

SOAS LANGUAGE CENTRE RESOURCES ROOM

Watching recorded news

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Watching recorded news can be a rewarding activity for all levels, even for **beginners**. Identifying certain words and learning a few new ones, practising pronunciation, familiarising yourself with intonation and body language, can all boost your confidence. This worksheet will be particularly interesting to **intermediate / advanced** students, especially for **practising listening** skills and **expanding vocabulary**. Follow the advice provided in this sheet in order to fully exploit this learning resource.

Before watching

a. What items do you think will be on the news?

If you don't know, visit an on-line newspaper to get ideas (*see www.kidon.com/media-link/index.shtml*). Don't end up reading the paper, you can do that afterwards!

1.

2.	
3.	
4.	

b. Make a list of vocabulary items that you expect to hear.

While watching

c. Tick the subject of each story (you may tick more than one box for each news item).

ITEM	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Home										
Abroad										
Business										
Politics										
Health										
Education										
Arts/Culture										
Science / Nature										
Technology										
Religion										
Entertainment										
Sport										

d. Tick any vocabulary items on your list that you can hear.

e. Choose two or three items and provide some information.

Use the grid in the following page as a general guide. It will help you to listen for meaning *and* specific details. Fill in the table with as many details you think are relevant as possible. Do not worry or feel embarrassed about having to listen to the news many times. Pause the video and listen again for specific information.

NEWS ITEM	WHO?	WHEN? –WHERE?	WHAT?	HOW? – WHY?
1.				
2.				

After watching

e. New vocabulary

Make a list of key words and phrases you are not familiar with. Can you guess their meaning?

Word / phrase	Guess the meaning	Dictionary entry / examples

f. Follow-up writing task (optional)

Choose a news item and present it in a written form, e.g. as a newspaper article or an e-mail to a friend.

Remember!!!

- ☼ Once you have practised a couple of times and you get a feel of your level and performance you can start setting more ambitious goals, e.g. reduce the number of times you listen to the news.
- ☼ You can practise in turns with other students. Compare your notes!