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Level 6

Women-only train cars starting in Germany

31st March, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1603/160331-women-only.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/1603/160331-women-only.html>

A train operator in Germany is launching a women and children only service on its trains. The initiative for the segregated carriages is an attempt to help women feel safer. There will be two specialised compartments on all of the company's trains that run between the cities of Leipzig and Chemnitz. The carriages will be located next to the one in which the train conductor is situated. The new carriages are causing quite a stir in Germany. Some people on social media are suggesting the move is a reaction to an increase in reported incidents of sexual harassment and assault in Germany. Rail executives stress this is not the case, but is instead a new policy aimed at increasing security for women and children.

The use of women-only carriages on trains is not new. There have been dedicated cars on trains in many other countries for decades. In Japan, such carriages were first introduced in 1912. Last year there was a call from Jeremy Corbyn, the leader of the opposition party to the government in Britain, to re-introduce such carriages. British trains used to have 'Ladies Only' carriages up until 1977. Mr Corbyn's comments resulted in a backlash from female politicians. His colleague Yvette Cooper observed that while sexual harassment and violence against women was a serious issue, women-only carriages were not the answer. Cooper said the move would be, "turning the clock back and not tackling the problem".

Sources: <https://www.rt.com/news/337480-gender-segregation-germany/>
<http://www.mediaite.com/online/amid-fears-of-assault-from-migrants-german-train-offers-cars-just-for-women/>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women-only_passenger_car

WARM-UPS

1. WOMEN-ONLY TRAINS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about women-only trains. 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?

train operator / initiative / segregated carriages / conductor / social media / security / dedicated / decades / opposition / ladies only / backlash / politicians / violence

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

3. WOMEN-ONLY: What are the advantages and disadvantages of these women-only things? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

| | Advantages | Disadvantages |
|-----------------|------------|---------------|
| Shopping malls | | |
| Train carriages | | |
| Hotels | | |
| Bars | | |
| Schools | | |
| Towns | | |

4. MEN-ONLY: Students A **strongly** believe men-only train carriages are a good idea; Students B **strongly** believe they aren't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. TRANSPORT: Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- train
- bus
- taxi
- airplane
- ferry
- helicopter
- bicycle
- car

6. TRAIN: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "train". 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/1603/160331-women-only.html>

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

- | | |
|--|-------|
| a. A rail company will start carriages for women and children only. | T / F |
| b. Each train will have one segregated carriage. | T / F |
| c. The trains with segregated cars will run between eight German cities. | T / F |
| d. Rail bosses say the move is because of sexual harassment. | T / F |
| e. Japan introduced its first women-only carriages in 1912. | T / F |
| f. Britain ended women-only carriages in 1977. | T / F |
| g. Female politicians in the UK oppose the idea of women-only carriages. | T / F |
| h. Female politicians in the UK want all clocks turned back. | T / F |

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

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. launching | a. appeal |
| 2. segregated | b. response |
| 3. located | c. co-worker |
| 4. reaction | d. separated |
| 5. stress | e. remarks |
| 6. call | f. addressing |
| 7. comments | g. starting |
| 8. colleague | h. matter |
| 9. issue | i. situated |
| 10. tackling | j. emphasise |

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

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. trains that | a. the opposition party |
| 2. social | b. case |
| 3. sexual | c. for decades |
| 4. executives stress this is not the | d. harassment |
| 5. aimed at increasing security | e. harassment |
| 6. in many other countries | f. a backlash |
| 7. the leader of | g. for women |
| 8. Corbyn's comments resulted in | h. clock back |
| 9. sexual | i. media |
| 10. turning the | j. run between the cities |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160331-women-only.html>

A train (1) _____ in Germany is launching a women and children only service on its trains. The (2) _____ for the segregated carriages is an (3) _____ to help women feel safer. There will be two specialised compartments on all of the company's trains that (4) _____ between the cities of Leipzig and Chemnitz. The carriages will be located next to the one in which the train conductor is (5) _____. The new carriages are causing quite a stir in Germany. Some people on social media are suggesting the move is a (6) _____ to an increase in reported incidents of sexual harassment and assault in Germany. Rail executives stress this is not the (7) _____, but is instead a new policy (8) _____ at increasing security for women and children.

attempt
situated
case
operator
aimed
initiative
run
reaction

The use of women-only carriages on trains is not new. There have been (9) _____ cars on trains in many other countries for decades. In Japan, such carriages were first introduced in 1912. Last year there was a (10) _____ from Jeremy Corbyn, the leader of the (11) _____ party to the government in Britain, to re-introduce such carriages. British trains used to have 'Ladies Only' carriages up until 1977. Mr Corbyn's comments resulted in a (12) _____ from female politicians. His (13) _____ Yvette Cooper observed that while sexual harassment and (14) _____ against women was a serious (15) _____, women-only carriages were not the answer. Cooper said the move would be, "turning the (16) _____ back and not tackling the problem".

violence
call
dedicated
clock
backlash
issue
opposition
colleague

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160331-women-only.html>

- 1) A train operator in Germany is launching a women and children only _____
 - a. service from its trains
 - b. service on its trains
 - c. service on its train
 - d. service from its train
- 2) The initiative for the segregated carriages is an attempt to help _____
 - a. women feels safer
 - b. women feel safer
 - c. women feeling safer
 - d. women felt safer
- 3) The carriages will be located next to the one in which the train _____
 - a. conductor is situated
 - b. contractor is situated
 - c. container is situated
 - d. contraption is situated
- 4) a reaction to an increase in reported incidents of sexual harassment _____
 - a. and a salt
 - b. and assaulted
 - c. and assaults
 - d. and assault
- 5) Rail executives stress this is _____
 - a. not the cases
 - b. not the keys
 - c. not the case
 - d. not the chaos
- 6) There have been dedicated cars on trains in many other _____
 - a. countries for decadence
 - b. countries for decade
 - c. countries for decades
 - d. countries for deck aids
- 7) Last year there was a call from Jeremy Corbyn, the leader of _____
 - a. the opposition's party
 - b. the opposition party
 - c. the oppositions party
 - d. the opposites party
- 8) Mr Corbyn's comments resulted in a backlash from _____
 - a. female politicians
 - b. female politician
 - c. females politicians
 - d. female's politicians
- 9) Cooper observed that while sexual harassment and violence against women _____
 - a. was a seriously issue
 - b. was a seriousness issue
 - c. was the serious issue
 - d. was a serious issue
- 10) Cooper said the move would be, "turning _____"
 - a. the clocks back
 - b. the clock backs
 - c. the clock back
 - d. the clocks backs

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160331-women-only.html>

A train operator in Germany (1) _____ women and children only service on its trains. The initiative (2) _____ carriages is an attempt to help women feel safer. There will be two specialised compartments on all of the company's trains (3) _____ the cities of Leipzig and Chemnitz. The carriages will be located next to the one in (4) _____ conductor is situated. The new carriages are causing quite a stir in Germany. Some people on social media are suggesting the move (5) _____ an increase in reported incidents of sexual harassment and assault in Germany. Rail executives stress this is not the case, but is instead a new policy (6) _____ security for women and children.

The use of women-only carriages on (7) _____. There have been dedicated cars on trains in many other countries for decades. In Japan, such carriages were first introduced in 1912. Last year (8) _____ from Jeremy Corbyn, the leader of the opposition party to the government in Britain, to re-introduce such carriages. British trains used to have 'Ladies Only' (9) _____ 1977. Mr Corbyn's comments resulted (10) _____ from female politicians. His colleague Yvette Cooper observed that while sexual harassment and violence against women (11) _____ issue, women-only carriages were not the answer. Cooper said the move would be, "turning (12) _____ and not tackling the problem".

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160331-women-only.html>

1. Who are the segregated train carriages for?

2. How many segregated carriages will there be on the trains?

3. What rail employee will be in the carriage next to the segregated ones?

4. What do some people say the carriages are in reaction to?

5. Who said the carriages were to increase security?

6. Which country introduced women-only carriages in 1912?

7. When did women-only carriages end in Britain?

8. Who is Jeremy Corbyn?

9. What did Yvette Cooper say about women-only carriages?

10. What did Ms Cooper say women-only carriages would be turning back?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160331-women-only.html>

1. Who are the segregated train carriages for?
 - a) women
 - b) women, children and the aged
 - c) women and children
 - d) children
2. How many segregated carriages will there be on the trains?
 - a) 2
 - b) 3
 - c) 4
 - d) 5
3. What rail employee will be in the carriage next to the segregated ones?
 - a) the train conductor
 - b) the driver
 - c) the boss
 - d) the ticket collector
4. What do some people say the carriages are in reaction to?
 - a) conservatism
 - b) sexual harassment
 - c) comments from women
 - d) the past
5. Who said the carriages were to increase security?
 - a) a journalist
 - b) the police
 - c) women
 - d) rail executives
6. Which country introduced women-only carriages in 1912?
 - a) Portugal
 - b) Japan
 - c) Saudi Arabia
 - d) Mexico
7. When did women-only carriages end in Britain?
 - a) 1977
 - b) 1976
 - c) 1978
 - d) 1975
8. Who is Jeremy Corbyn?
 - a) an expert of train safety
 - b) a train driver
 - c) leader of the UK's opposition party
 - d) boss of the railway company
9. What did Yvette Cooper say about women-only carriages?
 - a) nothing
 - b) men should not be allowed in them
 - c) they were necessary
 - d) they were not the answer
10. What did Ms Cooper say women-only carriages would be turning back?
 - a) the clock
 - b) the years
 - c) a price book
 - d) time

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160331-women-only.html>

Role A – Trains

You think trains are the best form of transport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their modes of transport aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): airplanes, taxis or buses.

Role B – Airplanes

You think airplanes are the best form of transport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their modes of transport aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): trains, taxis or buses.

Role C – Taxis

You think taxis are the best form of transport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their modes of transport aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): airplanes, trains or buses.

Role D – Buses

You think buses are the best form of transport. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their modes of transport aren't as good. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): airplanes, taxis or trains.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160331-women-only.html>

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

| | |
|--------------|-------------|
| women | only |
|--------------|-------------|

- 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">• launching• attempt• run• next• move• instead | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• use• decades• 1912• 1977• colleague• problem |
|---|---|

WOMEN-ONLY TRAINS SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160331-women-only.html>

Write five GOOD questions about women-only trains 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.

WOMEN-ONLY TRAINS 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 'train'?
- 3) What do you think about what you read?
- 4) What do you think of women-only cars on trains?
- 5) How safe is public transport in your country for women?
- 6) Why might people disagree with the women-only carriages?
- 7) What other areas of society should be segregated?
- 8) What else could rail companies do to keep women safe?
- 9) Should boys and girls be segregated in schools?
- 10) What do you think of the idea of women-only malls and hotels?

Women-only train cars starting in Germany – 31st March, 2016
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WOMEN-ONLY TRAINS DISCUSSION

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

- 11) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- 12) What are the disadvantages of women-only train carriages?
- 13) Is having women-only train carriages sexist?
- 14) What problems have you had on trains?
- 15) How much equality is there for women in your country?
- 16) What do you think of the idea of men-only train carriages?
- 17) Would you prefer a female family member to use women-only transportation?
- 18) What do you think of rail travel?
- 19) What is the answer to tackling sexual harassment?
- 20) What questions would you like to ask the rail company's CEO?

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/1603/160331-women-only.html>

A train operator in Germany is launching a women and children only service on its trains. The (1) _____ for the segregated carriages is an (2) _____ to help women feel safer. There will be two specialised compartments on (3) _____ of the company's trains that run between the cities of Leipzig and Chemnitz. The carriages will be located next to the one in which the train conductor is (4) _____. The new carriages are causing quite a stir in Germany. Some people on social media are suggesting the move is a reaction to an increase (5) _____ reported incidents of sexual harassment and assault in Germany. Rail executives stress this is not the (6) _____, but is instead a new policy aimed at increasing security for women and children.

The use of women-only carriages on trains is not new. There have been (7) _____ cars on trains in many other countries for decades. In Japan, such carriages were first introduced in 1912. Last year there was a (8) _____ from Jeremy Corbyn, the leader of the opposition party to the government in Britain, to re-introduce (9) _____ carriages. British trains used to have 'Ladies Only' carriages up until 1977. Mr Corbyn's comments resulted (10) _____ a backlash from female politicians. His colleague Yvette Cooper observed that (11) _____ sexual harassment and violence against women was a serious issue, women-only carriages were not the answer. Cooper said the move would be, "turning the (12) _____ back and not tackling the problem".

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| 1. | (a) initials | (b) initialing | (c) initiative | (d) initialising |
| 2. | (a) attempt | (b) try | (c) prototype | (d) arrange |
| 3. | (a) all | (b) whole | (c) every | (d) entire |
| 4. | (a) situated | (b) saturated | (c) satiated | (d) stratified |
| 5. | (a) to | (b) of | (c) by | (d) in |
| 6. | (a) wallet | (b) bag | (c) box | (d) case |
| 7. | (a) dedicated | (b) detracted | (c) delineated | (d) deselected |
| 8. | (a) urge | (b) whisper | (c) shout | (d) call |
| 9. | (a) such | (b) surge | (c) scratch | (d) search |
| 10. | (a) to | (b) in | (c) of | (d) as |
| 11. | (a) whence | (b) while | (c) whim | (d) whisk |
| 12. | (a) clock | (b) watch | (c) timepiece | (d) cuckoo |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160331-women-only.html>

Paragraph 1

1. A train prortoea in Germany
2. geesretgda carriages
3. the one in which the train tcnudcroo is situated
4. the move is a oncreiat
5. sexual resanhamst
6. Rail eetiuvcxse

Paragraph 2

7. aeiddetc cars
8. the leader of the poisioontp party
9. Corbyn's comments resulted in a kcalashb
10. female oinlptiicas
11. neocevli against women
12. tgianklc the problem

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160331-women-only.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

| | |
|--------------|---|
| () | resulted in a backlash from female politicians. His colleague Yvette Cooper observed that while sexual |
| () | harassment and violence against women was a serious issue, women-only carriages were not |
| () | located next to the one in which the train conductor is situated. The new carriages are causing quite a |
| () | the answer. Cooper said the move would be, "turning the clock back and not tackling the problem". |
| () | of sexual harassment and assault in Germany. Rail executives stress this is not the |
| () | call from Jeremy Corbyn, the leader of the opposition party to the government in Britain, to re-introduce such |
| () | carriages. British trains used to have 'Ladies Only' carriages up until 1977. Mr Corbyn's comments |
| () | The use of women-only carriages on trains is not new. There have been dedicated cars on trains in many other |
| () | case, but is instead a new policy aimed at increasing security for women and children. |
| () | countries for decades. In Japan, such carriages were first introduced in 1912. Last year there was a |
| () | all of the company's trains that run between the cities of Leipzig and Chemnitz. The carriages will be |
| () | for the segregated carriages is an attempt to help women feel safer. There will be two specialised compartments on |
| () | stir in Germany. Some people on social media are suggesting the move is a reaction to an increase in reported incidents |
| (1) | A train operator in Germany is launching a women and children only service on its trains. The initiative |

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160331-women-only.html>

1. feel women help to attempt An safer .

2. trains specialised all company's Two on the compartments of .

3. causing quite a stir in Germany The new carriages are .

4. this is Rail not executives the stress case .

5. new at for A aimed security policy increasing women .

6. on - use new trains only of is carriages women The not .

7. trains on dedicated have been countries many cars in There .

8. the The the to of party government leader opposition .

9. issue serious a was women against Violence .

10. tackling clock not problem the and the Turning back .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160331-women-only.html>

A train operator in Germany is *launching / launched* a women and children only service on its trains. The *initiation / initiative* for the segregated carriages is an *attempt / attempting* to help women feel safer. There will be two specialised compartments on *every / all* of the company's trains that run *between / among* the cities of Leipzig and Chemnitz. The carriages will be located next to the one in which the train conductor is *situation / situated*. The new carriages are causing *quite / quiet* a stir in Germany. Some people on social media are *suggesting / suggestion* the move is a reaction to an increase in reported *incidents / incident* of sexual harassment and assault in Germany. Rail executives stress this is not the case, but is instead a new policy aimed *at / to* increasing security for women and children.

The *use / used* of women-only carriages on trains is not new. There have been *dedicated / dedication* cars on trains in many *other / another* countries for decades. In Japan, such carriages were *first / firstly* introduced in 1912. Last year there was a *caller / call* from Jeremy Corbyn, the leader of the opposition party to the government in Britain, to re-introduce such *carriage / carriages*. British trains used to have 'Ladies Only' carriages up until 1977. Mr Corbyn's comments *resulted / resulting* in a backlash from female politicians. His *colleague / collegiate* Yvette Cooper observed that while sexual harassment and violence *again / against* women was a serious issue, women-only carriages were not the answer. Cooper said the move would be, "turning the clock back and not *tackling / tacking* the problem".

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/1603/160331-women-only.html>

_ tr__n _p_r_t_r _n G_rm_ny _s l__nch_ng _ w_m_n
_nd ch_ldr_n _nly s_rv_c__n _ts tr__ns. Th_
_n_t__t_v_ f_r th_ s_gr_g_t_d c_rr__g_s _s _n
_tt_mpt t_ h_lp w_m_n f__l s_f_r. Th_r_ w_ll b_ tw_
sp_c__l_s_d c_mprtmnts _n _ll _f th_ c_mpn_y's
tr__ns th_t r_n b_tw__n th_ c_t__s _f L__pz_g _nd
Ch_mn_tz. Th_ c_rr__g_s w_ll b_ l_c_t_d n_xt t_ th_
n _n wh_ch th_ tr__n c_nd_ct_r _s s_t__t_d. Th_
n_w c_rr__g_s r_c__s_ng q__t__ st_r _n G_rm_ny.
S_m_ p__pl_ _n s_c__l m_d__ _r_ s_gg_st_ng th_
m_v_ _s _r__ct__n t_ _n _ncr__s_ _n r_p_rtd
_nc_d_nts _f s_x__l h_r_ssm_nt _nd _ss__lt _n
G_rm_ny. R__l_x_c_t_v_s str_ss th_s _s n_t th_c_s_,
b_t __s _nst__d _n_w p_l_cy __m_d _t _ncr__s_ng
s_c_r_ty f_r w_m_n _nd ch_ldr_n.

Th_ __s__ _f w_m_n-nly c_rr__g_s _n tr__ns _s n_t
n_w. Th_r_ h_v_ b__n d_d_c_t_d c_rs _n tr__ns _n
m_ny _th_r c__ntr__s f_r d_c_d_s. _n J_p_n, s_ch
c_rr__g_s w_r_ f_rst _ntr_d_c_d _n 1912. L_st y__r
th_r_ w_s _c_ll fr_m J_r_my C_rbyn, th_ l__d_r _f th_
_pp_s_t__n p_rty t_ th_ g_v_rnm_nt _n Br_t__n, t_r_
_ntr_d_c_ s_ch c_rr__g_s. Br_t_sh tr__ns _s_d t_ h_v_
'L_d__s _nly' c_rr__g_s _p _nt_l 1977. Mr C_rbyn's
c_mments r_s_lt_d _n _ b_ckl_sh fr_m f_m_l_
p_l_t_c__ns. H_s c_ll__g__ Yv_tt_ C__p_r _bs_rv_d
th_t wh_l_ s_x__l h_r_ssm_nt _nd v__l_nc_ _g__nst
w_m_n w_s _s_r__s _ss__, w_m_n-nly c_rr__g_s
w_r_n_t th_ _nsw_r. C__p_r_s__d th_ m_v_ w__ld b_,
"t_rn_ng th_ cl_ck b_ck _nd n_t t_ckl_ng th_ pr_bl_m".

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160331-women-only.html>

a train operator in germany is launching a women and children only service on its trains the initiative for the segregated carriages is an attempt to help women feel safer there will be two specialised compartments on all of the company's trains that run between the cities of leipzig and chemnitz the carriages will be located next to the one in which the train conductor is situated the new carriages are causing quite a stir in germany some people on social media are suggesting the move is a reaction to an increase in reported incidents of sexual harassment and assault in germany rail executives stress this is not the case but is instead a new policy aimed at increasing security for women and children

the use of women-only carriages on trains is not new there have been dedicated cars on trains in many other countries for decades in japan such carriages were first introduced in 1912 last year there was a call from jeremy corbyn the leader of the opposition party to the government in Britain, to re-introduce such carriages british trains used to have 'ladies only' carriages up until 1977 mr corbyn's comments resulted in a backlash from female politicians his colleague yvette cooper observed that while sexual harassment and violence against women was a serious issue women-only carriages were not the answer cooper said the move would be "turning the clock back and not tackling the problem"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160331-women-only.html>

A train operator in Germany is launching a women and children only service on its trains. The initiative for these segregated carriages is an attempt to help women feel safer. There will be two specialised compartments on all of the company's trains that run between the cities of Leipzig and Chemnitz. The carriages will be located next to the one in which the train conductor is situated. The new carriages are causing quite a stir in Germany. Some people on social media are suggesting the move is a reaction to an increase in reported incidents of sexual harassment and assault in Germany. Rail executives stress this is not the case, but it is instead a new policy aimed at increasing security for women and children. The use of women-only carriages on trains is not new. There have been dedicated cars on trains in many other countries for decades. In Japan, such carriages were first introduced in 1912. Last year there was a call from Jeremy Corbyn, the leader of the opposition party to the government in Britain, to re-introduce such carriages. British trains used to have 'Ladies Only' carriages up until 1977. Mr Corbyn's comments resulted in a backlash from female politicians. His colleague Yvette Cooper observed that while sexual harassment and violence against women was a serious issue, women-only carriages were not the answer. Cooper said the move would be, "turning the clock back and not tackling the problem".

FREE WRITING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160331-women-only.html>

Write about **women-only trains** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.

ACADEMIC WRITING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1603/160331-women-only.html>

There should be men-only and women-only carriages on trains. Discuss.

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 women-only trains. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. TRAINS: Make a poster about trains. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. WOMEN-ONLY: Write a magazine article about women-only trains. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against it.

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 the boss of the rail company. Ask him/her three questions about the women-only trains. Give him/her three ideas on how to make rail travel better. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. launching | a. starting |
| 2. segregated | b. separated |
| 3. located | c. situated |
| 4. reaction | d. response |
| 5. stress | e. emphasise |
| 6. call | f. appeal |
| 7. comments | g. remarks |
| 8. colleague | h. co-worker |
| 9. issue | i. matter |
| 10. tackling | j. addressing |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Women and children
2. Two
3. The train conductor
4. Sexual harassment
5. Rail executives
6. Japan
7. 1977
8. Leader of the opposition party in the UK
9. They were not the answer
10. The clock

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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