the English language.

backlash	a strong negative reaction to something	reaction; response
persecute	to treat people unfairly or cruelly over a period of time because of their ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation etc.	harass; victimise
predecessor	the person who had a particular job or position before someone else	antecedent; forerunner
imposition	the introduction of a new law or system	intrusion; demand
palpable	so obvious that it can easily be seen or known	apparent; evident
perpetrate	to commit a crime or a violent or harmful act	commit; inflict
degradation	the process by which something is made worse	depravity; shame
sensitisation	(here) the process of becoming sensitive or susceptible to other people's feelings and situations	
unprecedented	something that has never happened or existed before	exceptional; original
acclaimed	publicly praised and admired	praised; hailed
renowned	known and talked about by many people	famous; esteemed
perilous	extremely dangerous	risky; hazardous
refute	to prove a statement, opinion or belief to be wrong or false	discredit; contradict
dismantle	to get rid of a system or organisation, usually over a period of time	take apart; destroy
outlet	(here) a way in which emotions or energy can be expressed or made use of	release; channel
disservice	an unfair or harmful action	unkindness; injury

Content questions

Ghana: A safe space for sexual minorities

1. What is the purpose of the community centre LGBTQ+ Ghana?
2. What is President Nana Akufo-Addo's opinion of the LGBTQ community? Are his opinions representative of a majority stance in the country?
3. Alex Donkor believes that the problems with homophobia and the issues that confront the LGBTQ+ community in Ghana can be solved. How?

Saint Vincent Island: An eruption causing havoc

4. This year's eruption has caused a humanitarian crisis in Saint Vincent. Why?
5. When was the last time, before April 2021, that the volcano La Soufrière erupted?
6. What has been done to help those affected by the eruption?

Australia: Inaction leads to action

7. What are the Torres Strait 8 and what are they accusing the Australian government of?
8. Yessie Mosby states that his home is being "eaten away". What does he mean by this?
9. Why is the legal battle between the Torres Strait 8 and the Australian government of interest to other governments around the world?

South Africa: Funding gone missing?

10. According to the programme, there are two main reasons for the closure of the Fugard Theatre in Cape Town. What are they?
11. How much of the presidential stimulus fund has been distributed so far? How much money in total is there to distribute?
12. Carissa Cupido argues that the arts sector in South Africa is underestimated. According to Cupido, what does the arts sector encourage?

Canada: Singing to connect

13. What is Shina Novalinga's explanation for the deeper cultural importance of throat singing?

Language points

Complete the following idiomatic expressions.

14. The community centre was opened to serve as a safe ... for sexual minorities.
 - a. space
 - b. room
 - c. position

15. They don't mean to take their opinions and force them down your
 - a. neck
 - b. throat
 - c. body

16. They argue that the government's lack of ... is to blame for the climate crisis.
 - a. inaction
 - b. satisfaction
 - c. action

17. A positive ruling would send a strong ... to governments all over the world.
 - a. sentiment
 - b. word
 - c. message

18. They are trying to fill the ... in funding.
 - a. breach
 - b. gap
 - c. space

Discussion points

Grounds for discrimination: According to the programme, there is no actual legislation against homosexuality in Ghana, yet, Ghana's civil society, as well as its government, regard the claim for LGBTQ+ rights as an unwanted imposition from the Western world. Additionally, the LGBTQ+ community in Ghana is under constant attack.

- One of the explanations given for intolerance toward other sexual orientations than heterosexuality is that they go against religious beliefs. The majority of Ghana's population is Christian, yet many Christian countries across the world protect their LGBTQ+ communities from discrimination through legal means. How can different Christian countries have such different attitudes if the reasons for intolerance are religious?
- According to the Swedish Institute (sweden.se), Sweden is one of the most gay-friendly countries in the world. Do you agree? Would you say that there is full tolerance of LGBTQ+ choices and orientations in Sweden in general? Or can intolerance be discerned even in the most gay-friendly country in the world? If yes, what does this intolerance look like? How does it manifest itself and what can be done about it?

The arts – essential or icing on the cake? In South Africa, as in many other countries across the world, the arts have suffered from the corona pandemic in that theatres, museums, cinemas, concert halls, music clubs and libraries have had to close and many people within the arts have lost their jobs as a consequence. In a time when the importance and value of various social and cultural establishments are set against each other, consider the following:

- Are the arts necessary for a functioning welfare society? Why or why not?
- What, if anything, can the arts contribute with to the development of society? What can the arts contribute with to the development of the individual?
- The arts are often dependant on governmental subsidies, i.e. tax money, to survive. Are you happy to contribute from your taxes to pay for the subsistence of historical museums, opera houses, cinemas, libraries, theatres, dance halls and/or music festivals? Why or why not?
- What would a society without any type of art forms left in it be like? Are there any art forms that you feel you could not live without?

Teachers' note

Questions for working with the photo on page 1:

- What seems to be going on in the photo? Describe the scene to one of your friends. What do you think the context is? What is about to happen or what has just taken place?
- What do the umbrellas represent? What function do they serve?

KEY

1. Suggestion: The purpose of the community centre is to serve as a safe space for sexual minorities in Ghana.
2. Suggestion: The president has taken a strong stance against the LGBTQ+ community and he is joined by a majority of Ghana's civil society.
3. Suggestion: Alex Donkor believes these issues can be solved by giving the LGBTQ+ community a platform to speak from.
4. Suggestion: The humanitarian crisis comes from the whole island being covered in volcanic ash.
5. Suggestion: 1979.
6. Suggestion: A number of online fundraisers have been set up around the world to pay for emergency aid for those affected.
7. Suggestion: The Torres Strait 8 are a group of eight islanders who have launched a legal battle against the Australian government accusing the government of a lack of action on the climate crisis, the consequences of which has made the islanders risk losing their homes.
8. Suggestion: Mosby means that the ocean levels are rising so high that erosion is "eating away" at the island and that the island eventually risks being swallowed up by the water.
9. Suggestion: A positive ruling for the Torres Strait 8 would mean that other governments around the world could be held accountable and brought to court for lack of action on climate changes that affect people's human rights.
10. Suggestion: The Fugard Theatre closed due to the lockdown caused by the coronavirus and due to a perceived lack of long-term financial aid.
11. Suggestion: The National Arts Council was assigned to distribute 300 million rand, 30 million of which have been distributed so far.
12. Suggestion: Cupido states that the arts sector encourages empathy, problem solving and reconciliation.
13. Suggestion: Novalinga explains that throat singing imitates the sounds of animals and the sound of nature to connect the singers with their spirits and ancestors.
14. a. space
15. b. throat
16. c. action
17. c. message
18. b. gap