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Level 5 – 21st June, 2018

Ex-US soccer player criticized for supporting Mexico

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180621-russia-world-cup-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180621-russia-world-cup-5.html>

An ex-U.S. soccer player is supporting rivals Mexico at the Russia World Cup. Landon Donovan, 35, played for the USA national team 157 times, scoring 57 goals. He is regarded as the best American player ever. However, his calls for Americans to back Mexico have landed him in hot water. Some ex-teammates have criticized him for getting paid by the company Wells Fargo to wear a Mexico soccer jersey. He tweeted a photograph of himself that read: "My other team is Mexico....So join me...to cheer on our other team - Mexico."

Donovan explained why he is cheering for Mexico. He grew up in California and speaks fluent Spanish. He said: "My heart bleeds red, white and blue....No one should question my allegiance to and support of U.S. Soccer." He said he was inspired by the passion of playing with Mexican teammates as a child. He added: "I always have had a strong connection and respect for our neighbor." One current U.S. player said: "I don't understand why he is doing this. Actually, I do - money." A Mexican fan said: "There are two guys that Mexico fans love to hate. Donald Trump and Landon Donovan."

Sources: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/soccer/2018/06/18/landon-donovan-mexico-world-cup/710759002/>
<http://tv5.espn.com/football/united-states/story/3531891/landon-donovan-clarifies-supporting-mexico-in-world-cup-ad-campaign>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-44528016>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180621-russia-world-cup-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. scoring | a. is Mexico |
| 2. regarded as the best American | b. 57 goals |
| 3. landed him | c. him |
| 4. ex-teammates have criticized | d. our other team |
| 5. getting | e. of himself |
| 6. He tweeted a photograph | f. in hot water |
| 7. My other team | g. paid |
| 8. cheer on | h. player ever |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. My heart bleeds | a. why |
| 2. No one should question my | b. teammates |
| 3. inspired | c. to hate |
| 4. playing with Mexican | d. by the passion |
| 5. a strong | e. U.S. player |
| 6. One current | f. allegiance |
| 7. I don't understand | g. connection |
| 8. guys that Mexico fans love | h. red, white and blue |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180621-russia-world-cup-5.html>

An ex-U.S. soccer player is supporting rivals Mexico at the Russia World Cup.

Landon Donovan, 35, (1) _____ USA national team 157 times, scoring 57 goals. He (2) _____ the best American player ever. However, his calls for Americans to back Mexico have landed him (3) _____. Some ex-teammates have criticized him for (4) _____ the company Wells Fargo to wear a Mexico soccer jersey. He tweeted a photograph (5) _____ read: "My other team is Mexico....So join me...to (6) _____ other team - Mexico."

Donovan explained why he (7) _____ Mexico. He grew up in California and speaks fluent Spanish. He said: "My (8) _____, white and blue....No one should question my allegiance to and support of U.S. Soccer." He said he (9) _____ the passion of playing with Mexican teammates as a child. He added: "I always have had a strong connection (10) _____ our neighbor." One current U.S. player said: "I don't understand why he (11) _____. Actually, I do - money." A Mexican fan said: "There are two guys that Mexico fans (12) _____." Donald Trump and Landon Donovan."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180621-russia-world-cup-5.html>

An ex-U.S. soccer player is supporting rivals Mexico at the Russia World Cup. Landon Donovan, 35, played for the USA national team 157 times, scoring 57 goals. He is regarded as the best American player ever. However, his calls for Americans to back Mexico have landed him in hot water. So many ex-teammates have criticized him for getting paid by the company Wells Fargo to wear a Mexico soccer jersey. He tweeted a photograph of himself that read: "My other team is Mexico.... So join me... to cheer on our other team - Mexico." Donovan explained why he is cheering for Mexico. He grew up in California and speaks fluent Spanish. He said: "My heart belongs to red, white and blue.... No one should question my allegiance to and support of U.S. Soccer." He said he was inspired by the passion of playing with Mexican teammates as a child. He added: "I always have had a strong connection and respect for our neighbor." One current U.S. player said: "I don't understand why he is doing this. Actually, I do - money." A Mexican fan said: "There are two guys that Mexican fans love to hate. Donald Trump and Landon Donovan."

RUSSIA WORLD CUP SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180621-russia-world-cup-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Russia World Cup in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

