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### **Level 5 - 16th January 2023**

# Adidas loses three-stripe trademark battle

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https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2301/230116-adidas-three-stripes-5.html

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

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### THE READING

From <a href="https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2301/230116-adidas-three-stripes-5.html">https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2301/230116-adidas-three-stripes-5.html</a>

Adidas has lost a legal battle over what it thought was an infringement of its three-stripe logo. It made a complaint against the American fashion brand Thom Browne, which uses a four-stripe logo. Adidas said the four stripes were too similar to its three stripes. It filed a lawsuit and claimed \$7.8 million in damages. However, a New York jury decided in Thom Browne's favour. It said the four stripes did not infringe on Adidas' logo. It added that consumers were unlikely to confuse the two brands, as they were capable of distinguishing between different numbers of stripes.

Thom Browne was founded in 2001. It creates high-end clothing and has collaborated with many top names in the luxury fashion business. In 2020, it designed a scarf as part of Joe Biden's "Believe in Better" fashion collection. The dispute with Adidas goes back 16 years. Browne used a three-stripe design on a jacket in 2007. After Adidas protested, Browne switched to four stripes. Browne said confusion between the two designs was unlikely because the two companies "operate in different markets, serve different customers, and offer their products at strikingly different prices".

Sources: https://edition.cnn.com/style/article/adidas-thom-browne-verdict/index.html

https://www. ndtv.com/feature/adidas-loses-stripe-trademark-battle-to-luxury-designer-thom-loses-stripe-trademark-battle-trademark-ba

browne-3690735

https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-64261616

### PHRASE MATCHING

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2301/230116-adidas-three-stripes-5.html

#### **PARAGRAPH ONE:**

- 1. Adidas has lost
- 2. It made a
- 3. four stripes were too similar
- 4. claimed \$7.8 million
- 5. a New York jury
- 6. four stripes did not infringe
- 7. consumers were unlikely to
- 8. distinguishing between different

- a. on Adidas' logo
- b. to its three stripes
- c. numbers of stripes
- d. complaint
- e. confuse the two brands
- f. a legal battle
- q. decided
- h. in damages

#### **PARAGRAPH TWO:**

- 1. Thom Browne was
- 2. high-
- 3. collaborated with many top
- 4. The dispute with Adidas goes
- 5. a three-stripe design
- 6. confusion between the two
- 7. the two companies operate in
- 8. offer their products at strikingly

- a. designs was unlikely
- b. names
- c. different prices
- d. end clothing
- e. back 16 years
- f. on a jacket
- g. founded in 2001
- h. different markets

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <a href="https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2301/230116-adidas-three-stripes-5.html">https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2301/230116-adidas-three-stripes-5.html</a>

Adidas has (1)	battle over what it thought
was an infringement of its	three-stripe logo. It
(2) against t	he American fashion brand
Thom Browne, which uses a four-strip	e logo. Adidas said the four
stripes were too similar to	its three stripes. It
(3) and claime	ed \$7.8 million in damages.
However, a New York (4)	Thom Browne's
favour. It said the four stripes did not	infringe on Adidas' logo. It
added that consumers were (5)	the two
brands, as they (6)	distinguishing between
different numbers of stripes.	
Thom Browne was founded	in 2001. It creates
(7) and has	collaborated with many top
names in the luxury fashion busines	ss. In 2020, it designed a
(8) of Joe Bider	n's "Believe in Better" fashion
collection. (9)	Adidas goes back 16 years.
Browne used a three-stripe design on a	jacket in 2007. After Adidas
protested, Browne (10)	stripes. Browne said
confusion between the two (11)	because the
two companies "operate in differen	t markets, serve different
customers, and offer their (12)	different
prices".	

### PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2301/230116-adidas-three-stripes-5.html

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### **ADIDAS SURVEY**

From <a href="https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2301/230116-adidas-three-stripes-4.html">https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2301/230116-adidas-three-stripes-4.html</a>

Write five GOOD questions about Adidas 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).

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## **WRITING**

 $\textbf{From} \quad \underline{\text{https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2301/230116-adidas-three-stripes-5.html} \\$ 

Write about <b>Adidas</b> for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.