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## Level 6

### Arrested clock-making teen invited to White House

20th September, 2015

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1509/150920-white-house.html>

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**Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1509/150920-white-house.html>

The Texas high school student who was arrested because of a clock he made for school has been invited to the White House by U.S. President Barack Obama. Ahmed Mohamed, 14, was led away in handcuffs after his school alerted police that he had brought a homemade bomb to school. He was detained for several hours before authorities realised that what Ahmed had made was just a clock. Within hours of his being released, Ahmed's story went viral. The hashtag IStandWithAhmed has been retweeted hundreds of thousands of times. President Obama tweeted: "Cool clock, Ahmed. Want to bring it to the White House? We should inspire more kids like you to like science. It's what makes America great."

Ahmed's arrest has once again put the spotlight in the USA on the issue of Islamophobia and of how Muslims are perceived and treated. Ahmed said that because of his religion, other kids at school called him 'bomb maker' and 'terrorist'. He said the police interrogation made him feel as though he had done something wrong. He said: "I felt like I was a criminal. I felt like I was a terrorist." To add insult to injury, his school suspended him for three days. Ahmed has caught the attention of Silicon Valley heavyweights. Twitter offered him an internship and Google invited him to a science fair and to their campus. Facebook creator Mark Zuckerberg said: "The future belongs to people like Ahmed."

Sources: <http://cnnphilippines.com/world/2015/09/18/US-Texas-student-Ahmed-clock-bomb.html>  
<http://www.dallasnews.com/news/community-news/northwest-dallas-county/headlines/20150917-fame-from-arrest-over-clock-puts-teen-in-viral-vortex.ece>  
<http://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2015/sep/17/ahmed-mohamed-is-tired-excited-to-meet-obama-and-wants-his-clock-back>

# WARM-UPS

**1. THE WHITE HOUSE:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about the White House. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

*student / arrested / handcuffs / questioned / authorities / viral / inspire / science / spotlight / Islamophobia / perceived / done something wrong / add insult to injury*

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. PEOPLE WHO ARE DIFFERENT:** What can we society to make sure everyone is treated equally? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

Inequality based on...	Problems	What we can do
religion		
skin colour		
disability		
accent		
wealth		
gender		

**4. GET ALONG:** Students A **strongly** believe all religions and races will get along with each other one day; Students B **strongly** believe this will never happen. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. INSPIRE:** Rank these with your partner. Put the things we must inspire our goods to do most at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- save the environment
- study computer science
- raise a family
- treat others equally
- reject war
- start a business
- give to charity
- forgive

**6. CLOCK:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "clock". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1509/150920-white-house.html>

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| a. The high school student went to school in Washington D.C.            | T / F |
| b. Ahmed was taken away in handcuffs by the police.                     | T / F |
| c. Ahmed had to spend more than one hour in police custody.             | T / F |
| d. President Obama said more kids should take up science.               | T / F |
| e. The article said this story takes the spotlight off of Islamophobia. | T / F |
| f. Ahmed said he is shocked because no one called him names at school.  | T / F |
| g. Ahmed's school suspended him for three days because of his clock.    | T / F |
| h. Mark Zuckerberg said the future belongs to Facebook.                 | T / F |

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the following synonyms from the article.

- |                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. invited              | a. understood        |
| 2. alerted              | b. thought of        |
| 3. detained             | c. asked             |
| 4. realised             | d. provided          |
| 5. inspire              | e. warned            |
| 6. spotlight            | f. make things worse |
| 7. perceived            | g. motivate          |
| 8. interrogation        | h. held              |
| 9. add insult to injury | i. focus             |
| 10. offered             | j. questioning       |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |                         |                          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. led away in          | a. perceived and treated |
| 2. He was detained      | b. makes America great   |
| 3. Ahmed's story went   | c. injury                |
| 4. We should inspire    | d. viral                 |
| 5. It's what            | e. of Silicon Valley     |
| 6. how Muslims are      | f. handcuffs             |
| 7. police               | g. more kids             |
| 8. To add insult to     | h. to people like Ahmed  |
| 9. caught the attention | i. interrogation         |
| 10. The future belongs  | j. for several hours     |

# GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1509/150920-white-house.html>

The Texas high school student who was arrested because of a clock he made for school has been (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to the White House by U.S. President Barack Obama. Ahmed Mohamed, 14, was led away in (2) \_\_\_\_\_ after his school alerted police that he had brought a homemade bomb to school. He was (3) \_\_\_\_\_ for several hours before (4) \_\_\_\_\_ realised that what Ahmed had made was just a clock. Within hours of his being released, Ahmed's story went (5) \_\_\_\_\_. The hashtag IStandWithAhmed has been retweeted hundreds of thousands of (6) \_\_\_\_\_. President Obama tweeted: "Cool clock, Ahmed. Want to bring it to the White House? We should (7) \_\_\_\_\_ more kids like you to like (8) \_\_\_\_\_. It's what makes America great."

*inspire*  
*authorities*  
*times*  
*handcuffs*  
*science*  
*invited*  
*viral*  
*detained*

Ahmed's arrest has once again put the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ in the USA on the issue of Islamophobia and of how Muslims are (10) \_\_\_\_\_ and treated. Ahmed said that because of his (11) \_\_\_\_\_, other kids at school called him 'bomb maker' and 'terrorist'. He said the police (12) \_\_\_\_\_ made him feel as though he had done something wrong. He said: "I felt like I was a (13) \_\_\_\_\_. I felt like I was a terrorist." To add insult to (14) \_\_\_\_\_, his school suspended him for three days. Ahmed has caught the attention of Silicon Valley heavyweights. Twitter offered him an (15) \_\_\_\_\_ and Google invited him to a science fair and to their campus. Facebook creator Mark Zuckerberg said: "The future (16) \_\_\_\_\_ to people like Ahmed."

*internship*  
*criminal*  
*religion*  
*belongs*  
*interrogation*  
*spotlight*  
*injury*  
*perceived*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1509/150920-white-house.html>

- 1) The Texas high school student who was arrested because of \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. a clock he'd made
  - b. a clock he make
  - c. a clock he made
  - d. a clock he'd make
- 2) He was detained for several hours before \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. authorities realised
  - b. authorities real sad
  - c. authorities real eyed
  - d. authorities realise
- 3) Within hours of his being released, Ahmed's \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. story went vinyl
  - b. story went viral
  - c. story went virus
  - d. story went veneer
- 4) The hashtag IStandWithAhmed has been retweeted hundreds of \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. thousands off times
  - b. thousands for times
  - c. thousands of times
  - d. thousand of times
- 5) We should inspire more kids like you \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. to like science
  - b. to liking science
  - c. to like sciences
  - d. too like science
- 6) Ahmed's arrest has once again put the spotlight in the USA on the \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. issues of Islamophobia
  - b. issued of Islamophobia
  - c. issue of Islamophobia
  - d. issuance of Islamophobia
- 7) He said the police interrogation made him feel as though he had done \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. some things wrong
  - b. something wronged
  - c. something wrong
  - d. something wrongs
- 8) To add insult to injury, his school suspended him \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. four three days
  - b. for three days
  - c. for free days
  - d. four free days
- 9) Twitter offered him an internship and Google invited him to a science fair \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. add to their campus
  - b. and to their campus
  - c. and to that campus
  - d. and to they're campus
- 10) Facebook creator Mark Zuckerberg said: "The future belongs to \_\_\_\_\_."
  - a. peoples liked Ahmed
  - b. people like Ahmed
  - c. people liked Ahmed
  - d. peoples like Ahmed

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1509/150920-white-house.html>

The Texas high school student who was arrested (1) \_\_\_\_\_ clock he made for school has (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the White House by U.S. President Barack Obama. Ahmed Mohamed, 14, (3) \_\_\_\_\_ handcuffs after his school alerted police that he had brought a homemade bomb to school. He was (4) \_\_\_\_\_ hours before authorities realised that what Ahmed had made was just a clock. Within hours of his being released, Ahmed's story went viral. The hashtag IStandWithAhmed has been retweeted (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of times. President Obama tweeted: "Cool clock, Ahmed. Want to bring it to the White House? We should inspire more kids (6) \_\_\_\_\_ science. It's what makes America great."

Ahmed's arrest has once again (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the USA on the issue of Islamophobia and of how Muslims are perceived and treated. Ahmed said (8) \_\_\_\_\_ religion, other kids at school called him 'bomb maker' and 'terrorist'. He said the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ made him feel as though he had done something wrong. He said: "I felt like I was a criminal. I felt like I was a terrorist." To (10) \_\_\_\_\_, his school suspended him for three days. Ahmed has (11) \_\_\_\_\_ of Silicon Valley heavyweights. Twitter offered him an internship and Google invited him to a science (12) \_\_\_\_\_ campus. Facebook creator Mark Zuckerberg said: "The future belongs to people like Ahmed."

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1509/150920-white-house.html>

1. In which U.S. state did the student go to school?

---

2. What did the police make Ahmed wear as they took him away?

---

3. For how long was Ahmed in police custody?

---

4. How long did it take for Ahmed's story to go viral?

---

5. What does President Obama want to inspire more kids to like?

---

6. What did Ahmed's arrest put the spotlight on in America?

---

7. What made Ahmed feel like he had done something wrong?

---

8. For how long did Ahmed's school suspend him?

---

9. What did Twitter offer Ahmed?

---

10. Who did Facebook's creator say the future belonged to?

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# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1509/150920-white-house.html>

1. In which U.S. state did the student go to school?
  - a) Florida
  - b) Texas
  - c) Washington
  - d) California
2. What did the police make Ahmed wear as they took him away?
  - a) his school uniform
  - b) a cap
  - c) a T-shirt
  - d) handcuffs
3. For how long was Ahmed in police custody?
  - a) several hours
  - b) a day
  - c) overnight
  - d) 36 minutes
4. How long did it take for Ahmed's story to go viral?
  - a) 12 minutes
  - b) a day
  - c) hours
  - d) 36 hours
5. What does President Obama want to inspire more kids to like?
  - a) clocks
  - b) science
  - c) inventing things
  - d) the USA
6. What did Ahmed's arrest put the spotlight on in America?
  - a) Islamophobia
  - b) high schools
  - c) clocks
  - d) the White House
7. What made Ahmed feel like he had done something wrong?
  - a) a newspaper
  - b) his teachers
  - c) the police interrogation
  - d) his clock
8. For how long did Ahmed's school suspend him?
  - a) 3 days
  - b) 2 days
  - c) a week
  - d) indefinitely
9. What did Twitter offer Ahmed?
  - a) an internship
  - b) money
  - c) support
  - d) advice
10. Who did Facebook's creator say the future belonged to?
  - a) clock makers
  - b) Mark Zuckerberg
  - c) all children
  - d) Ahmed

# ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1509/150920-white-house.html>

## **Role A – Save the environment**

You think saving the environment is the thing kids should most aspire to. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): treating others equally, starting a business or rejecting war.

## **Role B – Treat others equally**

You think treating others equally is the thing kids should most aspire to. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): saving the environment, starting a business or rejecting war.

## **Role C –Start a business**

You think starting a business is the thing kids should most aspire to. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): treating others equally, saving the environment or rejecting war.

## **Role D – Reject war**

You think rejecting war is the thing kids should most aspire to. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the least important of these (and why): treating others equally, starting a business or saving the environment.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1509/150920-white-house.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'hash' and 'tag'.

<b>hash</b>	<b>tag</b>
-------------	------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• high</li><li>• alerted</li><li>• within</li><li>• hashtag</li><li>• cool</li><li>• great</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• once</li><li>• kids</li><li>• feel</li><li>• add</li><li>• caught</li><li>• future</li></ul>
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# AHMED MOHAMED'S CLOCK SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1509/150920-white-house.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Ahmed Mohamed's clock 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.

# AHMED MOHAMED'S CLOCK DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- 1) What did you think when you read the headline?
- 2) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'Islam'?
- 3) What do you think about what you read?
- 4) Would a white boy have been arrested if he had made a clock?
- 5) What do you think of President Obama's invitation?
- 6) What do you think of the action of the police?
- 7) Did the school overreact or were their actions because of the current climate regarding security?
- 8) How would you feel if Ahmed was your son?
- 9) What should the authorities say to Ahmed?
- 10) What advice do you have for Ahmed?

*Arrested clock-making teen invited to White House – 20th September, 2015*  
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# AHMED MOHAMED'S CLOCK DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- 11) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- 12) Why do different cultures hate and fear each other?
- 13) How can we reduce Islamophobia and other racist beliefs?
- 14) How much is the press responsible for promoting negative stereotypes?
- 15) What should happen to kids who call other kids terrorists?
- 16) What racial tensions are there in your country?
- 17) Will we all live together peacefully some day?
- 18) How will Ahmed's life be different from now?
- 19) What else do you know about this story?
- 20) What questions would you like to ask Ahmed?

## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1509/150920-white-house.html>

The Texas high school student who was arrested because of a clock he made for school has been invited to the White House by U.S. President Barack Obama. Ahmed Mohamed, 14, was (1) \_\_\_\_ away in (2) \_\_\_\_ after his school alerted police that he had brought a homemade bomb to school. He was (3) \_\_\_\_ for several hours before authorities realised that what Ahmed had made was just a clock. Within hours of his being released, Ahmed's story went (4) \_\_\_\_\_. The (5) \_\_\_\_\_ IStandWithAhmed has been retweeted hundreds of thousands of times. President Obama tweeted: "Cool clock, Ahmed. Want to bring it to the White House? We should (6) \_\_\_\_ more kids like you to like science. It's what makes America great."

Ahmed's arrest has once again put the (7) \_\_\_\_ in the USA on the issue of Islamophobia and of how Muslims are (8) \_\_\_\_ and treated. Ahmed said that because of his religion, other kids at school called him 'bomb maker' and 'terrorist'. He said the police (9) \_\_\_\_ made him feel as though he had done something wrong. He said: "I felt like I was a criminal. I felt like I was a terrorist." To add (10) \_\_\_\_ to injury, his school suspended him for three days. Ahmed has (11) \_\_\_\_ the attention of Silicon Valley heavyweights. Twitter offered him an internship and Google invited him to a science (12) \_\_\_\_ and to their campus. Facebook creator Mark Zuckerberg said: "The future belongs to people like Ahmed."

**Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.**

- |     |                 |                |                 |                   |
|-----|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1.  | (a) hid         | (b) led        | (c) pad         | (d) wad           |
| 2.  | (a) chains      | (b) handcuffs  | (c) unison      | (d) tear          |
| 3.  | (a) contained   | (b) maintained | (c) retained    | (d) detained      |
| 4.  | (a) feral       | (b) viral      | (c) vinyl       | (d) dial          |
| 5.  | (a) hash browns | (b) hashtag    | (c) hash sign   | (d) hash          |
| 6.  | (a) respire     | (b) conspire   | (c) inspire     | (d) aspire        |
| 7.  | (a) limelight   | (b) spotless   | (c) spotlight   | (d) sunlight      |
| 8.  | (a) perceives   | (b) perceive   | (c) perceived   | (d) perception    |
| 9.  | (a) inculcation | (b) invitation | (c) instigation | (d) interrogation |
| 10. | (a) medicine    | (b) wound      | (c) salt        | (d) insult        |
| 11. | (a) caught      | (b) took       | (c) threw       | (d) done          |
| 12. | (a) just        | (b) fine       | (c) fair        | (d) objective     |

# SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1509/150920-white-house.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. streared because of a clock
2. led away in adfsnhcuf
3. aendedit for several hours
4. before ruithositae realised
5. Within hours of his being edrelaes
6. enpisri more kids

## Paragraph 2

7. the spttiolgh in the USA
8. the issue of pohmIaibaslo
9. how Muslims are edivreepc
10. police trniatgoeroni
11. his school dsuesndpe him
12. offered him an htniiprnes



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1509/150920-white-house.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

( )	'terrorist'. He said the police interrogation made him feel as though he had done something
( )	being released, Ahmed's story went viral. The hashtag IStandWithAhmed has been retweeted hundreds of
( )	Ahmed's arrest has once again put the spotlight in the USA on the issue of Islamophobia and of how Muslims are
( )	detained for several hours before authorities realised that what Ahmed had made was just a clock. Within hours of his
( )	handcuffs after his school alerted police that he had brought a homemade bomb to school. He was
( )	wrong. He said: "I felt like I was a criminal. I felt like I was a terrorist." To add insult to injury, his school
( )	it to the White House? We should inspire more kids like you to like science. It's what makes America great."
( <b>1</b> )	The Texas high school student who was arrested because of a clock he made for school has been
( )	invited to the White House by U.S. President Barack Obama. Ahmed Mohamed, 14, was led away in
( )	perceived and treated. Ahmed said that because of his religion, other kids at school called him 'bomb maker' and
( )	suspended him for three days. Ahmed has caught the attention of Silicon Valley
( )	fair and to their campus. Facebook creator Mark Zuckerberg said: "The future belongs to people like Ahmed."
( )	thousands of times. President Obama tweeted: "Cool clock, Ahmed. Want to bring
( )	heavyweights. Twitter offered him an internship and Google invited him to a science

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1509/150920-white-house.html>

1. Texas was high arrested school student The who .

---

2. Led handcuffs school in his police away after alerted .

---

3. detained hours realised was several authorities He for before .

---

4. was What just Ahmed a had clock made .

---

5. science We should inspire more kids like you to like .

---

6. the on USA the in spotlight the Put Islamophobia of issue .

---

7. had done something wrong Made him feel as though he .

---

8. add, his injury him suspended .To Insult to school

---

9. the attention Ahmed of has Silicon caught Valley .

---

10. people to belongs future The Ahmed like .

---

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1509/150920-white-house.html>

The Texas high school student who was *arrested* / *arresting* because of a clock he made for school has been invited to the White House by U.S. President Barack Obama. Ahmed Mohamed, 14, was *led* / *get* away in handcuffs after his school *alarmed* / *alerted* police that he had *bought* / *brought* a homemade bomb to school. He was *retained* / *detained* for several hours before authorities realised that what Ahmed had made was *justly* / *just* a clock. Within hours of his *being* / *been* released, Ahmed's story went *virus* / *viral*. The hashtag IStandWithAhmed has been retweeted hundreds of / *for* thousands of times. President Obama tweeted: "Cool clock, Ahmed. Want to bring it to the White House? We should inspire more kids like you to like science. It's what makes America *greatly* / *great*."

Ahmed's arrest has once again put the *highlight* / *spotlight* in the USA on the issue of Islamophobia and of how Muslims are *perceived* / *perceptive* and treated. Ahmed said that because *for* / *of* his religion, other kids at school called him 'bomb maker' and 'terrorist'. He said the police interrogation made him *feeling* / *feel* as though he had done something *wrong* / *wronged*. He said: "I felt like I was a criminal. I felt like I was a terrorist." To add insult to *damage* / *injury*, his school *suspension* / *suspended* him for three days. Ahmed has caught the *attending* / *attention* of Silicon Valley heavyweights. Twitter offered him an internship and Google invited him to a science *fair* / *fare* and to their campus. Facebook creator Mark Zuckerberg said: "The future belongs to people *liking* / *like* Ahmed."

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1509/150920-white-house.html>

Th\_ T\_x\_s h\_g h sch\_\_l st\_d nt wh\_ w\_s \_rr\_st\_d  
b\_c\_\_s\_ \_f \_ cl\_ck h\_ m\_d\_ f\_r sch\_\_l h\_s b\_\_n  
\_nv\_t\_d t\_ th\_ Wh\_t\_ H\_\_s\_ by \_\_.S. Pr\_s\_d nt B\_r\_ck  
\_b\_m\_. \_hm\_d M\_h\_m\_d, 14, w\_s l\_d \_w\_y \_n  
h\_ndc\_ffs \_ft\_r h\_s sch\_\_l \_l\_rt\_d p\_l\_c\_ th\_t h\_ h\_d  
br\_\_ght \_ h\_m\_m\_d\_ b\_mb t\_ sch\_\_l. H\_w\_s d\_t\_\_n\_d  
f\_r s\_v\_r\_l h\_\_rs b\_f\_r\_\_ \_th\_r\_t\_\_s r\_\_l\_s\_d th\_t  
wh\_t \_hm\_d h\_d m\_d\_ w\_s j\_st \_ cl\_ck. W\_th\_n h\_\_rs  
\_f h\_s b\_\_ng r\_l\_\_s\_d, \_hm\_d's st\_ry w\_nt v\_r\_l. Th\_  
h\_sht\_g \_ St\_nd W\_th\_hm\_d h\_s b\_\_n r\_tw\_\_t\_d  
h ndr ds \_f th\_\_s nds \_f t\_m\_s. Pr\_s\_d nt \_b\_m\_  
tw\_\_t\_d: "C\_\_l cl\_ck, \_hm\_d. W\_nt t\_ br ng \_t t\_ th\_  
Wh\_t\_ H\_\_s\_? W\_ sh\_\_ld \_nsp\_r\_ m\_r\_ k\_ds l\_k\_ y\_\_  
t\_ l\_k\_ sc\_\_nc\_. \_t's wh\_t m\_k\_s \_m\_r\_c\_ gr\_\_t."

\_hm\_d's \_rr\_st h\_s \_nc\_ \_g\_\_n p\_t th\_ sp\_tl\_gh\_t \_n  
th\_ \_S\_ \_n th\_ \_ss\_\_ \_f \_sl\_m\_ph\_b\_\_ \_nd \_f h\_w  
M\_sl\_ms \_r\_ p\_rc\_\_v\_d \_nd tr\_\_t\_d. \_hm\_d s\_\_d th\_t  
b\_c\_\_s\_ \_f h\_s r\_l\_g\_\_n, \_th\_r k\_ds \_t sch\_\_l c\_ll\_d  
h\_m 'b\_mb m\_k\_r' \_nd 't\_rr\_r\_st'. H\_s\_\_d th\_ p\_l\_c\_  
\_nt\_rr\_g\_t\_\_n m\_d\_ h\_m f\_\_l \_s th\_\_gh h\_ h\_d d\_n\_  
s\_m\_th\_ng wr\_ng. H\_s\_\_d: "\_ f\_lt l\_k\_ \_ w\_s \_  
cr\_m\_n\_l. \_ f\_lt l\_k\_ \_ w\_s \_t\_rr\_r\_st." T\_\_dd \_ns\_l\_t  
t\_ \_nj\_ry, h\_s sch\_\_l s\_sp\_nd\_d h\_m f\_r thr\_\_d\_ys.  
\_hm\_d h\_s c\_\_ght th\_ \_tt\_nt\_\_n \_f S\_l\_c\_n V\_ll\_y  
h\_\_vyw\_\_ghts. Tw\_tt\_r \_ff\_r\_d h\_m \_n \_nt\_rnsh\_p \_nd  
G\_\_gl\_ \_nv\_t\_d h\_m t\_ \_sc\_\_nc\_ f\_\_r \_nd t\_ th\_\_r  
c\_m\_p\_s. F\_c\_b\_\_k cr\_\_t\_r M\_rk Z\_ck\_rb\_rg s\_\_d: "Th\_  
f\_t\_r\_ b\_l\_ngs t\_ p\_\_pl\_ l\_k\_ \_hm\_d."

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1509/150920-white-house.html>

the texas high school student who was arrested because of a clock he made for school has been invited to the white house by us president barack obama ahmed mohamed 14 was led away in handcuffs after his school alerted police that he had brought a homemade bomb to school he was detained for several hours before authorities realised that what ahmed had made was just a clock within hours of his being released ahmed's story went viral the hashtag istandwithahmed has been retweeted hundreds of thousands of times president obama tweeted "cool clock ahmed want to bring it to the white house we should inspire more kids like you to like science it's what makes america great"

ahmed's arrest has once again put the spotlight in the usa on the issue of islamophobia and of how muslims are perceived and treated ahmed said that because of his religion other kids at school called him 'bomb maker' and 'terrorist' he said the police interrogation made him feel as though he had done something wrong he said "i felt like i was a criminal i felt like i was a terrorist" to add insult to injury his school suspended him for three days ahmed has caught the attention of silicon valley heavyweights twitter offered him an internship and google invited him to a science fair and to their campus facebook creator mark zuckerberg said "the future belongs to people like ahmed"

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1509/150920-white-house.html>

The Texas high school student who was arrested because of a clock he made for school has been invited to the White House by U.S. President Barack Obama. Ahmed Mohamed, 14, was led away in handcuffs after his school alerted police that he had brought a homemade bomb to school. He was detained for several hours before authorities realised that what Ahmed had made was just a clock. Within hours of his being released, Ahmed's story went viral. The hashtag #IStandWithAhmed has been retweeted hundreds of thousands of times. President Obama tweeted: "Cool clock, Ahmed. Want to bring it to the White House? We should inspire more kids like you who like science. It's what makes America great." Ahmed's arrest has once again put the spotlight in the USA on the issue of Islamophobia and of how Muslims are perceived and treated. Ahmed said that because of his religion, other kids at school called him 'bomb maker' and 'terrorist'. He said the police interrogation made him feel as though he had done something wrong. He said: "I felt like I was a criminal. I felt like I was a terrorist." To add insult to injury, his school suspended him for three days. Ahmed has caught the attention of Silicon Valley heavyweights. Twitter offered him an internship and Google invited him to a science fair and to their campus. Facebook creator Mark Zuckerberg said: "The future belongs to people like Ahmed."







# HOMework

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about the story about Ahmed Mohamed. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. THE WHITE HOUSE:** Make a poster about the White House in Washington D.C. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. RELIGION:** Write a magazine article about religious differences. Include imaginary interviews with people who have suffered because of them.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on xenophobia. Ask him/her three questions about the Ahmed Mohamed story. Give him/her three of your opinions on how different religions, cultures and races can get along. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F    b T    c T    d T    e F    f F    g T    h F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. invited              | a. asked             |
| 2. alerted              | b. warned            |
| 3. detained             | c. held              |
| 4. realised             | d. understood        |
| 5. inspire              | e. motivate          |
| 6. spotlight            | f. focus             |
| 7. perceived            | g. thought of        |
| 8. interrogation        | h. questioning       |
| 9. add insult to injury | i. make things worse |
| 10. offered             | j. provided          |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Texas
2. Handcuffs
3. Several hours
4. Hours
5. Science
6. Islamophobia
7. The police interrogation
8. Three days
9. An internship
10. Ahmed

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. b    2. d    3. a    4. c    5. b    6. a    7. c    8. a    9. a    10. d

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)