

## U2's Bono up for Nobel prize (Thus 17 Feb)

### WARM-UPS

**CHAT:** Talk in pairs or groups about Bono / U2 / Nobel Peace Prize / world peace / Ghandi / Yasser Arafat / Bill Clinton / Nelson Mandela ...

Change topic / partner frequently to energize the class.

**BONO / U2 BRAINSTORM:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with Bono and U2. Share your words with your partner / group and talk about them.

**THE WINNER:** Decide in pairs who should get this year's award from the list of contenders in the article.

**RUBBING SHOULDERS:** Pretend you are rich, famous and powerful. You have many famous friends. Write down the names of three people with whom you would like to regularly rub shoulders. Walk around the class telling other students who your famous friends are, how you met, what they are like etc.

**WORLD PEACE:** In groups decide on the most important areas of the world for which peace must be found. Discuss the likelihood of peace being achieved in these areas this year. (E.g. Iraq, Afghanistan, North Korea, Iran, Zimbabwe, Congo, Sudan's Darfur region, Colombia, Spain's Basque region, Israel and Palestine ...)

### PRE-READING IDEAS

**WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionaries / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... of the words 'peace' and 'prize'.

**TRUE / FALSE:** Predict whether the following statements about the article are true or false:

- a. The rock singer Bono, from the band U2, has won this year's Nobel Peace prize. T / F
- b. One hundred and sixty-six other people also won the prize this year. T / F
- c. Bono has little competition to win this year's Nobel Peace prize. T / F
- d. The winner is chosen by the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. T / F
- e. The prize is given to the person or institution deemed to have contributed most to world peace. T / F
- f. The most famous recipient of the award is Indian peace icon Mahatma Ghandi. T / F
- g. Bono would be the third rock singer to get the award. T / F
- h. Bill Clinton, Kofi Annan and Nelson Mandela often massage Bono's shoulders. T / F

## PRE READING EXERCISES

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

- |     |                   |               |
|-----|-------------------|---------------|
| (a) | superstar         | distinguished |
| (b) | nominated         | non-stop      |
| (c) | candidates        | tough         |
| (d) | prestigious       | organization  |
| (e) | fierce            | contenders    |
| (f) | former            | icon          |
| (g) | institution       | hobnobbing    |
| (h) | preceding         | ex            |
| (i) | tirelessly        | previous      |
| (j) | rubbing shoulders | put forward   |

**PHRASE MATCH:** Match the following phrases based on the article

- |     |                                   |  |
|-----|-----------------------------------|--|
| (a) | rock                              | award  |
| (b) | He joins a list                   | tirelessly                                   |
| (c) | prestigious                       | chosen by the members of the Nobel Institute |
| (d) | competition for the honours looks | of October                                   |
| (e) | ex US                             | shoulders with the world's rich and powerful |
| (f) | The winner is secretly            | superstar                                    |
| (g) | announced in the middle           | set to be fierce                             |
| (h) | the person or institution deemed  | secretary of state                           |
| (i) | works                             | of 166 other candidates                      |
| (j) | constantly seen rubbing           | to have contributed most to world peace      |

**DEFINITIONS:** Students match the following words with the **most likely** definitions (Please think about the headline!):

(a) **nominated** (v)

- (i) when an adjective of a verb is changed to form a noun
- (ii) for someone's name to be put forward / suggested to win a prize or election

(b) **candidates** (n)

- (i) the people in a competition or election who want to / may / are trying to win
- (ii) people who speak very openly and honestly

(c) **prestigious** (adj)

- (i) trying very hard to win something very important
- (ii) having an amazingly high reputation or image

(d) **honours** (n)

- (i) an award, prize, special position etc that shows how great someone is
- (ii) practicing something over and over again until it is perfect

(e) **fierce** (adj)

- (i) talk a lot
- (ii) very very strong and competitive

(f) **former** (adj)

- (i) support for a political cause
- (ii) having had a title or position in the past, but not now

(g) **deemed** (v)

- (i) to be thought of or believed to be
- (ii) smiled a big smile from ear to ear

(h) **tirelessly** (adv)

- (i) when cars in poorer parts of the world have very bad wheels.
- (ii) doing something non-stop, without taking a rest

(i) **debt relief** (n)

- (i) the wonderful feeling you have when you've finally got your credit card balance down to zero
- (ii) when rich countries help poor countries by reducing or forgetting the amount of money they have to pay back

(j) **rub shoulders with** (v)

- (i) massage somebody to make him or her work tirelessly
- (ii) talk, meet, mix and socialize with people

## GAP FILL

### U2's Bono up for Nobel Prize (Thus 17 Feb)

**BNE:** International rock superstar Bono, from the group U2, has been \_\_\_\_\_ for this year's Nobel Peace Prize. He \_\_\_\_\_ a list of 166 other candidates for the prestigious award, and competition for the honours looks \_\_\_\_\_ to be fierce. To get the prize he must beat ex US secretary of state Colin Powell, Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko, Georgian President Mikhail Saakashvili, \_\_\_\_\_ Czech president Vaclav Havel, Pope John Paul II and the International Atomic Energy Agency. The winner is secretly \_\_\_\_\_ by the members of the Nobel Institute in Oslo, Norway, and announced in the middle of October. It is given to the person or institution deemed to have \_\_\_\_\_ most to world peace in the preceding year. It infamously 'forgot' to give an award to the biggest \_\_\_\_\_, Mahatma Ghandi, but did honor Yasser Arafat. It has never been won by a rock singer. Bono, who works tirelessly for debt relief and humanitarian concerns in Africa, is constantly seen \_\_\_\_\_ shoulders with the world's rich and powerful. His friends include Bill Clinton, Kofi Annan and Nelson Mandela.

*former   chosen   nominated   peacemaker   joins   contributed   rubbing   set*

## DISCUSSION:

- a. What do you think of Bono being nominated for a peace prize?
- b. What do you think of Ghandi never winning the Nobel Peace prize?
- c. What do you think of Yasser Arafat winning the Nobel Peace prize?
- d. Do you like U2?
- e. Is the Nobel Peace prize a good thing?
- f. Is it OK for rock singers to win such a prestigious award?
- g. Who more deserves to win the award, Bono or Colin Powell?
- h. Don't you think US President George W. Bush should be on the list?
- i. Who in your country does a lot for peace? What do they do?
- j. Should the Nobel Peace prize go to a person or institution?
- k. Should the winner be secretly be chosen by the members of the Nobel Institute, or should there be a world vote?
- l. Which famous people would you like to rub shoulders with?
- m. Which would you rather win, the Nobel Peace prize, an Oscar best actor, a Grammy for best singer, a World Cup winner's medal (any sport), Time magazine person of the year, or the New York marathon?
- n. Teacher / Student additional questions.

## **HOMEWORK**

**LETTER TO BONO:** Write a letter to Bono asking him to continue his tireless efforts for Africa.

**THE WINNER:** Nominate your own candidate for the prize. Outline what the person has done and why (s)he deserves it.

### **INTERNET / WEB LINKS:**

Bono info:

<http://www.u2.com/>

The Nobel Peace Prize:

[http://www.nobel.no/eng\\_lau\\_list.html](http://www.nobel.no/eng_lau_list.html)

Info on Ghandi:

<http://www.mkgandhi.org/>

Info on Martin Luther King Jr:

<http://www.martinlutherking.org/>

### **FULL TEXT**

#### **U2's Bono up for Nobel Prize (Thus 17 Feb)**

**BNE:** International rock superstar Bono, from the group U2, has been **nominated** for this year's Nobel Peace Prize. He **joins** a list of 166 other candidates for the prestigious award, and competition for the honours looks **set** to be fierce. To get the prize he must beat ex US secretary of state Colin Powell, Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko, Georgian President Mikhail Saakashvili, **former** Czech president Vaclav Havel, Pope John Paul II and the International Atomic Energy Agency. The winner is secretly **chosen** by the members of the Nobel Institute in Oslo, Norway, and announced in the middle of October. It is given to the person or institution deemed to have **contributed** most to world peace in the preceding year. It infamously 'forgot' to give an award to the biggest **peacemaker**, Mahatma Ghandi, but did honor Yasser Arafat. It has never been won by a rock singer. Bono, who works tirelessly for debt relief and humanitarian concerns in Africa, is constantly seen **rubbing** shoulders with the world's rich and powerful. His friends include Bill Clinton, Kofi Annan and Nelson Mandela.