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**Level 2 – 10th August, 2018**

## **UK politician says burka is 'bank robber' clothing**

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1808/180810-burka-2.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1808/180810-burka-2.html>

The UK's ex-Foreign Minister Boris Johnson has been accused of racism. He made comments about women wearing the burka in a British newspaper. He said women who wear burkas "look like letter boxes". He also said: "If a female student turned up at school...looking like a bank robber," he would ask her to remove it so that he "could talk to her properly". Johnson was writing an article about a full-face veil ban in Denmark. He said full-face veils should not be banned in the UK, but said women who wore burkas "look absolutely ridiculous".

The UK's Prime Minister Theresa May asked Mr Johnson to apologize. She said "We all have to be very careful about the language and terms we use, and some of the terms Boris used describing people's appearance...have offended." A senior British politician asked Mr Johnson to resign. Many other politicians said the comments were Islamophobic and a hate crime. They say he knew his comments would offend Muslims. Mr Johnson was London's mayor and the UK Foreign Minister. He has had thousands of experiences interacting with Muslim people.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-45096519>  
<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/world/boris-johnson-burqa-wearers-look-like-bank-robbers-letter-boxes/news-story/>  
<https://www.thenational.ae/world/europe/boris-johnson-allies-say-he-won-t-apologise-for-islamophobic-burqa-comments-1.757866>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1808/180810-burka-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                    |                    |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Johnson has been accused        | a. to her properly |
| 2. He made comments                | b. wore burkas     |
| 3. If a female student turned      | c. an article      |
| 4. remove it so that he could talk | d. ridiculous      |
| 5. Johnson was writing             | e. up at school    |
| 6. full-face veils should not      | f. of racism       |
| 7. women who                       | g. about women     |
| 8. look absolutely                 | h. be banned       |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                  |                       |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. May asked Mr Johnson          | a. were Islamophobic  |
| 2. be very careful               | b. appearance         |
| 3. describing people's           | c. with Muslim people |
| 4. politicians said the comments | d. to apologize       |
| 5. a hate                        | e. of experiences     |
| 6. Mr Johnson was London's       | f. about the language |
| 7. He has had thousands          | g. mayor              |
| 8. interacting                   | h. crime              |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1808/180810-burka-2.html>

The UK's ex-Foreign Minister Boris Johnson  
(1) \_\_\_\_\_ of racism. He made comments about  
(2) \_\_\_\_\_ burka in a British newspaper. He said  
women who wear burkas "look like letter boxes".  
(3) \_\_\_\_\_: "If a female student turned up at  
school...looking like a bank robber," he would ask  
(4) \_\_\_\_\_ it so that he "could talk to her properly".  
Johnson was writing an article about (5) \_\_\_\_\_  
ban in Denmark. He said full-face veils should not be banned in the  
UK, but said women who wore burkas "(6) \_\_\_\_\_".

The UK's Prime Minister Theresa May asked Mr Johnson to  
apologize. She said "We (7) \_\_\_\_\_ be very careful  
about the language and (8) \_\_\_\_\_, and some of  
the terms Boris used describing people's appearance...have  
offended." (9) \_\_\_\_\_ politician asked Mr Johnson  
to resign. Many other politicians (10) \_\_\_\_\_ were  
Islamophobic and a hate crime. They say he  
(11) \_\_\_\_\_ would offend Muslims. Mr Johnson was  
London's mayor and the UK Foreign Minister.  
(12) \_\_\_\_\_ thousands of experiences interacting  
with Muslim people.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1808/180810-burka-2.html>

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m.HemadecommentsaboutwomenwearingtheburkainaBritishnews  
paper.Hesaidwomenwhowearburkas"looklikeletterboxes".Healsosa  
id:"Ifafemalestudentturnedupatschool...lookinglikeabankrobber,"h  
ewouldaskhertoremoveitsothathe"couldtalktoherproperly".Johnso  
nwaswritinganarticleaboutafull-faceveilbaninDenmark.Hesaidfull-  
faceveilsshouldnotbebannedintheUK,butsaidwomenwhoworeburka  
s"lookabsolutelyridiculous".TheUK'sPrimeMinisterTheresaMayaske  
dMrJohnsontoapologize.Shesaid"Weallhavetobeverycarefulaboutth  
elanguageandtermseuse,andsomeofthetermsBorisuseddescribin  
gpeople'sappearance...haveoffended."AseniorBritishpoliticianaske  
dMrJohnsontoresign.ManyotherpoliticianssaidthecommentswereIsl  
amophobicandahatecrime.They sayheknewhiscommentswouldoffe  
ndMuslims.MrJohnsonwasLondon'smayorandtheUKForeignMinster.  
HehashadthousandsofexperiencesinteractingwithMuslimpeople.

# THE BURKA SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1808/180810-burka-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about The burka 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*UK politician says burka is 'bank robber' clothing – 10th August, 2018*  
More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

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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) \_\_\_\_\_

