

NEWSREEL WORLD



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Arbetsblad

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Photo credit: Travis Lupick



Photo credit: Thinkerbell Labs

Vocabulary

<i>Word</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Synonym</i>
decriminalising	to change the law so that something is no longer illegal	
MDMA	the illegal drug Ecstasy (methylenedioxy-methylamphetamine)	
severity	the fact or condition of something being extremely bad or serious	seriousness
enforcement	the act of making people obey a particular law or rule	
significant	large or important enough to have an effect or to be noticed	
exemption	freedom from punishment	immunity
demonising	to describe somebody/something in a way that is intended to make other people think of them/it as evil or dangerous	vilify
humane	being kind towards people and animals by making sure that they do not suffer more than is necessary	compassionate
adulterated	to make food or drink less pure by adding another substance to it	contaminate
regulate	to control something by means of rules	control, contain, govern
rest on your laurels	to feel so satisfied with what you have already achieved that you do not try to do any more	
monitor	to watch and check something over a period of time in order to see how it develops, so that you can make any necessary changes	track, watch, observe
screening	the act of showing a film or television programme	
gory	involving a lot of blood or violence; showing or describing blood and violence	bloody
meme	an image, a video, a piece of text, etc. that is passed very quickly from one internet user to another, often with slight changes that make it humorous	
subsequent	happening or coming after something else	ensuing
impaired	(of a part or function) not working as it normally would or as it does in most people	
braille	a system of printing for blind people in which the letters of the alphabet and the numbers are printed as raised dots (= small round marks) that can be read by touching them	
literacy	the ability to read and write	
pursue	to do something or try to achieve something over a period of time	
automate	to use machines and computers instead of people to do a job or task	
empower	to give somebody more control over their own life or the situation they are in	
availability	the fact that something is possible to get, buy or find	accessibility
self-assured	having a lot of confidence in yourself and your abilities	confident

Content questions

Canada: decriminalising smaller possessions of hard drugs

1. Under this three-year trial, how much drugs will an adult be allowed to carry without being charged with a crime?
2. What is VANDU?
3. Why does Vince at VANDU say that it's "too little, too late"? According to Dr Lindsey Richardson there are two kinds of harm related to drug use. What are they?
4. What is the purpose of the decriminalisation?
5. Some believe the new exemption falls short. In what ways?
6. What is the next step for VANDU now that the exemption is in place?

Hong Kong: horror movie prevented from screening

7. A children's book character stars in the film. Which one?
8. What is the official reason the screening was prevented?
9. What do people suspect really happened and how does this relate to a meme?

Australia: something smells fishy

10. Why have millions of fish died in a river in New South Wales?
11. What do the authorities have to do now?

Tanzanian artist

12. Circle whether the statement is TRUE or FALSE
 - a. The song is called *I fight* in Swahili. TRUE/FALSE
 - b. The artist's name is Zuchu. TRUE/FALSE
 - c. She has reached more than 1 million subscribers on YouTube. TRUE/FALSE
 - d. She has been nominated for ten awards so far this year. TRUE/FALSE

India: an innovative invention

13. Why is the invention called "Annie"?
14. Explain what braille is.
15. What problem does "Annie" solve?
16. In what other ways can the community of visually impaired be empowered according to Upasana Makati?

Language points

How well do you know your contractions? A contraction is a word that combines two or more words into a new shortened word, usually with the use of an apostrophe, as in *can't* instead of *can not*. They are mainly used to save time and energy in both speech and in writing. Look at the underlined words in the sentences below and see if you can contract the words into one word with an apostrophe. If you would like to read more on contractions, visit this site for more information:

<https://www.grammarly.com/blog/contractions/>

17. People found in possession of small quantities of drugs will not be arrested.
18. I am heading to a space that is a key part of this community.
19. It has long been recognised that there are harms from drug use.

Now, try finding words to contract in sentences that do not have possible contractions underlined.

20. It is not that we are saying, "Oh, everyone, you can use drugs, it is fine now".
21. This does not do anything to address the drug supply.
22. So I think, you know, whenever there is a win, you do not rest on your laurels, right?

Discussion points

Decriminalising drug possession?

In Sweden we have a zero tolerance approach to drugs. This policy stems from the belief that only a zero tolerance will lead to a drug free society. Today we heard of the province of British Columbia in Canada and their approach, which will allow drug users to carry small amounts of drugs for personal use without fear of being charged with a crime.

- What is your position? Do you agree with the zero tolerance approach, or would you rather see Sweden adopt a policy similar to that of British Columbia?
- Would your answer to the question above be different if the possession of drugs referred to, for instance, Marijuana?
- What are the risks involved in decriminalising drug possession for personal use do you think? What kind of negative impact could this have?
- Can you think of other ways of making Sweden a drug free society? How do we stop drugs from being sold? How do we stop people from taking drugs in the first place? Do we have any means of preventing people from taking drugs today?
- What if a drug free society can't be obtained? Are there ways to make drug use safer?
- How would you define drugs? What is a drug in your opinion? Cocaine? Heroin? Alcohol? Cigarettes? Coffee? Does it matter if it's addictive or not?

Revolutionary inventions for people with disabilities or impairments.

The invention of 'Annie' will revolutionize the speed at which people who are visually impaired can be taught to read and write using braille. Braille is one of those inventions that can be described as a game-changer, changing the prerequisites, the way of life, for a large number of people.

- Can you think of other inventions that have had the same effect and that have helped people with disabilities or impairments in a significant way? If you can, do you know who the inventor was? If you can't, search online to see if you can find out.
- Do you know of any famous people that happen to be disabled? What is the person famous for?
- Sometimes inventions that are meant to facilitate life for people that are disabled end up being popular among people of all abilities. Do you know of any such invention? If you don't you can read about some of them here: <https://science.howstuffworks.com/innovation/everyday-innovations/items-invented-people-with-disabilities.htm>

Teachers' note

Questions for working with the first photo on page 1:
 What do you stand for? In the first picture on page 1 people from the VANDU organisation are seen marching together holding protest signs and banners. What would yours say? Work in pairs or small groups.

- Think about an injustice/ something you are passionate about and that you would like to see change for the better. Maybe something at your school? In your community? At your local sports center?
- Figure out what you would like your protest sign to say. Even if there are several things you would like it to say, pick one thing that stands out.
- Keep it short. Try to express yourself in as few words as possible so that the text can be large enough for people to see from a distance.
- Pick a symbol that you think will go nicely with your message.
- Beware! Although we have freedom of speech you do not have the right to offend or persecute anyone. Keep the message and the language nice and tidy!
- Create your protest sign and make sure you have your teacher's approval before you display it in public.

KEY

1. An adult will be allowed to carry 2.5 grams of drugs such as heroin, cocaine and MDMA.
2. VANDU is an organisation made up of drug users and former users who are working to improve the lives of users, their families and communities.
3. He says that it is too little, too late because it has taken a long time for the government to realize how serious the situation is and to do something about it.
4. There is the harm that the actual drugs cause when you use them and the harm that comes from enforcing the drug laws.
5. The purpose is to try and help people who are addicted to drugs and redirect them towards health and social services who will help them.
6. The exemption falls short as the limit of 2.5 g isn't enough to account for the habits of many drug users who would carry more than that. Also, the exemption doesn't address the drug supply, which can be mixed with other substances.
7. The next step for VANDU is to make sure that decriminalisation is practiced by the police.
8. Winne the Pooh is the famous children's book character starring in the film.
9. The official reason is that there was a technical problem with the website selling tickets.
10. People believe that the Chinese government may have been involved and that they prevented the movie from being screened. There are memes of Winne the Pooh used to mock the President Xi Jinping, whose appearance has been compared to that of the chubby Pooh bear.
11. The fish died as a result of low oxygen levels, which were caused in part by flooding and an increase in bacteria.
12. The authorities have to clear the fish as they have begun to rot.
13. a. TRUE b. TRUE c. TRUE d. FALSE
14. It was named "Annie" after Anne Sullivan, the teacher and carer of Helen Keller, who was a famous deaf-blind author and disability rights activist.
15. Braille is a way of writing that uses bumps and raised dots on paper. People who are visually impaired can feel these dots with their fingers and read as they move their fingers across the page.
16. Visually impaired students rely on their teachers to hold their hand when they teach them braille. "Annie" allows the students to learn on their own.
17. According to Upasana Makati the focus should be on the availability of accessible educational resources.
18. won't
19. I'm, that's
20. It's
21. It's, we're, it's
22. doesn't
23. there's, don't

Sources vocabulary: <http://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com> and <https://www.merriam-webster.com>