

NEWSREEL WORLD



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Arbetsblad

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Shelly-Ann Weeks. Photo credit: HerFlow Foundation



Doug Mutai. Photo credit: Waithera Kamau

Vocabulary

<i>Word</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Synonym</i>
below average	The average is calculated by adding several amounts together, finding a total, and dividing the total by the number of amounts. When something is below average it means that something is less than what is typical.	
foremost	The most important or famous; in a position at the front.	leading, principal, primary
scarcity	If there is a scarcity of something, there is not enough of it and it is difficult to obtain it.	shortage
correlation	A connection between two things in which one thing changes as the other does.	relationship, comparability, correspondence
vessel	A container used for holding liquids, such as a bowl, cup, etc.	container
source	To obtain something from a source, in this case to draw water from the river.	
profess	To claim that something is true or correct, especially when it is not.	claim
infrastructure	Here: the resources (such as personnel, buildings, or equipment) required for an activity.	
satire	A way of criticizing a person, an idea or an institution in which you use humour to show their faults or weaknesses; a piece of writing that uses this type of criticism.	
pun	The clever or humorous use of a word that has more than one meaning, or of words that have different meanings but sound the same.	
reanimate	To give somebody/something new life or energy.	revive, resurrect
commend	To praise somebody/something, especially publicly.	praise
nuance	A very slight difference in meaning, sound, colour or somebody's feelings that is not usually very obvious.	subtlety, finesse
resonate	To remind somebody of something; to be similar to what somebody thinks or believes.	
relate	To be able to understand and have sympathy with somebody/something.	empathize

Sources: <https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com>

<https://www.merriam-webster.com>

Content questions

Jamaica: the effects of extreme weather

17. Why does drought have serious implications on menstrual health?
18. What is the name of Jamaica's primary period poverty charity?
19. What does Christina do with her family when they can't get water where they live?
20. Another issue arises when the water finally returns. What issue is that?
21. How does the drought effect the farmers and their crops?
22. What do global leaders need to think about in order to improve menstrual health in regions effected by climate change according to Shelly-Ann Weeks?

The US and Harvard University: celebrating the Ig Nobel Prize

23. What is the Ig Nobel Prize?
24. Ig comes from the word *ignoble*. What does *ignoble* mean?
25. Give an example of a winning research contributions this year.

New Zealand: paramedic commended

26. Why was the paramedic commended?
27. How did the helicopter land?
28. What did the paramedic do after the helicopter had landed?

Music clip

29. Circle whether the statement is TRUE or FALSE
 - a. The song is called *Dafydd Owain*. TRUE/FALSE
 - b. It is sung in Welsh. TRUE/FALSE
 - c. Welsh is the native language spoken by people in Wales. TRUE/FALSE
 - d. Welsh has always been a popular language spoken by many. TRUE/FALSE

Kenya: an extraordinary mission

14. What does Doug Mutai do and what is his current mission?
15. Why did Doug start his career using English instead of Swahili?
16. What is the most important outcome of his work according to Doug himself?

Language points

Complete the following idiomatic expressions.

17. There have been times that our tank has ... dry
 - a. stepped
 - b. walked
 - c. run
18. Doug Mutai is on a ... to promote English comedy.
 - a. road
 - b. mission
 - c. expedition
19. It ... without saying there was no option for Swahili comedy.
 - a. goes
 - b. flows
 - c. mows
20. Some people say, you know, laughter is the best
 - a. cure
 - b. pill
 - c. medicine
21. It will be interesting to see what Doug and his fellow comedians have in ... for us.
 - a. store
 - b. shop
 - c. storage

Discussion points

Extreme weather: how do we prepare?

The drought in Jamaica has had several serious consequences, among which include risking the health of menstruating women. Limiting the water supply because of the drought also means that farmers are unable to sufficiently water their crops and mothers are unable to keep their children clean. In Sweden, the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (Myndigheten för Samhällsskydd och Beredskap, MSB) has had several national campaigns to prepare citizens in the event of a crisis. This week they have had what is called *Beredskapsveckan*, a week where the focus is to prepare for the worst-case scenario.

- The situation in Jamaica is dire. What advice would you give to global leaders in order to solve the current crisis and make the country more resilient towards extreme weather conditions in the future? Is there anything we can do from here?
- Do you think there is a difference between rich countries and poor countries when it comes to preparing for and handling the effects of extreme weather?
- In Jamaica, period health is severely affected by the drought. According to Shelly-Ann Weeks, reusable period products is key. What kinds of reusable period products are you aware of and which do you think is the more sustainable choice for countries such as Jamaica?
- In Sweden, when we experience dry periods, we are faced with a watering ban. What can we do to conserve water in case of dry periods or, perhaps in the future, droughts?
- Just this summer, Sweden experienced flooding which threatened to contaminate the drinking water. How do we deal with contaminated water?
- This past weekend, the city of Stenungsund experienced an earth quake which destroyed a big chunk of the motorway. What should we do if we are faced with an earth quake?
- Some extreme weather can cause damage to our electricity. In the winter months this can present a problem. How can we prepare in case of a power outage? You can read more about how to plan your home preparedness here: <https://www.msb.se/en/rad-till-privatpersoner/forbered-dig-for-kris/plan-your-home-preparedness/>

Laughing really does improve your health

A recent research study recently proved that laughter really is the best medicine, as the saying goes. The study found that laughing increased the oxygen intake and consequently oxygen flow throughout the body. It further found that patients suffering from certain heart conditions had their health improve just by watching two hour-long comedy shows per week. You can read more about the study [here](#).

- What was the last thing that made you laugh? What was it about the situation that you found funny?
- How often do you try to make other people laugh?
- Do you watch any TV-shows that make you laugh? If so, which ones?
- Do you have someone in your vicinity, perhaps a friend or a family member, that is particularly funny? What is it that makes she/he so funny?
- Are there situations when it is not ok to laugh? Or is it always a good thing?

Teachers' note

Questions for working with the photos on page 1:

Shelly-Ann Weeks is giving an important speech in the first picture and Doug Mutai is doing stand-up comedy in the second.

- Work in pairs or groups of three.
- Choose one of the pictures to work with.
- Use today's program and re-listen to the interview with Shelly-Ann or the interview with Doug Mutai depending on your choice.
- Try to directly quote what Shelly-Ann or Doug Mutai is saying by creating speech bubbles on their picture.
- You can also use the HerFlow Foundation's website to find suitable speech bubbles for Shelly-Ann: <https://embraceherflow.com> Or Doug Mutai's web page: <https://dougmutai.com>
- When you are finished, pin your pictures of Shelly-Ann or Doug Mutai and their speech bubbles on a wall for all the class to see.

KEY

1. Because women who menstruate need access to clean water in order to do their laundry, use the toilet and wash their hands in order to stay healthy.
2. The charity is called HerFlow Foundation.
3. They visit other family members outside of the home to fill their vessels with water.
4. When the water finally returns it is often brown and will need to be boiled before it can be used.
5. The farmers need to source their water from a river nearby using pumps, which effects them financially.
6. They need to think about investing in infrastructure that supports reuseable menstrual products which are good for both the people and the environment.
7. The Ig Nobel Prize is a satirical award which celebrates unusual areas of scientific research. It aims to "honour achievements that first make people laugh, and then make them think."
8. The word ignoble means dishonourable, as in the opposite of something being noble.
9. One research study focused on reanimated dead spiders that can be used to grip objects and another focused on why we find it strange seeing the same word repeated several times.
10. The paramedic was commended for continuing his mission to save an injured hiker even after he himself was in a helicopter crash.
11. The helicopter experienced a "heavy landing" as it landed nose-down in between two trees.
12. After the helicopter crashed, the paramedic checked the crew members for injuries before making his way to the injured hiker through "steep and hazardous" terrain.
13.
 - a. FALSE
 - b. TRUE
 - c. TRUE
 - d. FALSE
14. Doug Mutai is a stand-up comedian and his mission is to make Kenyans laugh.
15. Doug started his career in Canada and there simply wasn't an option to do comedy in Swahili as no one would have understood him.
16. According to Doug, laughter helps to self-heal, but most importantly it connects people.
17. c. run
18. b. mission
19. a. goes
20. c. medicine
21. a. store