

Developing English Skills Through Podcasting

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THE ENGLISH NEWS WEEKLY PODCAST

Free English Podcast!

English News Weekly

Every Friday!

Listen & Read!

Free Weekly Podcast!

- Current Affairs English Language Podcast!
- A Topical News Story Every Week!
- Download a PDF with Extra Activities!
- Each Episode - Just 15 minutes!
- Get Involved - Suggest News Topics!
- Available on iTunes or on our Homepage.

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15th March 2013

English News Weekly

| Episode 89 |

Historic Week for Sharks

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Warm Up | 1

Look at the four words below, which word is different from the other three?
Look at the reason in the box underneath. Check your answer later.

a) Plentiful b) Endangered c) Rare d) Scarce

My Reason...

Warm Up | 2

Brainstorm

How many different words can you connect to the word in the box?
Can you think of at least 10 words? Why do you think this?

The Ocean

Warm Up | 3

Will You Need a Bigger Boat...?

Look at the movie posters below.
All the stories are about sharks - match the story with the correct movie!

Jaws Open Water Mission of the Shark Soul Surfer Dark Tide Shark Tale The Reef

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POSTER ABSTRACT

Developing Skills Through Podcasting

Podcasts can offer language-learners the opportunity to access materials in a convenient manner. This poster will offer insight into how one podcast, produced weekly by a Japanese university, is developed to incorporate a wide-range of current-affairs topics. The poster will also highlight details of a synchronised learning course that will show how students completed a project to create their own podcasts versions.

SOME DATA

Hiroshima University Student Survey
573 1st & 2nd Year Students

Shark Movies | PLOTS

Read the 7 movie titles about sharks - what is the correct story from the seven choices below?

A: A teenage girl loses an arm in a shark attack.
B: True story of the sinking of a US WWII warship.
C: True story of two divers left in the middle of the ocean.
D: Animated tale of city under the sea. Where sharks are gangsters.
E: The scariest movie ever about a great white shark killing people in New England.
F: A professional diver is hunted by a shark that nearly killed her 9 years before.
G: A great white shark hunts the crew of a captured sailing boat off the coast of Australia.

Warm Up | 4

Read the questions about this week's news story.
Remember if you don't know - use the internet to help or GUESS!

1: What was the biggest shark in the world?
a: Backing 5000 b: White Shark c: Great White Shark

2: What kind of animal is a shark?
a: Rodent b: Mammal c: Fish

3: How many different species of shark are there in the world?
a: 100 b: 1000 c: 354

4: How big was the largest shark ever caught?
a: 12 meters b: 16 meters c: 22 meters

5: How big is the smallest shark species in the world?
a: 15 cm b: 3 meters c: 6 meters

6: How many shark species are considered very dangerous to people?
a: 1 b: 2 c: 22

Er: How many sharks are killed by humans each year?
a: 100 million b: 200 million c: 100 million

Es: What Chinese dish uses sharks fin as an important ingredient?
a: Rice b: Shark c: Salad

Et: Which shark has attacked humans the most?

Great White Shark Bull Shark Tiger Shark

END OF PART 1

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Pre-Listening / Reading | 1

Jumbled Sentences

The sentences below are from a paragraph in the news story.
Un-jumble the sentences and put them into the correct order.

Historic Moment for Shark Protection

A: However, similar to the debate over whale-hunting, both countries are in a minority.
B: The decision was passed by 169 of the 178 countries that belong to CITES, but importantly the two Asian economic superpowers of China and Japan both rejected the proposals.
C: The E.U., North America, Latin America and even West African nations have all voted in favour of restrictions.
D: In China shark fin is especially popular as it is used in food and as an ingredient in herbal medicine.

Correct Order: 1 / 2 / 3 / 4 / 5

Pre-Listening / Reading | 2

True or False

Read the headline of News Story - Historic Moment for Shark Protection
Look at the 5 statements. Guess if you think 1 - 5 are True or False!

1: Sharks kill many swimmers every year. [T] [F]
2: 100 million sharks are killed every year. [T] [F]
3: Three types of sharks will now be protected. [T] [F]
4: 178 countries are members of CITES. [T] [F]
5: The WWF is a wrestling organisation. [T] [F]

Pre-Listening / Reading | 3

Synonyms

A synonym is a word with a similar meaning.
Match the 10 words on the left with their synonyms on the right.
All the synonyms in black are from the News Story.

1: Creatures 6: Rejected A: Every year F: Small group
2: Portrayed 7: Debate B: Types G: Shown
3: Horrified 8: Minority C: Lure H: Limits
4: Annually 9: Restrictions D: Argument I: Animals
5: Species 10: Attraction E: Terrible J: Declined

END OF PART 2

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Listening / Reading | 1

Historic Moment for Shark Protection

Gap Fill | Help

Listen / Read the news story below and check your understanding.
Write the correct word in each missing space.

Historic Moment for Shark Protection

Sharks are not considered to be the friendliest of sea life: they are usually portrayed as very dangerous monsters that frequently attack and kill people. Popular 2: such as Jaws, Open Water and The Reef tell horrific stories of how sharks like to hunt and eat people swimming in the ocean. In truth sharks kill less than 3: people every year and are one of the most hunted creatures in the water, with an estimated 100 million sharks being killed annually.

4: Around 100 of the 354 species of shark are considered to be in danger of being wiped-out and so the decision by CITES, an international environmental 4: to add three more sharks to the 'protected list' has been celebrated by campaigners for 5: conservation. The three shark species that have been added to the protected list are the Oceanic Whitetip, Hammerhead and Porbeagle - all three 6: have been put in danger by over-fishing. The decision was passed by 169 of the 178 countries that belong to 7: but importantly the two Asian economic superpowers of China and 8: both rejected the proposals. In China shark fin is especially popular as it is used in food and as an ingredient in herbal medicine. However, similar to the debate over whale-hunting, both countries are in a minority. The E.U., North America, Latin America and even West 9: nations have all voted in favour of restrictions.

For many countries in Africa, the Caribbean and Latin America sharks have become an important tourist attraction. Dr O'Graden from WWF International said "These countries have come to realise the tourist value and the long-term economic future that will be protected by a CITES listing." So the good news for sharks is that they are increasingly seen as more 10: as a tourist adventure than as an ingredient for soup. However, shark movies are still pretty scary though...

What Do You Think? | Shark Movies

Have you watched any movies about sharks? Were they scary? Why?

END OF PART 3

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Post-Listening / Reading | 1

Q & A

How much can you remember from News Story?
Read / Listen to the questions below and choose the correct answer.
If you can't remember any answers, guess!

Q1: What is the name of the first shark movie in the news story?
Q2: How many people are usually killed by sharks every year?
Q3: What is the name of the marine conservation organisation?
Q4: What type of food is in the news story?
Q5: What two Asian economic superpowers are in the news story?
Q6: How many shark species are in the news story?

E1: What animal conservationist group is in the news story?
E2: How many countries are in the news story?

Post-Reading | 2

A & Q

How much can you remember from the news story?
Read the answers below and write the correct question.
There is more than one possible correct question for each one!

A1: 354
A2: 178
A3: Herbal Medicines
A4: Tourist Attraction
A5: The E.U.

END OF PART 4

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English Extra 1

English Expressions that are 'fishy'

The English language has many everyday expressions that use 'fish' to explain a situation or event.
Examples: It's very fishy = Something that seems wrong
Fish story = A big lie!

Match the fish expressions on the left - with their correct meaning on the right! One has been completed for you!

'Fishy' Sayings

1: A big fish!
2: A big fish in a small pond.
3: She is a cold fish.
4: This is a fine kettle of fish...
5: He is a queer fish.
6: They drink like a fish!
7: Fish for a compliment.
8: Fish in troubled waters.
9: Fish out of water.
10: Have bigger fish to fry.
11: Like shooting fish in a barrel.
12: Plenty more fish in the sea.

Meanings

A: A mess / problem situation.
B: To ask for a compliment.
C: To drink a lot of alcohol.
D: Something more important to do.
E: To be in a difficult position.
F: Important or powerful person.
G: Don't get too upset over something.
H: He is strange man.
I: To be out of place.
J: Something very, very easy!

K: Important person in a small group.
L: An unemotional person.

7 to Chinnag

Sea Creatures

ENW Podcast Topic | Historic Week for Sharks

Ask / Answer the questions below on this week's ENW Podcast Topic!

1: What did you think when you read this week's ENW podcast title?
2: What do you think of when you think about sharks?
3: How far can you swim in the sea?
4: When was the last time you went to the beach? Why?
5: When was the last time you went to an aquarium?
6: What would you do if you swam into a shark?
7: What is the scariest movie about animals you have watched? Why?

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Writing

Sea Survival

Imagine you have been sailing in the Pacific Ocean when your boat suddenly sinks! You are in a lifeboat with the items in the box.
Which item will be 'useful' and which items will be not so useful? Why?

A: Compass B: Sleeping Bag C: Sea Turtle Shell D: Bottle of Water
E: Lifebuoy F: Fishing Net G: Pail H: Jelly of Whiting
I: Life Raft J: Shark Bait

END OF PART 5

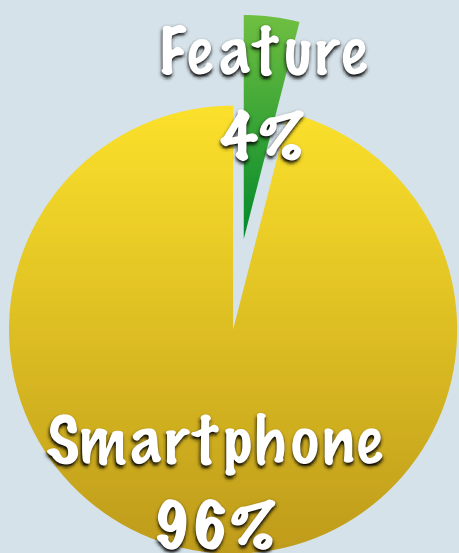
And Finally | X & Z

Did You Know...?

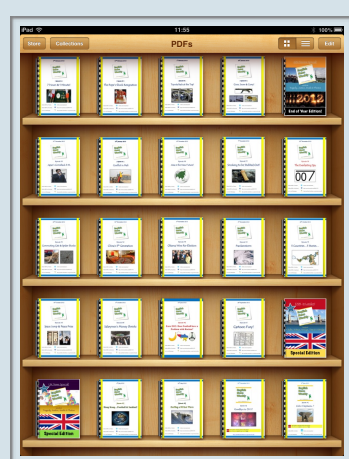
That a 1: movie was the first ever Summer blockbuster! Jaws the scariest movie ever about a shark was released in the summer of 1975. It was so successful that the Hollywood movie studios decided to release their big action films in the summer, instead of just at Christmas. The movie tells the story of the hunt to kill a huge shark that has attacked 2: at a beach in New England, America.

The End

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2012 | + 35%
2011 | + 61%



Podcasting | ENW Overview

[Audio]

- Topic Introduction
- 2 Quick Questions
- Pre-Listening Activity.
- News Story - RELAXED Speed
- Comprehension Check
- News Story - NORMAL Speed
- Post-Listening Activity
- Answers

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