

**МІНІСТЕРСТВО АГРАРНОЇ ПОЛІТИКИ ТА ПРОДОВОЛЬСТВА УКРАЇНИ  
БІЛОЦЕРКІВСЬКИЙ НАЦІОНАЛЬНИЙ АГРАРНИЙ УНІВЕРСИТЕТ**

**ФАКУЛЬТЕТ ПРАВА ТА ЛІНГВІСТИКИ**

*Кафедра романо-германської та слов'янської філології*

## **МЕТОДИЧНІ РОЗРОБКИ**

**для формування англомовних аудитивних  
лексичних навичок в умовах ECTS  
з дисципліни «Практичний курс першої іноземної мови»  
для студентів 2 курсу філологічних спеціальностей  
денної та заочної форм навчання  
за кредитно-модульною системою  
організації навчального процесу**

Біла Церква  
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**Пташніченко А.М.** Методичні розробки для формування англомовних аудитивних лексичних навичок в умовах ECTS з дисципліни «Практичний курс першої іноземної мови» для студентів 2 курсу філологічних спеціальностей денної та заочної форм навчання/ А.М. Пташніченко. – Біла Церква, 2014. – 53 с.

Запропоновано модель організації навчального процесу для формування аудитивних лексичних навичок (на прикладі англійської політичної лексики) з практики англійської мови в умовах системи ECTS.

Методичні розробки містять оригінали сучасних текстів на політичну тематику (промови, інтерв'ю), тематичний матеріал, передбачений чинною робочою програмою й організований за кредитно-модульною рейтинговою системою. Лексика та комунікативні вправи на аудіювання текстів забезпечують практику в аудіюванні на основі комплексного подолання аудитивних труднощів. Виконуючи мовленнєві вправи студенти оволодівають уміннями передбачати зміст, виділяти головне, знаходити другорядні деталі, встановлювати причинно-наслідкові зв'язки, зосереджувати увагу на діях і характеристиках персонажів, простежувати логічну послідовність подій і дотримуватися її при передачі змісту.

Засоби контролю розуміння прослуханого тексту здійснюються вербальними способами (репродуктивним або рецептивно-репродуктивним): студентам пропонуються тести з вибором відповіді, переказ змісту іноземною мовою, бесіда на основі змісту тексту тощо.

Методичні розробки призначено насамперед для студентів філологічних спеціальностей, а також для всіх, хто цікавиться вивченням англійської мови.

Рецензент: **Стрілецька С.В.**, канд. пед. наук, доцент

## ПЕРЕДМОВА

Успіх перекладацької діяльності перекладача значною мірою визначається сформованими іншомовними лексичними навичками, в тому числі й аудитивними, що зумовлено кваліфікаційними характеристиками фахівця з перекладу.

Матеріальною основою аудіювання є аудіотекст. Як і будь-який текст, він має свою композицію, структуру і смислову організацію. На відміну від письмового тексту він інтонаційно оформлений, а його відтворення зумовлюється відповідним темпом, однократністю та необоротністю сприйняття. Для навчання аудіювання використовують в основному два види аудіотекстів – тексти описи і фабульні тексти. В методичних рекомендаціях пропонуються фабульні тексти, визначальною ознакою яких є динамізм подій, дій та вчинків персонажів, що зумовлюються логічним інваріантом та означенням часу. Фабульні тексти відрізняються експліцитно вираженими смисловими зв'язками і відношеннями між окремими фактами. В них наявні складні синтаксичні конструкції, бо в них виражається головна і детальна інформація.

Методичні розробки для формування англомовних аудитивних лексичних навичок складаються з 10 фабульних текстів (промови, інтерв'ю) та тестових завдань. Лексика та комунікативні вправи на аудіювання текстів забезпечують практику в аудіюванні на основі комплексного подолання аудитивних труднощів. Виконуючи мовленнєві вправи студенти оволодівають уміннями передбачати зміст, виділяти головне, знаходити другорядні деталі, встановлювати причинно-наслідкові зв'язки, зосереджувати увагу на діях і характеристиках персонажів, простежувати логічну послідовність подій і дотримуватися її при передачі змісту.

Засоби контролю розуміння прослуханого тексту здійснюються вербальними способами (репродуктивним або рецептивно-репродуктивним): студентам пропонуються тести з вибором відповіді, переказ змісту іноземною мовою, бесіда на основі змісту тексту тощо.

**Метою** навчання є формування аудитивних лексичних навичок у студентів; удосконалення навичок усного мовлення, розвитку вмінь усного спілкування та перекладу.

**Основними принципами** навчання є комунікативна спрямованість, використання асоціативного підходу, інтенсифікація, свідоме та активне

сприйняття матеріалу. Лексика, що вивчається, сприяє розвитку англомовних комунікативних умінь в процесі спілкування.

За текстами промов представлено лексичні пояснення (Active Vocabulary), тестові завдання (Test) та додатки (Appendix). Відбір мовних зразків обумовлений їхньою частотою вживання в усній або письмовій формі.

Запропоновані завдання безпосередньо спрямовані на удосконалення фонетичних навичок аудіювання (фонематичного та інтонаційного слуху) та розвиток усної мовленнєвої комунікації студентів, де акцентовано увагу на поглиблену роботу над мовними зразками, вивчення, інтерпретацію, переклад, переказ тексту, а також на розширення словникового запасу студентів.

У процесі вивчення та засвоєння лексики в адитивному коді студент **повинен знати:**

1) 500 лексичних одиниць (ЛЮ), що підлягають активному засвоєнню студентами II курсу факультету лінгвістики;

2) граматичні структури, які підлягають актуалізації шляхом повторення, зокрема: Indefinite, Continuous, Perfect Tenses; Active and Passive Voice; Plural of the Nouns; Possessives; Non-finite forms of the Verbs; Modal Verbs; Degrees of Comparison; Countable and Uncountable Nouns; Will; Articles; Conditionals; Numerals; Prepositions.

Студент **повинен вміти:**

1) активізувати лексику та граматичні структури, ідіоми, передбачені чинною програмою в мовленні;

2) формулювати особисте ставлення та власну думку англійською мовою з використанням засвоєної лексики щодо прослуханих промов;

3) користуватися англійською мовою як засобом отримання та поглиблення систематичних знань зі спеціальності, тобто засобом самовдосконалення.

**Форми організації занять із дисципліни “Практичний курс першої іноземної мови” для студентів 2 курсу в умовах кредитно-модульної системи**  
**III семестр**

№ п/п	Назва модуля	Змістові модулі	Обсяг, год				Форми та методи контролю знань	Оцінка в балах (за 100-бальною шкалою)
			всього	практ.	самоост.	МКР		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Food: fuel or pleasure? Eating places and Food Preparation	Start-up: Types of Eating Places. Reading and speaking. What kind of food or dishes do you associate with different countries? Is food a pleasure for you?	1	1			Group Discussion	0,5
		Listening comprehension and filling in the table: types of eating places. Have you ever tried English food? What did you think of it? Vocabulary Development	2	1	1		Progress Check	0,5
		Reading: Eating Places in Ukraine Read the interviews with Alice and Jacqueline. Match the questions with their answers.	2	1	1		Group Work	0,5
		Translation from Ukrainian into English. Food and restaurants.	2	1	1		Translation Skills	1
		Speaking: differences in mealtime in Ukraine and in Britain. Every country thinks that their cooking is the best	2	1	1		Role Play	1
		Speaking: Women worry more about their diet than men. Men cook as hobby, women cook because they have to. Listening: Can America Win the Education Race	2	1	1		Group Discussion, Translation Skills	1
		Vocabulary: Vocabulary Bank. Food and restaurants	2	1	1		Progress Check	1
		Listening: Have you ever tried English food? What did you think of it? Vocabulary Development	2	1	1		Group Work	0,5
		Grammar: present simple and continuous, action and non-action verbs. Listening: French President's Visit to US Strengthens Ties	3	2	1		Group Work, Translation Skills	0,5
Reading: Laying the table, items on the breakfast and dinner table; parts of the	2	1	1		Group Work	0,5		

		menu.						
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*Продовження*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Speaking: You can often eat better in cheap restaurant than in expensive ones. Listening: Iran Nuclear Agreement Called a Good First Step	2	1	1		Group Discussion, Translation Skills	0,5
		Listening comprehension and answering the questions. Can you think of two disadvantages of being a professional chef? Vocabulary Development	2	1	1		Progress Check	0,5
		Translation from Ukrainian into English.	2	1	1		Translation Skills	1
		Speaking: Description and Contrasting of breakfast/dinner table layout; description of the pictures; discussion of the questions (table manners, fancy restaurant's table layout, interpreter knowledge of table etiquette). Listening task: Crimean Lawmakers Vote to Leave Ukraine, Join Russia. Vocabulary Development	3	2	1		Group Work, Translation Skills	1
		Vocabulary: table layout, parts of the menu.	2	1	1		Progress Check	0,5
		Translation from English into Ukrainian. Famous (cheating) moments in sport	2	1	1		Progress Check	0,5
		Start-up: Ways of Cutting and Cooking. Utensils Families have a great-great future	2	1	1		Group Discussion	0,5
		Reading: In a family with two children, do you think it's better to be the older or the younger brother or sister? Listening: Obama Seeks to Increase African Electricity, Trade. Vocabulary Development	2	1	1		Group Work, Translation Skills	0,5
		Listening: difference between boiling, simmering and poaching, filling in the table Listen to a psychologist talking about the influence your position in the family has on your personality. Vocabulary Development	2	1	1		Simulation	0,5
		Translation from Ukrainian into English Reading: Jam today, tomorrow, yesterday.	2	1	1		Translation Skills	0,5
		Writing: If you really want to win, cheat... Grammar bank: past tenses: simple, continuous, perfect.	3	2	1		Writing Skills	0,5

		Reading: Famous (cheating) moments in sport.	2	1	1		Group Work	0,5
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*Продовження*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Speaking: You are going to tell an anecdote. Choose one of the topics below and plan what you are going to say.	2	1	1		Group Discussion	0,5
		Listening: Listen to an interview with an ex-Champions League referee from Spain. Vocabulary Development	2	1	1		Group Work	0,5
		Vocabulary Bank: Sport	2	1	1		Progress Check	0,5
		Speaking: Interview your partner about sport using the questionnaire (Do you like sport?)	2	1	1		Group Work	0,5
		Reading: When you hear the final whistle. For some people the pain of saying goodbye never leaves them. Listening: US Cancels Hundreds of Millions in Aid to Egypt	2	1	1		Group Work, Translation Skills	1
		Translation from English into Ukrainian.	2	1	1		Progress Check	0,5
		Start-up: We are family. Families have a great-great future.	2	1	1		Group Discussion	0,5
		Translation: Parents and teenagers- ages between generations.	2	1	1		Translation Skills	1
		Writing: Complete the dialogues between different family members. Grammar: future forms.	2	1	1		Writing Skills	1
		Vocabulary Bank: Family, relatives, generation.	2	1	1		Progress Check	1
		Grammar Bank: future forms: going to, present continuous, will/ shall. Listening: Will Sanctions Against Russia Work	2	1	1		Group Work, Translation Skills	0,5
		Reading: In a family with two children, do you think it's better to be the older or the younger brother or sister?	2	1	1		Group Work	0,5
		Translation: Two sisters tell the truth about themselves – and each other...	2	1	1		Group Discussion	0,5
		Vocabulary Bank: describing a personality	2	1	1		Progress Check	0,5

		Listening: Listen to a psychologist talking about the influence your position in the family has on your personality. Vocabulary Development	1	1				Group Work	0,5
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*Продовження*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Speaking: What`s your position in the family?	2	1	1		Group Discussion	1
		Speaking: description of the pictures, discussion of the questions (describing a person) Listening: Working to Fight Climate Change Vocabulary Development	3	2	1		Role Play, Translation Skills	1
		Speaking: Description and contrasting of the ways of cutting and cooking and kitchen utensils Speaking: What's your position in the family? Are you the oldest child, a middle child, the youngest child, or an only child?	2	1	1		Group Discussion	0,5
		Vocabulary: human`s appearance and personality	2	1	1		Progress Check	1
		Start-up: Meat Products, Preparation and Idioms. Body language.	2	1	1		Group Discussion	0,5
		Reading: names of animals and their meat; cuts of meat; recipes	3	1	2		Test	0,5
		Listening comprehension: cuts of meat; filling in the table Grammar: present perfect and past simple	2	1	1		Progress Check	0,5
		Модульна контрольна робота	2			2		5
		<b>Усього (за модулем)</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>25-30</b>
2	Money and food in different places	Start-up: Ka-ching. The world has become obsessed with money. Speaking: money in your life, the importance of money	2	1	1		Group Work	0,5
		Writing: the recipe of a meat dish; a story using an idiomatic language.	3	1	2		Writing Skills	0,5
		Translation from Ukrainian into English	3	1	2		Translation Skills	1
		Speaking: ways of preparing steak; best meat cuts from mutton, pork and poultry; ways of preparing game; ways of preparing offal.	3	1	2		Group Discussion	1



		Vocabulary Bank: Money. Listening: Listen to a song about money.	2	1	1		Progress Check	0,5
		Grammar Bank: Present perfect and Past simple Listening: Yanukovych Denies Ouster; Promises to Fight for Ukraine. Vocabulary Development	2	1	1		Group Work, Translation Skills	0,5

*Продовження*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Speaking: favorite meat dishes, describing pictures, discussing questions (problem of killing animals and eating their flesh). Speaking: Money is very important to me. I'd like to earn as much as possible.	4	2	2		Role Play	1
		Vocabulary: types and cuts of meat, ways of preparing meat cuts, game, offal; idiomatic language. Vocabulary and pronunciation: saying numbers	3	1	2		Progress Check	1
		Start-up: Fish Products, Preparation and Idioms: Food language.	3	2	1		Group Discussion	0,5
		Reading: kinds of fish; fish dishes, ways of preparing fish; filling in the table.	3	2	1		Group Work	0,5
		Listening: seafood recipes, filling in the table. Vocabulary Development Speaking: My life without money	3	1	2		Group Discussion	0,5
		Translation from Ukrainian into English. Grammar: present perfect continuous with for and since.	3	1	2		Translation Skills	0,5
		Writing a recipe of a fish/seafood dish; a story using an idiomatic language	3	1	2		Writing Skills	1
		Listening and speaking: Man answering some questions about money. Vocabulary and pronunciation: Money, percentages, decimals and fractions.	3	2	1		Group Work	0,5
		Grammar Bank: Present perfect continuous with <i>for</i> and <i>since</i> . Speaking: If you could spend a year working or studying in another country. What would you like to do and eat there?	3	2	1		Group Work	1
		Translation from Ukrainian into English	3	1	2		Translation Skills	0,5
		Speaking: A bar or restaurant you often go to, food and price.	2	1	1		Group Discussion	0,5

		Reading: It was just a holiday, but it changed my life. Communication: Are you hungry? Yes, I am starving. Listening: World Not Prepared to Deal With the Fast Growth of Climate Vocabulary Development	3	2	1		Group Work, Translation Skills	1
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*Продовження*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Grammar Bank: present perfect continuous for recent continuous actions	3	1	2		Group Work	0,5
		Writing: Write a short story about your recent actions and events that you have already done	3	2	1		Writing Skills	1
		Reading: Race to the sun( your last travel: price, food and impressions)	3	1	2		Group Work	0,5
		Translation From Ukrainian into English, from English into Ukrainian.	3	2	1		Translation Skills	1
		Listening: Listen to Martin talking about his journey from London to Avignon by car. Vocabulary Development	3	2	1		Group Discussion	0,5
		Grammar Bank: comparatives and superlatives.	3	2	1		Group Work	0,5
		Vocabulary: transport and travel, eating in the transport. Pronunciation and speaking of the compound nouns	3	2	1		Progress Check	1
		Listening and speaking: Which of these things is the most dangerous when you are driving? Vocabulary Development	3	2	1		Group Work	1
		Grammar Bank: requests and permission in different situations around the world. US Election Results May Help Predict Future Voting. Vocabulary Development	3	2	1		Group Discussion, Translation Skills	0,5
		Writing: My nightmare journey. Listening: Crimean Lawmakers Vote to Leave Ukraine, Join Russia	3	2	1		Writing Skills, Translation Skills	1
		Reading and speaking: Why I didn't want to be a millionaire.	3	2	1		Role Play	0,5

	Speaking: describing and contrasting seafood dishes, favorite dishes; describing pictures; discussing questions (disappearance of fish etc.) in different places. Can you think of one way that a holiday could change your life for the better?	3	2	1		Group Discussion	1
	Vocabulary: kinds of fish and seafood, ways of preparing, idiomatic language. Vocabulary and pronunciation: strong adjectives.	3	2	1		Progress Check	1
Модульна контрольна робота		2			2		5
<b>Усього (за модулем)</b>		<b>92</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>20-25</b>

*Продовження*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
3	Food and Drinks. Modern manners.	Start-up: Vegetable and Fruit: Preparation and Idioms	2	2	1		Group Discussion	0,5
		Reading: names of the vegetables and fruits, ways of preparing vegetables Manners in different places around the world..	4	2	2		Group Work	0,5
		Listening comprehension and filling in the table. Table etiquette Vocabulary Development	2	1	1		Test	0,5
		Writing: a recipe of a vegetable dish; a story using idiomatic language Grammar: must, have to, should	4	2	2		Writing Skills	1
		Translation from Ukrainian into English Culture shock.	3	2	1		Translation Skills	0,5
		Speaking: describing and contrasting vegetable dishes; describing favorite fruits and vegetables; describing pictures, discussing questions (pros and cons the vegetarian diet) Discussion: The English and Russian idea of good manners is different.	4	2	2		Role play	1
		Vocabulary: vegetables and fruits, ways of preparation, idiomatic language. Listen to three people who have lived in England answering the question 'Are English people <i>too</i> polite?' Vocabulary Development	4	2	2		Progress Check	1

	Start-up: Herbs, Spices, Nuts, Desserts and Idioms. Food idioms 2. Listening: Winter Olympics Open in Sochi	3	2	1		Group Discussion, Translation Skills	0,5
	Reading: types of herbs and spices, nuts and desserts; ways of their preparation; filling in the table	2	1	1		Group Work	0,5
	Listening comprehension and filling in the table Vocabulary Development	2	1	1		Test	0,5
	Writing: a list of dishes prepared with herbs and spices; a story using an idiomatic language. Men and women- man's role.	4	2	2		Writing Skills	1
	Translation from Ukrainian into English. Greeting people.	3	1	2		Translation Skills	1

*Продовження*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Speaking: favourite dish with nuts, favourite dessert; describing pictures; discussing questions (sugar can be extremely dangerous etc.) Speaking: Good manners, bad manners, does it matter?	3	1	2		Role play	0,5
		Vocabulary: herbs, spices, nuts, desserts, ways of preparation, idiomatic language. Mobile etiquette in different places.	2	1	1		Progress Check	1
		Start-up: Judging by appearance. Do I really look like this?	2	1	1		Group Discussion	0,5
		Reading: ways of describing things and persons; filling in the table. Listening: Indian Diplomat Seeks Dismissal of US Criminal Charges	3	1	2		Group Work, Translation Skills	0,5
		Listening comprehension and filling in the table. Vocabulary Development Pronunciation and speaking: sentence stress.	2	1	1		Test	0,5
		Writing: a story using idiomatic language; manners or the law.	3	1	2		Writing Skills	1
		Translation from Ukrainian into English. Describing personality.	2	1	1		Translation Skills	1

	Speaking: describing one's meal or snack; favourite drink or meal; describing persons, discussing questions (alcohol as a drug etc.). Pronunciation -eigh,-aigh,-igh. Listening: US Election Results May Help Predict Future Voting	3	2	1		Role play, Translation Skills	0,5
	Vocabulary: ways of describing food, drinks, menu; idiomatic language. Vocabulary Bank Describing people.	2	1	1		Progress Check	1
	Start-up: Vegetarians and Meat-Eaters. Vegetarians are healthier than people who eat a lot of meat	1	1			Group Discussion	0,5
	Reading the article about vegetarian, discussing it, filling in the table, answering the questions. Who do you think who?	2	1	1		Group Work	0,5
	Reading about the principle of text compression. Grammar: can, could, be able to.	2	1	1		Simulation	0,5

*Продовження*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		Writing out the words related to food according to the categories; a 200-word essay on the advantages and disadvantages of the vegetarian diet. Listening: Remembering Nelson Mandela Around the World	2	1	1		Writing Skills, Translation Skills	1
		Translation from Ukrainian into English. I've never be able to...	2	1	1		Translation Skills	0,5
		Speaking: favourite dishes, describing pictures, discussing questions (Judging by appearance).	3	2	1		Role play	1
		Vocabulary: vegetarian and meat-eaters, idiomatic language. -ed and -ing adjectives.	3	2	1		Progress Check	0,5
		Listening: You're going to hear a psychologist talking about how to succeed at learning to do something new. Vocabulary Development	1	1			Group Discussion	0,5
		Reading an article about successful people( Never give up), answering the questions	2	1	1		Group Work	0,5
		Translation from Ukrainian into English. Renting a flat.	3	2	1		Translation Skills	0,5

		Writing: a 200-word essay on the advantages and disadvantages of a non-vegetarian diet, an informal letter.	3	1	2		Writing Skills	1
		Speaking: attitude towards the problem of controlling one's weight and sticking to a diet; describing pictures, discussing questions (national vs. international cuisine etc.) Listening: North Korea Executes Kim Relative Vocabulary Development	3	2	1		Role play, Translation Skills	1
		Reading: The best day. Translation, discussion and answering the questions.	3	2	1		Group Work	1
Модульна контрольна робота			2			2		5
<b>Усього (за модулем)</b>			<b>92</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>15-20</b>
<b>Іспит</b>								<b>1-30</b>
<b>Усього (за семестр)</b>			<b>278</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>60-70</b>

### Listening task

#### Remembering Nelson Mandela Around the World

Listen to the news report about “*Remembering Nelson Mandela Around the World*” and complete the gaps with one word. The missing words you can find in the box.

*global, honor, struggle, reconciliation, loss, prison, forgiveness, inspiration, son, blacks, infection, fears, tremendous, occupation remembering, apartheid, critical, profoundly, involved, dignity.*

People around the world are \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> Nelson Mandela, South Africa’s first black president. He died Thursday at the age of 95.

South African President Jacob Zuma said the nation “has lost its greatest \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup>, and our people have lost a father.”

Mandela had been in poor health for several years. He was repeatedly treated in hospitals, most recently for a lung \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup>. He became infected with tuberculosis many years ago while in prison.

Nelson Mandela was the main leader in efforts to end white minority rule in South Africa. He spent 27 years in prison for his part in fighting apartheid - the nation’s policy of discrimination against \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup>.

Many world leaders, past and present, are remembering Nelson Mandela.

Frederick W. de Klerk was South Africa's last \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup> leader. He freed Mandela from prison in 1990. Later, the two men won the Nobel Peace Prize. Mr. de Klerk said people will remember Mandela for the importance he placed on \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup> - being able to reach a settlement between conflicting sides. He said their relationship was, in his words, "often stormy," but he said they were "always able to come together at \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup> moments."

South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu was active in the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup> to end apartheid. He also was a friend of Nelson Mandela. He praised Mandela for his actions and statements after he was released from \_\_\_\_\_<sup>9</sup>. Archbishop Tutu said instead of "calling for his pound of flesh, he proclaimed the message of \_\_\_\_\_<sup>10</sup> and reconciliation."

In the United States, President Barack Obama called Mandela an influential, brave and \_\_\_\_\_<sup>11</sup> good human being. Mr. Obama said Mandela will be remembered for leaving a free South Africa at peace.

"I am one of the countless millions who drew \_\_\_\_\_<sup>12</sup> from Nelson Mandela's life. My very first political action - the first thing I ever did that \_\_\_\_\_<sup>13</sup> an issue, or a policy, or politics - was a protest against apartheid. I would study his words and his writings. The day he was released from prison gave me a sense of what human beings can do when they're guided by their hopes and not by their \_\_\_\_\_<sup>14</sup>."

President Obama said flags at the White House and other government buildings will be lowered through Monday in \_\_\_\_\_<sup>15</sup> of Nelson Mandela. Few foreign leaders are honored by the United States in this way.

Former presidents Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton and George W. Bush also praised Mandela as a champion of freedom, human \_\_\_\_\_<sup>16</sup> and equality. Another former president - George H.W. Bush - called Mandela "a man

of \_\_\_\_\_<sup>17</sup> moral courage" who changed the direction of history in his country.

In London, British Prime Minister David Cameron called Mandela a true \_\_\_\_\_<sup>18</sup> hero. In his words, a great light has gone out in the world.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called Mandela, "one of the most honorable figures of our time." Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas called him "a symbol of freedom from colonialism and \_\_\_\_\_<sup>19</sup>." He called Mr. Mandela's death "a great \_\_\_\_\_<sup>20</sup>."

And that's In The News, from VOA Learning English. I'm Christopher Cruise.

### Active Vocabulary

**Minority rule (n.)** – when a country or area is under the control of a group that represents less than 50 percent of the population.

**Apartheid (n.)** – South Africa's former system of racial separation.

**Nobel Peace Prize (n.)** – a prize awarded every year to an individual, group of people or an organization for efforts in support of peace.

**Global hero (expression)** – a person who is admired by many people for great or brave acts.

**Human dignity (expression)** – an individual or group's sense of self-respect and self-worth, physical and psychological integrity and empowerment.

**Colonialism (n.)** – the system or policy by which a nation maintains or advocates such control or influence.

**Moral courage (expression)** – is the courage to take action for moral reasons despite the risk of adverse consequences.

**Reconciliation (n.)** – is the act of getting two things to be compatible with one another.

**Forgiveness (n.)** – the act of forgiving or the state of being forgiven.

**Settlement (n.)** – a formal agreement or decision that ends an argument or dispute.

**Policy(n.)** – a high-level overall plan embracing the general goals and acceptable procedures especially of a governmental body.

### Test

#### Choose the correct answer.

1. Nelson Mandela, South Africa's first black president spent 27 years in prison for his part in fighting .

- a) poverty;
- b) homelessness;
- c) apartheid;
- d) corruption.

2. Who was the main leader in efforts to end white minority rule in South Africa?

- a) Nelson Mandela;
- b) Barack Obama;
- c) Bill Clinton;
- d) Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

3. In London, British Prime Minister David Cameron called Mandela a true.



- a) global hero;
- b) great son;
- c) great father;
- d) national hero.

4. In 1993, Nelson Mandela and F.W. de Klerk won the \_\_\_\_\_ for their work for the peaceful end of the apartheid system and for laying the foundation for a new, democratic South Africa.

- a) Nobel Peace Prize;
- b) National hero;
- c) Pulitzer price;
- d) World global Prize.

5. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called Mandela as one of the most figures of our time.

- a) intelligent;
- b) honorable;
- c) respectable;
- d) famous.

6. Choose the correct definition for the expression “minority rule”.

a) It means when a country or area is under the control of a group that represents less than 50 percent of the population.

b) It means an individual or group’s sense of self-respect and self-worth, physical and psychological integrity and empowerment.

c) It means an organized group of persons associated together for religious, benevolent, cultural, scientific, political, patriotic, or other purposes.

7. Archbishop Tutu said that instead of calling for his pound of flesh, he proclaimed the message of and reconciliation.

- a) apartheid;
- b) forgiveness;
- c) integrity;
- d) empowerment.

### **Can America Win the Education Race?**

Listen to the news report about “*Can America Win the Education Race?*” and complete the gaps with one word. The missing words you can find in the box.

*grades, urged, nations, deserves, allegiance, retire, released, surpass, out-innovate, Sputnik, advanced, communities, unleashed, regain, pledge, deportation.*

President Obama talked a lot about education in his State of the Union speech last week.

BARACK OBAMA: “We need to \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>1</sup>, out-educate and out-build the rest of the world. [Applause]”

“This is our generation’s \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>2</sup> moment,” he said.

BARACK OBAMA: “Half a century ago, when the Soviets beat us into space with the launch of a satellite called Sputnik, we had no idea how we would beat them to the moon. The science wasn’t even there yet. NASA didn’t exist. But after investing in better research and education, we didn’t just \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>3</sup> the Soviets; we \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>4</sup> a wave of innovation that created new industries and millions of new jobs.”

If Americans want to “win the future,” he said, then they also have to win the race to educate their children.

BARACK OBAMA: “Over the next ten years, nearly half of all new jobs will require education that goes beyond a high school education. And yet as many as a quarter of our students aren’t even finishing high school. The quality of our math and science education lags behind many other \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>5</sup>. America has fallen to ninth in the proportion of young people with a college degree.”

Two years ago, Mr. Obama set a goal to \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>6</sup> the world’s highest rate of college graduates by twenty-twenty. He says the responsibility to give every child a chance to succeed begins not in classrooms, but in homes and \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>7</sup>.

BARACK OBAMA: “Only parents can make sure the TV is turned off and homework gets done. We need to teach our kids that it’s not just the winner of the Super Bowl who \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>8</sup> to be celebrated, but the winner of the science fair. [Applause]”

President Obama talked about his Race to the Top competition. It offered states money to develop plans to improve teacher quality and student performance. He \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>9</sup> Congress to follow this idea for the next version of the main federal law on elementary and secondary education.

Also, he called for preparing one hundred thousand new teachers in science, technology, engineering and math over the next ten years. He noted that many teachers now are old enough to \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>10</sup>.

In his message, Mr. Obama offered to begin debate with Congress on immigration \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>11</sup> reform, and he linked that issue to education.

BARACK OBAMA: “Today, there are hundreds of thousands of students excelling in our schools who are not American citizens. Some are the children of undocumented workers, who had nothing to do with the actions of their parents. They grew up as Americans and \_\_\_\_\_<sup>12</sup> to our flag, and yet they live every day with the threat of \_\_\_\_\_<sup>13</sup>. Others come here from abroad to study in our colleges and universities. But as soon as they obtain advanced degrees, we send them back home to compete against us.”

The speech came the same day the Education Department \_\_\_\_\_<sup>14</sup> the latest results on student progress in science.

The goal is for all students to perform at the proficient or advanced level. But only about one-third of students in \_\_\_\_\_<sup>15</sup> four and eight and one-fifth of twelfth-graders did that in two thousand nine. Just one to two percent of students performed at the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>16</sup> level.

And that's the VOA Special English Education Report. I'm Steve Ember.

### Active Vocabulary

**NASA** – National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

**Out-innovate** – make changes in something established, especially by introducing new methods, ideas, or products.

**Launch** – to send or shoot (something, such as a rocket) into the air or water or into outer space.

**Excelling** – to be superior to (another or others); surpass.

**Unleash** – to allow or cause (something very powerful) to happen suddenly.

**Surpass** – to be superior to in achievement or excellence.

**Super Bowl** is the annual championship game of the National Football League (NFL), the highest level of professional American football in the United States, culminating a season that begins in the late summer of the previous calendar year.

**Federal law** – a body of law at the highest or national level of a federal government, consisting of a constitution, enacted laws and the court decisions pertaining to them. The federal law of the United States consists of the United States Constitution, laws enacted by Congress, and decisions of the Supreme Court and other federal courts.

**Pledge the allegiance** – a vow of loyalty and support the country.

**Deportation** is the expulsion of a person or group of people from a place or country.

## Test

### Choose the correct answer.

1. Half a century ago, when the Soviets beat us into space with the launch of a satellite called Sputnik, we had no idea how we would beat them to the .

- a) sky;
- b) sun;
- c) moon;
- d) space.

2. Give the synonymous to the word “supass”.

- a) deteriorate;
- b) forgive;
- c) collapse;
- d) excelling.

3. The quality of our math and science education lags many other nations.

- a) behind;
- b) in front of;
- c) in;
- d) under.

4. Two years ago, Mr. Obama set a goal to\_the world’s highest rate of college graduates by twenty-twenty.

- a) rebuilt;
- b) follow;
- c) regain;
- d) start.

5. Give the opposite to the word “excelling”.

- a) preponderate;
- b) active;
- c) skillful;
- d) leg behind.

6.\_make changes in something established, especially by introducing new methods, ideas, or products.

- a) Regain;
- b) Out-innovate;
- c) Build;
- d) Beat.

7. But after\_in better research and education, we didn’t just surpass the Soviets; we unleashed a wave of innovation that created new industries and millions of new jobs.

- a) improving;
- b) investing;
- c) investigating;
- d) studying.

### Working to Fight Climate Change

Listen to the news report about “*Working to Fight Climate Change*” and complete the gaps with one word. The missing words you can find in the box.

*promised, dismissed, hearings, power, destroy, groups, policy, pollutant, emissions, leader, fossil, climate, representatives, dioxide, agency, impact, government, coal, effect, mine.*

From VOA Learning English, this is In The News.

Delegates from nearly 200 countries have spent the past two weeks in Warsaw, Poland. More than 9,000 \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> gathered for a United Nations conference on climate change. Organizers called the meeting to work toward a treaty to fight rising temperatures on our planet. The treaty would be signed in 2015 and take \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup> after 2020.

Several environmental \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup> walked out of the climate talks earlier this week. They were protesting what they considered a lack of progress towards a deal to limit carbon \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup> and other global warming \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup>. Studies have shown links between such gases and the rise in temperatures.

In the United States, the Environmental Protection Agency is leading government efforts to fight \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup> change. The agency just ended a series of public hearings across the country. The EPA was seeking comments as it considers tightening clean air rules for coal-burning \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup> plants.

America’s 1,000 coal-burning power plants supply 40 percent of the nation’s electricity. The plants are responsible for one-third of the global warming emissions. The Obama Climate Action Plan has \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup> to cut the production of such gases.

Mitch McConnell is the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>9</sup> of the Republican Party in the United States Senate. He spoke at the EPA hearing in support of his home state of Kentucky, which is a major \_\_\_\_\_<sup>10</sup> producer.

“By now it is clear that this administration and your \_\_\_\_\_<sup>11</sup> have declared a war on coal. For Kentucky, this means a war on jobs and on our state’s economy.”

Brian Patton also spoke at the EPA hearing. Mr. Patton comes from a long line of Kentucky coal \_\_\_\_\_<sup>12</sup> workers. Today he is president of James River Coal Service. His company has \_\_\_\_\_<sup>13</sup> 725 workers over the past six months. He fears that new rules could bring even greater hardship to an area that is already economically depressed.

“Understand, these are communities of just 1,000, 2,000, 3,000 people. And when you have that type of an economic \_\_\_\_\_<sup>14</sup> due to regulations that come from Washington, DC -that have very little understanding of what the outcome is for the local folks, for folks that get up and go to work every day and what that impact will be for their families in the future, and that’s wrong.”

David Doniger is a climate \_\_\_\_\_<sup>15</sup> expert with the Natural Resources Defense Council, one of the nation’s largest environmental groups. He says it is the duty of the EPA to control carbon as a \_\_\_\_\_<sup>16</sup>. He wants the agency to establish new rules that would move the United States toward a cleaner energy environment.

“No one is proposing standards that would knock out all those power plants. We’re talking about a shift from the dirtier ones to the cleaner ones, and from all those \_\_\_\_\_<sup>17</sup> fuel-powered ones towards renewable and even nuclear sources of energy.”

He says the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>18</sup> is responsible for protecting clean air, not protecting old and dirty power stations.

“That’s the only way that we can continue to have the way of life we want without running into the wall on climate change impacts, which in turn will come back and \_\_\_\_\_<sup>19</sup> the quality of life we have.”

The EPA is now considering comments from the nationwide \_\_\_\_\_<sup>20</sup>. The agency plans to announce proposed rule changes in June.

And that’s In the News from VOA Learning English. I’m Steve Ember

### **Active Vocabulary**

**Environmental** – relating to the natural world and the impact of human activity on its condition.

**EPA** – Environmental Protection Agency.

**Emission** – something (such as energy or gas) that is sent out from a source.

**Power plant** – a building or group of buildings in which electricity for a large area is produced.

**Pollutant** – a substance that makes land, water, air, etc., dirty and not safe to use; something that causes pollution.

**Treaty** – an official agreement that is made between two or more countries or groups.

**Agency** – a business that provides a particular service.

**Hardship** – pain and suffering.

**Community** – a group of people who live in the same area (such as a city, town, or neighborhood).

**Establish** – to cause (someone or something) to be widely known and accepted.

**Fossil** – something (such as a leaf, skeleton, or footprint) that is from a plant or animal which lived in ancient times and that you can see in some rocks.

**Impact** – the act or force of one thing hitting another.

## Test

**Choose the correct answer.**

1. One of the roles of \_\_\_\_\_ groups is to protect the environment from human activity which may have a negative impact on its condition.

- a) environment;
- b) earth;
- c) environmental;
- d) power.

2. Gases released into the air from cars or factories are called \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) emissions;
- b) pollutants;
- c) gases;
- d) dioxide.

3. America's coal burning \_\_\_\_\_ supply 40 percent of the nation's electricity.

- a) houses;
- b) power plant;
- c) machines;
- d) equipment.

4. David Doniger says it is the duty of the EPA to control carbon

as a \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) emission;
- b) pollution;
- c) pollen;
- d) pollutant.

5. His company has \_\_\_\_\_ 725 workers over the past six months.

- a) dismissed;
- b) rejected;
- c) discard;
- d) disbanded.

6. David Doniger is a climate\_\_\_\_\_ policy with the Natural Resources Defense Council, one of the nation's largest environmental groups.

- a) supervisor;
- b) director;
- c) scientist;
- d) expert.

7. For Kentucky, this means a war on jobs and on our state's .

- a) economy;
- b) policy;
- c) education;
- d) agency.

### **World Not Prepared to Deal With the Fast Growth of Cities**

Listen to the news report about “*World Not Prepared to Deal With the Fast Growth of Cities*” and complete the gaps with one word. The missing words you can find in the box.

<i>undernourished, sustainable, energy, wastage, sustainable, populations, vital, urban, transportation, officials, storage.</i>
--

The United Nations is warning that the world is not prepared to deal with the fast growth of cities. The World Economic and Social Survey 2013 calls for new ways to meet the needs of city\_\_\_\_\_ <sup>1</sup>. More than 6.5 billion people are expected to be living in cities by 2050.

Most new city dwellers will be in developing countries. The United Nations says the effect on limited resources in many countries will be huge. The World Economic and Social Survey points to the increasing demand for \_\_\_\_\_ <sup>2</sup>, water, sanitation, public services, education and health care.



The world population is expected to rise to more than nine billion by 2050, two-thirds of all people are expected to live in cities. The United Nations says about 80 percent of this growing \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup> population will be found in Africa and Asia.

The report says \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup> development of urban areas requires coordination and investments to deal with important issues, these include land-use, food security, job creation and \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup>.

Willem Van Der Geest is with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, he says cities need to work closely with rural communities, so that food supplies can be secured, and the environment can be protected.

“We need sufficient integration with cities... An integration between the rural and urban economies is absolutely \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup> for issues of nutrition, food security, and environmental sustainability.”

The report says development in a sustainable way is important to ending poverty. The report also examines the problem of food insecurity, which affects hundreds of millions of people around the world. One in eight people are still chronically \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup>.

UN \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup> says somethings are clear. The Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, Shamshad Akhtar, says world food production will have to increase by 70%, that increase will be needed to feed the additional 2.3 billion people expected on the planet by the middle of the century. She says an important part of meeting that need is to waste less food.

“There has to be efforts to reduce food \_\_\_\_\_<sup>9</sup>. Changes will have to take place in the food chain-production, \_\_\_\_\_<sup>10</sup>, transportation and consumption.”

Food and nutrition security are core elements of the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>11</sup> development agenda.

And that’s the Economics Report from VOA Learning English, I’m Mario Ritter.

### Active Vocabulary

**Urbanization** – the process by which towns and cities are formed and become larger as more and more people begin living and working in central areas.

**Impact** – to have a strong and often bad effect on (something or someone).

The **world economy**, or **global economy**, generally refers to the economy, which is based on economies of all of the world's countries' national economies.

**Sustainable** – able to be used without being completely used up or destroyed.

**Integration** – the act or process or an instance of integrating: as incorporation as equals into society or an organization of individuals of different groups (as races).

**Investments** – the outlay of money usually for income or profit : capital outlay.

**Tackle** – to make determined efforts to deal with (a problem or difficult task).

**Inhabitant** – one that occupies a particular place regularly, routinely, or for a period of time.

**Implication** – a logical relationship between two propositions in which if the first is true the second is true.

**Rural** – applies to sparsely settled or agricultural country.

**Nutrition** – the process of eating the right kind of food so you can grow properly and be healthy.

**Eradication** - to remove or destroy utterly; extirpate.

**Poverty** – the state of one who lacks a usual or socially acceptable amount of money or material possessions.

**Livestock** – farm animals kept for use and profit.

## Test

### Choose the correct answer.

1. The world population is expected to rise to more than by 2050, with two-thirds living in cities.

- a) nine billion;
- b) ninety million;
- c) nineteen billion;
- d) nine million.

2. To have large tracts of land uninhabited as we have known in other country contexts is quite debilitating for agricultural and\_.

- a) education system;
- b) food systems;
- c) economic system;
- d) politic system.

3. An integration between the rural and urban economies is absolutely\_for issues of nutrition, food security, and environmental sustainability.
- important;
  - burning;
  - vital;
  - indispensible.
4. The survey says sustainable development is key to the eradication of .
- poverty;
  - farming;
  - famine;
  - flooding.
5. Currently about of the food produced globally is wasted.
- 34 percent;
  - 31 percent;
  - 32 percent;
  - 30 percent.
6. The United Nations says about 80 percent of this burgeoning urban population will be found in Africa and .
- Europe;
  - India;
  - China;
  - Asia.
7. The United Nations says the impact on limited resources will be .
- enormous;
  - small;
  - big;
  - tremendous.

### **Obama Seeks to Increase African Electricity, Trade**

Listen to the news report about “*Obama Seeks to Increase African Electricity, Trade*” with one word. The missing words you can find in the box.

*education, relationship, fundamental, pregnancy, develop, humanity, exchange, knowledge, violence, double, grid, imprisoned.*

President Barack Obama returned to the United States this week after visiting Senegal, South Africa, and Tanzania with his wife and two daughters. One issue that the president spoke about was power.

“Access to electricity is \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> to opportunity in this age. It's the light that children study by. The energy that allows an idea to be transformed into a real business. It's the lifeline for families to meet their most basic needs. And it's the connection that's needed to plug Africa into the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup> of the global economy. You got to have power.”

During his visit, President Obama promised to give \$7 billion to increase electricity production in sub-Saharan Africa. The program is being called Power Africa.

Obama said it will \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup> the number of people in Africa who have electricity in the next five years. The program will be started in Ethiopia, Kenya, Liberia, Nigeria, Uganda, Mozambique and Tanzania.

The president also spoke about increasing trade between sub-Saharan Africa and the United States. He told African and American business leaders in Tanzania that he believes Africa is the world's next major success story. And, he said, America wants a \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup> with Africa based more on trade than aid.

Many people saw President Obama's trip as a response to China's heavy investment in Africa. Observers say America needs to have a bigger economic role in the continent.

During the weeklong visit, the Obama family also visited Robben Island in South Africa. That is the prison where former South African president Nelson Mandela spent 18 years. He was \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup> for fighting to end the country's apartheid regime.

Mr. Obama also joined former president George W. Bush in Dar es bombings of the American embassy there.

Reporter Michael Shear wrote in the New York Times that the president's critics say he missed a chance to visit countries that are creating problems.

For instance, critics say he could have visited Kenya, whose president has been charged with crimes against \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup> by the International Criminal Court. Or, he could have gone to the Republic of Congo and talked about ending the country's long history of \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup>.

Aides traveling with the president reportedly said the trip was designed to show positive opportunities in Africa.

One positive opportunity in Africa is the chance for young people to come together and make music. Mario Ritter brings you the story of some South African singers and dancers who share their \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup> with American students.

Bokamosa Youth is the name of a South African organization. For over 10 years, about 20 Bokamosa members have spent a month at a high school and college in the United States.

The program offers more than just an \_\_\_\_\_<sup>9</sup> between two cultures. It gives young people the opportunity to talk about what is important to them, and to imagine a different kind of life for themselves.

While the Bokamosa Youth perform, many of the American students join in.

“Bokamosa has been doing that here for years, so many of us are familiar with this.”

Drew Looney is in his third year of high school at Saint Andrew's Episcopal School in the eastern state of Maryland. Singing together helps the American and South African students get to know each other.

Teachers at Saint Andrew's say meeting the South Africans makes some American students think about living or working in another country one day. And attending an American school, even for only a few weeks, often makes members of the South African group decide to get more \_\_\_\_\_<sup>10</sup>.

“I wanted to go a mile from where I was.”

That was Themba. He is 19. Like other members of Bokamosa, he grew up in a town outside of Pretoria called Winterveldt.

“I can say it's a place under construction.”

As part of Bokamosa, students also write poems and perform plays for schools and churches in Winterveldt. A lot of their creative work discusses issues in the community. For instance: teenage \_\_\_\_\_<sup>11</sup>, finding a job, or women entering the corporate world.

“Normally a woman doesn't work, a man must provide. These plays, they address the issues because sometimes conflicts arise when men can say: No, you want to take away my pride?”

Thapelo is 27. Bokamosa helped him with his education. Now he volunteers for the group as a drama director.

Thapelo works with young people like Lovely, who said she used to be very shy.

“Here I am now. I can be able to stand in front of many, many people and present myself.”

Roy Barber goes to Winterveldt in the summer to help Lovely and other participants create plays and \_\_\_\_\_<sup>12</sup> songs. The rest of the year he teaches music and other classes at St. Andrew's, back in Maryland.

He says making music and telling stories helps young people look at their lives and make choices - or, put another way, to find their voices.

I'm Mario Ritter.

### Active Vocabulary

**Electricity** – a form of energy that is carried through wires and is used to operate machines, lights, etc.

**Grid** – a network of electrical wires and equipment that supplies electricity to a large area.

**Embassy** – a group of people who work under an ambassador and represent their country in a foreign country.

**International Criminal Court** – is a permanent international tribunal to prosecute individuals for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and the crime of aggression (although jurisdiction for the crime of aggression<sup>[3]</sup> will not be active until 2017 at the earliest).

**Community** – a group of people with a common characteristic or interest living together within a larger society.

**Pregnancy** – the condition of a woman or female animal that is going to have a baby or babies : the condition of a pregnant woman or female animal.

**Participants** – a person who is involved in an activity or event: a person who participates in an activity or event.

### Test

#### Choose the correct answer.

1. During his visit, President Obama promised to give to increase electricity production in sub-Saharan Africa.

- a) \$7 billion;
- b) \$9 billion;
- c) \$8 billion;
- d) \$10 billion.

2. The program is being called .

- a) Power Africa;
- b) Power America;
- c) Power Asia;
- d) Power Africa.

3. Reporter Michael Shear wrote in the that the president's critics say he missed a chance to visit countries that are creating problems.

- a) Guardian;
- b) New York Times;
- c) Times;

d) Financial Times.

4. For over , about 20 Bokamosa members have spent a month at a high school and college in the United States.

a) 10 years;

b) 8 years;

c) 11 years;

d) 7 years.

5. And attending an American , even for only a few weeks, often makes members of the South African group decide to get more education.

a) university;

b) school;

c) kindergarten;

d) nursery.

6. He says making music and telling stories helps young people look at their lives and make choices – or, put another way, to find their .

a) voices;

b) souls;

c) way;

d) life.

7. Observers say needs to have a bigger economic role in the continent.

a) America;

b) Africa;

c) Asia;

d) India.

### **Crimean Lawmakers Vote to Leave Ukraine, Join Russia**

Listen to the news report about “*Crimean Lawmakers Vote to Leave Ukraine, Join Russia*” with one word. The missing words you can find in the box.

*official, join, election, deputy, lawmakers, soldiers, involvement, violates, military, restoration, urge, surrender, restrictions.*

From VOA Learning English, this is In The News

The crisis in Ukraine continued this week. On Thursday, \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> in Crimea approved a measure to make the peninsula part of Russia. The Crimean lawmakers also called a referendum on the issue. The special election is set for March 16th.

Sergei Shuvainikov is a \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup> in the Crimean parliament. He said voters would be asked two questions: “First, ‘Do you vote for the reunion of Crimea with the Russian Federation, as a subject of the Russian Federation?’ Second, ‘Do you vote for the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup> of the 1992 constitution and for Crimea to be part of Ukraine?’”

The vote in the Crimean parliament came as European Union leaders held emergency meetings in Brussels, Belgium. EU officials want to pressure Russia into recalling \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup> forces from Crimea.

An aide to the commander of Ukraine’s border guards said there are now 30,000 Russian \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup> in the area. That is in comparison to the 11,000 troops that were with Russia’s Black Sea fleet in the port of Sevastopol before the crisis began. Russian officials have denied the additional soldiers belong to its armed forces.

Yatsenyuk dismisses vote to join Russia

Ukraine’s acting Prime Minister, Arseniy Yatsenyuk, was at the talks in Brussels. He dismissed the Crimean parliament’s vote to \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup> Russia.

“This is illegitimate decision and this so-called referendum has no legal grounds at all. That’s the reason why we \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup> the Russian government not to support those who claim separatism in Ukraine. Crimea was, is and will be an integral part of Ukraine.”

He also said his government is open to talks with Russia about the crisis.

“We are ready for co-operation, but we are not ready to \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup> and to be the subordinate of Russia.”

The situation in Ukraine has worsened Russian relations with the West, including the United States. President Barack Obama says the presence of Russian forces in the Crimean peninsula \_\_\_\_\_<sup>9</sup> Ukraine’s rights as an independent country. On Thursday, he ordered sanctions against individuals found to have violated Ukraine’s territorial integrity. The actions include visa \_\_\_\_\_<sup>10</sup>. The EU also announced measures against Russia, suspending talks on visas and a new economic agreement.

Obama and Putin discuss situation by telephone

President Obama and Russian President Vladimir Putin spoke by telephone for about an hour on Thursday. President Putin dismissed an American warning over Russia’s \_\_\_\_\_<sup>11</sup> in Crimea. Russian officials said Mr. Putin denounced Ukraine’s new western-supported government as “illegitimate”. And he said his country cannot ignore calls for help from Crimea and the eastern and southern parts of Ukraine.



As a way of finding a solution to the crisis, President Obama called for direct talks between Russia and Ukraine.

Mr. Obama is not alone in his reaction to the increased Russian involvement in Crimea. A top \_\_\_\_\_<sup>12</sup> of the European Union called the Russian actions illegal. Jan Tombinski, the EU's representative in Russia, said Crimea cannot decide to leave Ukraine just because of an \_\_\_\_\_<sup>13</sup> that included only Crimea. He said article 73 in Ukraine's constitution makes the referendum illegal.

And that's In the News from VOA Learning English. I'm Steve Ember.

### Active Vocabulary

**Parliament** – a government lawmaking group.

**Measure** – a legislative proposal.

**Deny** – to declare that something is not true.

**Violate** – to fail to obey or honor; to break (an agreement).

**Lawmakers** – someone who makes laws legislator.

**Vote** – to make an official choice for or against someone or something by casting a ballot, raising your hand, speaking your choice aloud, etc.

**Guard** – a state in which someone is carefully looking for possible danger, threats, problems, etc.

**Dismiss** – to decide not to think about or consider (something or someone).

**Support** – to agree with or approve of (someone or something).

**Separatist** – a member of a group of people who want to form a new country, religion, etc., that is separate from the one they are in now.

**Surrender** – to agree to stop fighting, hiding, resisting, etc., because you know that you will not win or succeed.

**Peninsula** – a piece of land that is almost entirely surrounded by water and is attached to a larger land area.

**Restriction** – a law or rule that limits or controls something.

**Sanction** – an action that is taken or an order that is given to force a country to obey international laws by limiting or stopping trade with that country, by not allowing economic aid for that country, etc.

**Denounce** – to publicly state that someone or something is bad or wrong to criticize (someone or something) harshly and publicly.

**Election** – the act or process of choosing someone for a public office by voting.

### Test

1. Choose the correct answer for **parliament** (*n*).

- a) a room or building where business or work is done;
  - b) a government lawmaking group;
  - c) a building in which people live;
  - d) a special military unit.
2. Choose the correct answer for **measure** (*n.*).
- a) an emergency meeting ;
  - b) an aide to a military commander;
  - c) a legislative proposal;
  - d) an international conference.
3. Choose the correct answer for **deny** (*v.*).
- a) to declare that something is true;
  - b) to dismiss the armed forces;
  - c) to occupy a government building;
  - d) to declare that something is not true.
4. Choose the correct answer for **violate** (*v.*).
- a) to honor and respect (an agreement);
  - b) to fail to obey or honor; to break (an agreement);
  - c) to attack the opposition;
  - d) to defend one's rights.
5. Lawmakers in Crimea approved a \_\_\_\_\_ to make the peninsula part of Russia.
- a) parliament;
  - b) deny;
  - c) measure;
  - d) violate.
6. EU \_\_\_\_\_ want to pressure Russia into recalling military forces from Crimea.
- a) representatives;
  - b) officials;
  - c) politicians;
  - d) government.
7. An aide to the commander of Ukraine's border guards said there are now \_\_\_\_\_ Russian soldiers in the area.
- a) 30,000;
  - b) 15,000;
  - c) 50,000;
  - d) 20,000.

## Will Sanctions Against Russia Work?

Listen to the news report about “*Will Sanctions Against Russia Work?*” with one word. The missing words you can find in the box.

*association, holdings, approved, turnout, resolve, ceremony, permitted, voters, punish, mongering, overwhelming, illegal, sanctions, escalates.*

From VOA Learning English, this is In The News.

Russian President Vladimir Putin has signed a law for Russia to officially take control of the Crimean peninsula. The signing \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> took place on Friday after the upper house of Russia’s parliament voted to make Crimea a part of Russia. The lower house \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup> the deal on Thursday, just four days after Crimean \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup> decided to leave Ukraine and join Russia.

Local officials in Crimea called a special election on the area’s future after Ukrainian lawmakers voted to oust President Viktor Yanukovich. The reported election results were one-sided. Ninety-seven percent of those marking ballots chose to join Russia. Crimean officials announced that over 80 percent of everyone \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup> to vote took part in the referendum.

The Russian president said the vote met international and democratic values for fairness. But many observers questioned the results. Robert Legvold is with Columbia University in New York City.

“If it was an honest vote and all groups had participated, I would have thought rather than an \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup> vote, it would have been something like 52 to 53 percent, given the percentage makeup of the groups in Crimea. The fact that it’s 97-point-whatever and they report a \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup> of 83 percent, creates some suspicion that it wasn’t just the shadow of the Russian military presence, but maybe even some manipulation.”

Matthew Rojansky works for the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington. He thinks the pro-Russian officials in Crimea held the referendum because they expected the results.

“My sense is this was a product of the times in which there has been a real build-up of fear \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup> and the overt pressure of armed men. There is nothing quite like a gun in your face.”

West Rejects Crimean Vote

The United States and the European Union have described the referendum in Crimea as \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup> and in violation of Ukraine's constitution. US and EU officials reacted quickly. They ordered travel bans and financial restrictions on 28 Russian officials and four Ukrainians. US officials have described those targeted as President Putin's "cronies."

Matthew Rojansky says that, for over a year, Mr. Putin urged top Russian officials to sell their international \_\_\_\_\_<sup>9</sup> and bring their wealth back to Russia.

"Anybody who has complied with him is sitting pretty and doesn't have to worry about the international \_\_\_\_\_<sup>10</sup>, and anyone who didn't - well, it's their problem; he can cut them loose."

#### Sanctions Not Strong Enough

He also believes the current sanctions are not strong enough.

"I don't think Putin believes us. I don't think he thinks we actually have the guts to impose really biting sanctions on, for example, the energy sector. I think he just distrusts our \_\_\_\_\_<sup>11</sup> because we haven't made it clear that we are willing to pay the pain on our side."

Robert Legvold of Columbia University believes stronger sanctions could hurt the world economy.

"Every step that \_\_\_\_\_<sup>12</sup> the penalty or the punishment also escalates the cost to those inflicting them, imposing the sanctions."

On Thursday, President Obama announced additional sanctions on Russian individuals and one bank. Russia reacted to the announcement by ordering entry bans on nine US lawmakers and officials. The following day, Ukraine's acting prime minister signed a political \_\_\_\_\_<sup>13</sup> agreement with the EU.

Observers say it will be very difficult to change what has happened in Crimea. Experts also say it will be interesting to see how far the United States and its Western allies are willing to go to \_\_\_\_\_<sup>14</sup> Russia for its actions.

And that's In The News from VOA Learning English. I'm Steve Ember.

### Active Vocabulary

**Official** – a person who has a position of authority in a company, organization, or government.

**Ballots** – a piece of paper used for voting.

**Constitution** – the written general laws and ideas that form a nation's system of government.

**Ban** – an official restriction.

**Approve** – to believe that something or someone is good or acceptable.

**Oust** – to cause or force (someone or something) to leave a position of power, a competition, etc.

**Referendum** – an event in which the people of a county, state, etc., vote for or against a law that deals with a specific issue a public vote on a particular issue.

**Manipulate** – to move or control (something) with your hands or by using a machine.

**Impose** – to cause (something, such as a tax, fine, rule, or punishment) to affect someone or something by using your authority.

**Distrust** – to have no trust or confidence in (someone or something) mistrust.

### Test

1. Choose the correct answer for **official**.

- a) a person who travels in space;
- b) someone who dresses officially;
- c) a radio personality;
- d) a person who has a position of authority in a company, organization, or government

2. What does mean the underlined world in the sentence? *Ninety-seven percent of those marking ballots chose to join Russia.*

- a) a type of board game;
- b) a piece of paper used for voting;
- c) a small notebook;
- d) a type of pen.

3. Choose the correct answer for **constitution**.

- a) a book of poems;
- b) a written agreement between two or more nations;
- c) a business plan;
- d) the written general laws and ideas that form a nation's system of government.

4. Choose the correct answer for **ban**.

- a) a special type of visa;
- b) an official restriction;
- c) a travel document;
- d) a warning.

5. Russia ordered entry bans on nine US lawmakers and \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) constitution;
- b) ballot;
- c) officials;
- d) ban.

6. The following day, Ukraine’s acting prime minister signed a political association agreement with the \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) EU;
- b) America;
- c) China;
- d) Russia.

7. Observers say it will be very difficult to change what has happened in \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) Kyiv;
- b) Crimea;
- c) Lviv;
- d) Donetsk.

### **US Election Results May Help Predict Future Voting**

Listen to the news report about “*US Election Results May Help Predict Future Voting*” with one word. The missing words you can find in the box.

*landslide, shutdown, accomplish, mayors, failure, including, leadership, secretary, chamber, robust, congressional, economy, won.*

From VOA Learning English, this is In the News.

Two American states elected governors this week, while several big cities chose \_\_\_\_\_.<sup>1</sup> The elections were the first since the troubled launch of the new federal health-care website and the 16-day partial shutdown of the government. Conservative Republicans in Congress, including Tea Party members, supported the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup> as part of their opposition to the program known as Obamacare.

Political experts looked at the governors’ races for clues to how Americans may vote in \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup> elections next year. Voters will choose all 435 members of the House of Representatives and one-third of the 100 senators.

Observers think the government shutdown helped Democrat Terry McAuliffe win the governor’s race in Virginia. Many federal workers live there and federal spending is important to the state \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup>.

Mr. McAuliffe defeated Ken Cuccinelli, a Republican with strong Tea Party ties. Mr. Cuccinelli stayed close in the race by attacking President Barack Obama and the health care law.

“Virginia understands that Obamacare is a \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup> and that you want to be in charge of your health care, and not the government.”

But voters chose Mr. McAuliffe in his second try for public office.

“Just think about what Virginia has been able to \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup> when we work together.”

The newly elected governor has close ties to former president Bill Clinton and former \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup> of state Hillary Clinton.

In the other governor’s race, voters in New Jersey re-elected Republican Chris Christie. He \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup> 60 percent of the vote with the support of many Democrats.

“Leadership is much less about talking than it is about listening. About bringing people around the table, listening to each other, showing them respect.”

Mr. Christie received much praise for his \_\_\_\_\_<sup>9</sup> after Superstorm Sandy hit the state a year ago. Many people see him as a possible 2016 candidate for president.

Tad Devine, an adviser to Democrats, says Governor Christie’s re-election offers an important lesson.

“He has been able to take a very Democratic state – Obama won New Jersey by 17 points in the last two elections – and become a governor who could not only win a close election as he did the first time, but win a \_\_\_\_\_<sup>10</sup> election.”

Ford O’Connell is a Republican strategist. He says Tea Party Republicans need to learn from the winning candidates.

“Well, it leaves the Tea Party really in an echo \_\_\_\_\_<sup>11</sup>, just talking to the base. The real problem for the Tea Party is how do they expand their appeal beyond the Republican base.”

Some people predict a battle for the heart and soul of the party. Will the Republicans move toward the conservatism of the Tea Party movement or away from it? Ford O’Connell is not sure.

“Depending on how this battle turns out, it could lead to more dysfunction and government shutdowns. And that’s something that people all over the world have an eye on because America is still the most \_\_\_\_\_<sup>12</sup> economy in the world.”

In New York City, voters on Tuesday elected Bill de Blasio as mayor. His election put the city under Democratic Party control for the first time in 20 years. He replaces Michael Bloomberg. Voters in other cities, \_\_\_\_\_<sup>13</sup> Atlanta, Boston and Miami, also elected mayors.

And that's In the News, from VOA Learning English. I'm Christopher Cruise.

### Active Vocabulary

**Governor** – a person who is the leader of the government of a U. S. state.

**Mayor** – an official who is elected head of the government in a city or town.

**Launch** – an act or occasion when something new (such as a new product) is first offered or announced.

**Landslide election** – an election in which the winner gets a much greater number of votes than the loser.

**Shutdown** – the act of stopping the operation or activity of a business, machine, etc., for a period of time or forever.

**Senator** – a member of a senate or the Senate.

**Accomplish** – to succeed in doing (something).

**Democrat** – a person who believes in or supports democracy.

**Landslide** – a large mass of rocks and earth that suddenly and quickly moves down the side of a mountain or hill.

**Dysfunction** – the condition of having poor and unhealthy behaviors and attitudes within a group of people.

**Robust** – strong and healthy.

### Test

#### Choose the correct answer.

1. The elections were the first since the troubled of the new federal health care website.

- a) accusation;
- b) advertisement;
- c) launch;
- d) promotion.

2. New Jersey governor Chris Christie won a \_\_\_\_\_ election.

- a) landslide;
- b) landowner;
- c) farmer;
- d) plant.





Millions of sports lovers are thinking about just one thing right now - the Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia. Close to 2,900 men and women are set to compete in the 2014 Winter Games. The opening ceremonies were held Friday night. The games \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> through Sunday, February 23.

The Olympics are bringing a lot of attention to Sochi, a city on the Black Sea. Sochi is a popular area for vacation travelers. The area is known for its mild winters, with warm to hot weather in the summer.

At least \$50 billion are being spent on the 2014 Winter Games, making it the costliest Olympics in history. Seven billion dollars was spent on the 2010 Winter Games in Vancouver, Canada. Olympic officials chose Sochi to host the 2014 games almost seven years ago.

At the time, Russian President Vladimir Putin said the games would cost about \$13 billion. Yet the real cost is four times his \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup>. So where did all the money go? Many Russians say people involved in the project have taken some of it. One \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup> group found that 38 percent of Russians it spoke with said the Olympics increased the likelihood of corruption.

Other observers say the high cost is partly the result of security measures. Brian Jenkins is a \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup> expert from the RAND Corporation.

“There are anywhere between 70,000 and 100,000 policemen and military troops deployed around the city. In addition, we hear \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup> that Russian authorities are going door to door in Sochi looking for \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup>.”

The main threat comes from separatist and Islamist groups from the North Caucasus, especially from Chechnya and Dagestan. One group claimed responsibility for two \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup> bombings in Volgograd last December. The attacks killed more than 30 people. The city is only about 600 kilometers away from Sochi.

Bruce Hoffman is a terrorism expert from Georgetown University in Washington, DC. He says the increased security makes Sochi a difficult target for terrorists. He says they probably know they cannot get close to those attending the games.

“...But they can, and I believe their \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup> is to, make life difficult for the Russians and to create some sort of incident that takes away from the enjoyment and the sporting \_\_\_\_\_<sup>9</sup> that is the Winter Olympics.”

The last time Olympians from around the world competed on Russian soil was in 1980. That was a year after Soviet troops invaded Afghanistan.

Sixty countries boycotted the Moscow Summer Games. Thomas de Waal, a British journalist, says President Putin has a lot \_\_\_\_\_<sup>10</sup> in the Sochi Olympics.

“He is a man who, as we know, has made his whole brand about being this man who has put Russia back on the map. He has made Russia strong again, respected again, a place of prestige.”

As the games began, protesters were criticizing Russia’s treatment of homosexuals. Critics of a Russian law recently demonstrated in 20 cities around the world. They said the law bars nearly all public discussion of homosexuality. President Barack Obama is not sending any top officials to the Sochi Olympics. Instead, the US delegation includes tennis great Billie Jean King and two other openly gay \_\_\_\_\_<sup>11</sup>.

And that’s In the News, from VOA Learning English. I’m Steve Ember.

### Active Vocabulary

**Estimate** – a state about how much a job or project will cost.

**Authorities** – people who have power in an organization or government to make decisions and enforce rules.

**Boycott** – to refuse to buy, use, or participate in something as a way of protesting.

**Estimate** – a guess that you make based on the information you have about the size, amount, etc., of something.

**Corruption** – dishonest or illegal behavior especially by powerful people (such as government officials or police officers).

**Suspect** – to think that (someone) is possibly guilty of a crime or of doing something wrong.

**Suicide** – the act of killing yourself because you do not want to continue living.

**Troop** – a group of soldiers.

### Test

**Choose the correct answer.**

1. Russian President Putin’s cost \_\_\_\_\_ for the Olympic games in Sochi was \$ 13 billion.

- a) decision;
- b) opinion;
- c) estimate;
- d) execution.

2. Which two of the following are examples of authorities?

- a) government representatives;

- b) miners;
  - c) private businessmen;
  - d) police officers.
3. If you choose not to attend a meeting or demonstration as a way of protesting, you \_\_\_\_\_ that event.
- a) boycott;
  - b) boycott;
  - c) boycott:
  - d) boicott.
4. The Olympics are bringing a lot of attention to \_\_\_\_\_, a city on the Black Sea.
- a) Sochi;
  - b) Mykolaiv;
  - c) Kerch;
  - d) Yalta.
5. The games continue through Sunday, \_\_\_\_\_.
- a) February 23;
  - b) February 25;
  - c) February 21;
  - d) February 20.
6. One research group found that \_\_\_\_\_ of Russians it spoke with said the Olympics increased the likelihood of corruption.
- a) 48 percent;
  - b) 38 percent;
  - c) 18 percent;
  - d) 28 percent.
7. The attacks killed more than \_\_\_\_\_.
- a) 30 people;
  - b) 20 people;
  - c) 13 people;
  - d) 35 people.

**Yanukovych Denies Ouster; Promises to Fight for Ukraine**

Listen to the news report about “*Yanukovych Denies Ouster; Promises to Fight for Ukraine*” with one word. The missing words you can find in the box.

*treasury, denied, overthrown, peaceful, accounts, backed, preparation, country, concerned, fear, naval, parliament.*

From VOA Learning English, this is In The News.

One week has passed since lawmakers in Ukraine voted to oust Viktor Yanukovich as president. Mr. Yanukovich told a press conference on Friday that he was forced to leave Ukraine, but \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> being ousted. “Nobody has \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup> me,” he said. “I was compelled to leave Ukraine due to a direct threat to my life”. Mr. Yanukovich spoke in Russian to reporters in the Russian city of Rostov-on-Don. He announced plans to return and fight for his country. He said he wants to fight for Ukraine’s future against those who took control of the country through terror and \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup>.

Also on Friday, Ukraine’s new government accused Russian forces of carrying out a “military invasion and occupation” at two airports. Interior Minister Arsen Avakov wrote on his Facebook page that armed men were blocking the Belbek airport in the Crimean port of Sevastopol. Russia has a \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup> base in the area.

Unidentified men were also guarding the international airport in Simferopol, the Crimean capital. As of late Friday, the airport was still open. But all of the activity has some people \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup> about their well-being.

Those guarding the airport appeared a day after unidentified gunmen took control of government buildings in Crimea.

The crisis began a week ago when Ukraine’s \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup> voted to oust President Yanukovich. The vote followed three months of street protests. The demonstrations began in November after the president \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup> out of a trade deal with the European Union. His move was seen as an effort to strengthen relations with Russia instead of getting closer to Europe. The protests

were \_\_\_\_\_<sup>8</sup> at first, but then turned violent. More than 75 people were reported killed in the week before the president was ousted.

Parliament wasted no time in replacing Mr. Yanukovich. Lawmakers elected parliamentary speaker Oleksandr Turchynov as the country’s acting leader. He immediately announced plans to form a new government. Mr. Turchynov said it would lead the \_\_\_\_\_<sup>9</sup> until new presidential elections in May.

Valerii Pekar is a Ukrainian researcher and political commentator. He said the events of the past week are Ukraine’s final break with its recent past.

“We call it a government of national trust because it’s a transitional government, which will keep the country alive during \_\_\_\_\_<sup>10</sup> of the free, transparent elections, which we need.”

This week, Mr. Turchynov accused the former government of stealing billions of dollars from the state \_\_\_\_\_<sup>11</sup>. On Friday, Switzerland ordered restrictions on any money in Swiss banks that belongs to Mr. Yanukovich and the people traveling with him. The Swiss government wants to avoid the stealing of money that belongs to the Ukrainian public. Austria also said it was freezing the bank \_\_\_\_\_<sup>12</sup> of 18 Ukrainians after being asked to do so by Ukraine's new government.

And that's In the News from VOA Learning English. I'm Steve Ember.

### Active Vocabulary

**Lawmaker** – someone who makes laws.

**Oust** – to cause or force (someone or something) to leave a position of power.

**Crisis** – an extremely important time when something may become much better or worse; a dangerous situation.

**Demonstration** – an event in which people gather together in order to show that they support or oppose something or someone.

**Overthrow** – to remove (someone or something) from power especially by force.

**Threat** – a statement saying you will be harmed if you do not do what someone wants you to do.

**Terror** – a very strong feeling of fear.

**Fear** – an unpleasant emotion caused by being aware of danger a feeling of being afraid.

**Invasion** – the act of invading something.

**Treasury** – the place where the money of a government is kept.

### Test

**Choose the correct answer.**

1. The **demonstrations** began in November after the president backed out of a trade deal with the European Union. What are demonstrations?

- a) rally;
- b) party;
- c) religious ceremony;
- d) marathon.

2. One week has passed since \_\_\_\_\_ in Ukraine voted to oust Viktor Yanukovich as president.

- a) lawmakers;

- b) lawyers;
- c) layman;
- d) lawn workers.

3. The \_\_\_\_\_ government wants to avoid the stealing of money that belongs to the Ukrainian public.

- a) American;
- b) Swiss;
- c) British;
- d) African.

4. The \_\_\_\_\_ began a week ago when Ukraine's parliament voted to oust President Yanukovich.

- a) crisis;
- b) ousted;
- c) demonstrations;
- d) rally.

5. More than 75 people were reported killed in the week before the president was \_\_\_\_\_ .

- a) ousted;
- b) killed;
- c) elected:
- d) declared.

6. The crisis began a \_\_\_\_\_ ago when Ukraine's parliament voted to oust President Yanukovich.

- a) week;
- b) month;
- c) day;
- d) year.

7. Austria also said it was freezing the bank accounts of \_\_\_\_\_ after being asked to do so by Ukraine's new government.

- a) 8 Ukrainians;
- b) 19 Ukrainians;
- c) 20 Ukrainians;
- d) 18 Ukrainians.

## Appendix

### Political idioms and sayings

1. One / two horse race – a competition or election which doesn't have many likely winners.

e.g. This presidential election was just a two horse race.

2. Election fever– the frenzy the media goes into whenever a general election is announced.

e.g. Election fever has started, there's politics on every channel.

3. Hot air – empty, exaggerated, or pretentious talk.

e.g. Politicians always talk the hot air.

4. Hung parliament – a parliament in which no one political party has an outright majority.

e.g. In Poland we always have a hung parliament.

5. To toe the party line – to conform to the rules or standards of the political party you belong to.

e.g. The party usually punishes those who don't toe the party line.

6. Body politic – a politically organized group of people under a single government.

e.g. Body politic elected the new president.

7. Political football – a problem that doesn't get solved because the politics of the issue get in the way, or the issue is very controversial.

e.g. Apart from being a controversial issue, abortion is also a political football.

8. Political hot potato – something potentially dangerous or embarrassing.

e.g. This scandal will be a political hot potato.

9. Political machinery – the way politics runs.

e.g. Not many people fully understand political machinery.

10. Politically correct / incorrect (PC) – to use or not use language that will cause offence - often shortened to PC.

e.g. To call an Afro-American a “nigger” is not PC.

11. To press the flesh – to shake hands.

e.g. Political campaign includes a lot of flesh pressing.

12. To get on / off your soapbox – to talk a lot about a subject you feel strongly about. If someone tells you to "get off your soapbox" they think you're talking too much about that subject.

e.g. When a politician gets on his soapbox nothing can stop his talking.

13. To vote with one's feet – to leave.

e.g. Many people in Africa vote with their feet and emigrate.



## 25 Most Often Used Political Jargon of 2010

**1. Enthusiasm Gap** – the difference in excitement and interest in voting between two main parties, for example. *e.g. It is said that the Enthusiasm Gap between the Republican and Democratic voter base could spell disaster if the Democrats do not turn out more than expected at the polls this November 2.*

**2. Fiscal Conservative** – a perspective preferring that the government spends tax payer dollars in a manner that does not include too much expenditure that will further increase an existing deficit. *e.g. Several candidates up for elections are touting themselves as being Fiscal Conservatives who question the money earmarked for several social programs.*

**3. Gaffe** – pronounced (Gaf), the term for a faux pas or a socially inadequate statement or mention. *e.g. Since assuming the position as chief of the party, the leader has made a series of gaffes that have made the headlines.*

**4. Ground Game** – local political organization. *e.g. While the Republicans have a pretty reliable ground game for galvanizing support behind their issues, the Democrats are flailing as they try to come up with a theme to unify their base.*

**5. G.O.P.** – stands for Grand Old Party, a euphemism for Republicans.

**6. Drill Down** – to move from summary information to detailed data by focusing in on something. *e.g. At some point, someone will need to drill down for the American people some of the finer points of this new legislation so they can understand better what it means and does precisely.*

**7. Hail of Criticism** – a lot of negative response to an act, statement, initiative.

**8. Inside the Beltway** – a term referencing the name for the highway that encircles the geographic location of the District of Columbia and areas surrounding the Nation's Capitol. It has come to signify a clear distinction and/or disconnect between those who live and work within those boundaries and who create laws and policy; and the rest of the country, the majority that do not. *e.g. There is a general sense of frustration among the electorate that Inside the Beltway politicians running the country are clueless about their main concerns.*

**9. Media Firestorm** – a lot of coverage, mostly antagonistic, from the media which usually includes a demand for a response from the part or entities involved. *e.g. After the taped recorded conversation of the candidate using that slur was released, he came under a media firestorm and had to answer to all of the questions being lobbed in his direction.*

**10. Messaging** – a term used to describe a series of short descriptive terms related to a particular policy, initiative, explanation or communications that is meant to be reiterated, recited, almost verbatim to an audience usually in addresses, letters, speeches etc. *e.g. That candidate was not clear in messaging his position to the voters which is one of the reasons he did not get reelected.*

**11. Obamacare** – a term, usually framed in a derogatory context, to reference the Health Care Reform Act pushed by the President and the White House and passed into law in 2010.

**12. Partisan** – a fervent, sometimes militant support of a party, cause, faction, person, or idea, usually within the context of equally fervent opposition to an opposing party. *e.g. The governor went into office promising the people that he would be non-partisan, but as of late has been engaging in partisan politics slamming the other party and turning off the independents in the process.*

**13. Political Pundits** – a euphemism for an advisor, counselor, analyst or commentator who has perspectives and insights into political campaigns and politics in general. *e.g. All of the political pundits on the morning talk shows were predicting the resolution would fail.*

**14. P.O.T.U.S** – abbreviation for Politics of the United States or President of the United States (compare: SCOTUS referenced the Supreme Court of the United States)

**15. Progressives** – political attitude favoring or advocating changes or reform.

**16. Read out** – the analysis or interpretation of information or data on a particular political position. *e.g. What is the White House's read out on the public outcry from the oil spill?*

**17. Reach Across the Aisle** – to make an effort to negotiate or mediate differences with those who are on the other side of the political spectrum in the spirit of compromise. It references the actual physical aisle that divides the legislative halls where members of the two parties sit on opposite sides. *e.g. In order to garner support for his measure, the Senator had to do reach across the aisle and work with Senators of the other party.*

**18. Social moderate** – A position that is neither conservative nor liberal on mainstream social issues but represents a more tolerant position on controversial cultural debates and matters including abortion, gay marriage, legalization of marijuana etc.

**19. Spin** – can be used as a verb or noun, a favorable perspective or slant to an item of news, or potentially unpopular policy. *e.g. After a controversy*

*erupts and the media gets a hold of it, there is a right and wrong way to spin it to your advantage.*

**20. Stakeholders** – groups or constituencies that stand to gain or lose under a certain political initiative, law, rule, or agenda.

**21. Stumping** – campaigning or attending a political rally on behalf of and to garner support for another candidate running for office. *e.g. The President was in Ohio today stumping for the candidates up for congressional elections.*

**22. Talking Points** – a set of briefing notes or summaries on a particular topic that are recited, nearly verbatim, whenever the topic is broached. *e.g. The mayor veered off his talking points and made some off the cuff remarks that were not received well when they were reported in the media.*

**23. Teabaggers** – a derogatory term to reference members of the Tea Party movement. T.e.a. stands for Taxed Enough Already.

**24. Teachable Moment** – an expression that references the opportunity to convert a controversy, challenge or other political disaster into a lesson for the future.

**25. Tsunami** – a term for a wave of political victories where one particular party takes over the incumbent seats represented by an opposing power in office. *e.g. There is a predicted and anticipated political tsunami that is set to take place following the mid-term elections.*

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**Методичні розробки  
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