

Countryside protest in London

Topic: Protest.

Skills/Language: Understanding details, vocabulary,

For this lesson you will need

- Copies of **Worksheet A**
- Copies of the Text
- Copies of **Worksheet B**
- Copies of the Vocabulary exercise – **Worksheet C**

Introduction

Aim - Activate knowledge of countryside issues and demonstration

Procedure

- Ask students in pairs to discuss the questions on **Worksheet A**

Alternative for question 1, Worksheet A

- Find a picture of the city and of the country side
- Put each picture on opposite sides of the room
- Ask students to stand by the picture which represents the place they would prefer to live.
- If there is a good split in the class, pair a city person with a country person. They should say why they prefer their choice, and why they wouldn't choose the other place. This should lead to good discussion.
- If there is not a good split, pair the students up to brainstorm why they prefer their choice.
- Following a brief feedback session, introduce the rest of worksheet A

Worksheet A – Question 6 answers.

(Note: The meanings given are those as used in the article.)

	Noun	Verb	Prepositions with verb?	Meaning(s)
Protest	Yes	Yes	About, against, at	V – to show publicly you disagree with something
March	Yes	Yes	For, against	V – to walk in a large group to show ideas or beliefs
Demonstrate	No	Yes	For, against	V – to show opposition or support
Campaign	Yes	Yes	For, against	V – to carry out activities over a period of time to achieve an aim

Reading exercises

Aim – Reading for specific information

- Hand out **Worksheet B**
- Ask students to look at question 1
- Give out the **text**.
- Ask to students to read the text to find the answer to question 1

Q1. Read the news story and find out who was protesting and what they were protesting about.

The Countryside Alliance was protesting against the government's countryside policies, particularly concerning fox hunting, transport, health care, farming

(The Countryside Alliance is an organisation formed by people who live in the countryside. It campaigns for better treatment and support of lives in the countryside)

Ask students to read the text again to find the answers for question 2

2. Are the following sentences true or false?
- The march was one of the biggest marches ever in Britain
Answer: False – it was the biggest
 - The marchers think the government is doing a good job for the countryside
Answer: False – they say the government is mishandling matters
 - The government wants to stop fox hunting with dogs
Answer: True
 - The marchers were all very similar people
Answer: False – they come from different areas and backgrounds (walks of life)
 - The marchers were demonstrating about 4 different things
(Answer: True - fox hunting, transport, health care, farming)
 - Farmers have suffered from three different problems
Answer: False – two problems – BSE and Foot and Mouth. Both are diseases affecting cows
 - The government already gives farmers a lot of money and support
Answer: True – the farming industry is heavily subsidised
 - The League Against Cruel Sports supports the Countryside Alliance
Answer: False – they had a counter demonstration, it was against the main CA demonstration. They are against fox hunting, The CA is for fox hunting

3. Set this up as a small group discussion, but give students time to prepare their opinions. You should extend it to include similar practices in your country

Vocabulary exercise

Aim – match meanings to words

- Give students **Worksheet C**
- Using the context of the text to help them, ask students to match the words to the definitions

Alternatively, this could be done as a mingle activity:

- Cut out the words and definitions so each is on its own piece of paper
- Give each student a word or two
- Distribute the definitions around the class
- The students then find the definition(s) for their word(s)
- Feed back to the board, be sure to check and drill the pronunciation

Answers

a standstill

when something stops completely

mishandling

dealing badly or with something

hailed as a huge success

said to be very good

issues

important subject under discussion

to ban

to stop something officially, by law

stable

a building in which horses are kept

enthusiasts

people who like something very much

blows

things which cause damage or problems

rural areas

parts of the countryside

cruel

the opposite of kind