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The 4 page 60 minute ESL British English lesson – 25/03/13

## The new Pope

Today let's talk about the new Pope who was elected recently at the Vatican. Pope Francis I is the new head of the Catholic Church following the resignation of the former Pope, Benedict XVI.

Jorge Mario Bergoglio, 76, who was a cardinal from Argentina, was the surprise choice of the cardinals who elected him head of 1.2bn Catholics. Many people had expected a much younger Pope to be elected.

The new Pope said he chose the name Francis after the 12-13<sup>th</sup> Century St Francis of Assisi, who represented "poverty and peace". He is the first Pope from Latin America. He is the 266<sup>th</sup> Pope.

Pope Francis was born on 17 December 1936 in Buenos Aires. He was ordained in 1969 as a Jesuit\*. He studied in Germany and Argentina. He became a bishop in 1992 and Archbishop of Buenos Aires in 1998.

The new Pope is seen as orthodox on sexual matters but strong on social justice. He prefers to eat alone in small dining places for the homeless. His passions are classical music and his football club, San Lorenzo de Almagro.

Pope Francis held his first Mass in the Sistine Chapel, urging the Catholic Church to stick to its roots and to shun temptations. He takes on the helm of the Catholic church amid a string of sex abuse scandals, infighting within the churches administration arm and allegations of financial wrongdoings. The new Pope has criticised Christine Fernandez, who is the President of Argentina, over her support for liberal measures, such as gay marriage and free contraceptives.

*\*The Society of Jesuits is a male order of the Catholic Church, with 19,000 members worldwide.*

### SPEAKING

Think of three things you know about the new Pope. Go round the room swapping details with others.

### LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

### READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

### SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

**1) The article** – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

**2) The article** - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 4) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 5) Discuss the article.

**3) Article quiz** - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

#### Student A questions

- 1) What is the Society of Jesuits?
- 2) How many Popes were there before this one?
- 3) What are the new Pope's passions?
- 4) Name two issues the new Pope has to deal with.
- 5) The new Pope is seen as what?

#### Student B questions

- 1) What is the new Pope's full title?
- 2) What is his original real name?
- 3) Which country does the Pope come from?
- 4) How old is the new Pope?
- 5) Name the President of Argentina.

**Category: Catholic Church / The Pope / Francis I**  
**Level: Intermediate / Upper Intermediate**

## The new Pope – 25<sup>th</sup> March 2013

### WRITING / SPEAKING

*In pairs.* On the board write as many words as you can to do with '**The new Pope**'. *One-two minutes.* Compare with other teams. Using your words compile a short dialogue together.

### WRITING / SPEAKING

**The new Pope** - *In pairs* choose three things from the article.

Write them below.

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

**Add** three similar ideas of your own about the subject. Discuss together.

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

**The teacher** will choose some pairs to discuss their findings in front of the class.

### WRITING / SPEAKING

*In pairs* - Write down three things you know about the Pope, the former Pope and the one before that. Discuss together.

**The teacher** will choose some students to read out their work to the class.

### DISCUSSION

#### Student A questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) What do you think of a Pope from Latin America?
- 3) What advice would you give the new Pope?
- 4) Why did the cardinals not elect a much younger man?
- 5) What do you think of the scandals in the Catholic Church?
- 6) Will the new Pope get on better with the Argentinean President now?
- 7) What does the new Pope think of the Falkland Island situation?
- 8) What do you like about the new Pope?
- 9) What do you dislike about him?
- 10) Have you learnt anything in today's lesson?

### SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 1

*In groups.* One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *Vatican* TV studio. Today's interview is: *The new Pope*.

- 1) The new Pope
- 2) A cardinal
- 3) A devout Catholic
- 4) A tourist

**The teacher** will choose some groups to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

### SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 2

*In pairs.* You are in a coffee shop at the Vatican. Start a conversation about: '*The new Pope*'. 5 mins.

### SPEAKING - GAME

*Group* – form a circle. *I went to the Vatican and I saw...* Go round in a clockwise direction. Repeat the previous words then add one more. Forget any and you are eliminated! 10 mins. **The teacher** will choose some groups to hear their discussions in front of the class.

### SPEAKING - DISCUSSION

Allow 10 minutes – As a class.

*Discuss the following...*

The new Pope – The challenges he faces

**The teacher** can moderate the session.

### DISCUSSION

#### Student B questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) What do you think of the Pope's choice of name Francis I?
- 3) Is the Catholic Church big in your country? Explain!
- 4) Do you go to church often? Why? Why not?
- 5) Will the new Pope change the way the Catholic Church is run?
- 6) Do you think the new Pope will be a puppet of those around him?
- 7) Will the new Pope be as popular as the previous Popes?
- 8) Do you think he wanted to be Pope?
- 9) Has this been a difficult lesson for you to understand?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

## GAP FILL: READING

### The new Pope

Today let's talk about the new (1)\_\_\_ who was elected recently at the Vatican. Pope Francis I is the new head of the (2)\_\_\_ Church following the (3)\_\_\_ of the (4)\_\_\_ Pope, Benedict XVI.

Jorge Mario Bergoglio, 76, who was a cardinal from Argentina, was the surprise (5)\_\_\_ of the cardinals who elected him head of 1.2bn Catholics. Many people had expected a much younger Pope to be elected.

The new Pope said he chose the name Francis after the 12-13<sup>th</sup> Century St Francis of Assisi, who represented "(6)\_\_\_ and peace". He is the first Pope from Latin America. He is the 266<sup>th</sup> Pope.

Pope Francis was born on 17 December 1936 in Buenos Aires. He was ordained in 1969 as a Jesuit\*. He studied in Germany and Argentina. He became a (7)\_\_\_ in 1992 and (8)\_\_\_ of Buenos Aires in 1998.

**poverty / Pope / Archbishop / resignation / choice / bishop / former / Catholic**

The new Pope is seen as (1)\_\_\_ on sexual matters but strong on social justice. He prefers to eat alone in small dining places for the (2)\_\_\_ . His passions are classical music and his football club, San Lorenzo de Almagro.

Pope Francis held his first (3)\_\_\_ in the Sistine Chapel, urging the Catholic Church to stick to its roots and to shun temptations. He takes on the (4)\_\_\_ of the Catholic church amid a string of sex abuse (5)\_\_\_, infighting within the churches administration arm and (6)\_\_\_ of financial (7)\_\_\_ . The new Pope has criticised Christine Fernandez, who is the President of Argentina, over her support for liberal measures, such as gay marriage and free (8)\_\_\_ .

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**contraceptives / orthodox / helm / Mass / homeless / wrongdoings / allegations / scandals**

## GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

### The new Pope

Today let's talk about the new Pope who was elected recently (1)\_\_\_ the Vatican. Pope Francis I is the new head of the Catholic Church following the resignation of the former Pope, Benedict XVI.

Jorge Mario Bergoglio, 76, who was a cardinal (2)\_\_\_ Argentina, was the surprise choice of the cardinals who elected him head of 1.2bn Catholics. (3)\_\_\_ people had expected a (4)\_\_\_ younger Pope to be elected.

The new Pope said he chose the name Francis after the 12-13<sup>th</sup> Century St Francis of Assisi, (5)\_\_\_ represented "poverty and peace". He is the first Pope from Latin America. He is the 266<sup>th</sup> Pope.

Pope Francis was born on 17 December 1936 in Buenos Aires. He was ordained in 1969 (6)\_\_\_ a Jesuit\*. He studied in Germany and Argentina. (7)\_\_\_ became a bishop (8)\_\_\_ 1992 and Archbishop of Buenos Aires in 1998.

**many / from / much / who / at / in / he / as**

The new Pope is seen as orthodox on sexual matters (1)\_\_\_ strong on social justice. He prefers to eat alone in small dining places for (2)\_\_\_ homeless. His passions are classical music and (3)\_\_\_ football club, San Lorenzo de Almagro.

Pope Francis held his first Mass in the Sistine Chapel, urging the Catholic Church to stick to (4)\_\_\_ roots and to shun temptations. He takes on the helm of the Catholic church amid a string of sex abuse scandals, infighting within the churches administration arm and allegations of financial wrongdoings. The new Pope has criticised Christine Fernandez, (5)\_\_\_ is the President of Argentina, over (6)\_\_\_ support (7)\_\_\_ liberal measures, such as gay marriage (8)\_\_\_ free contraceptives.

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**his / but / for / who / her / and / the / its**

**GAP FILL: LISTENING**

**The new Pope**

Today let's talk about \_\_\_\_\_ elected recently at the Vatican. Pope Francis I is the new head of the Catholic Church following \_\_\_\_\_ the former Pope, Benedict XVI. Jorge Mario Bergoglio, 76, who was a cardinal from Argentina, was \_\_\_\_\_ of the cardinals who elected him head of 1.2bn Catholics. Many people had expected a much younger Pope to be elected.

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The new Pope is seen as orthodox on sexual matters but \_\_\_\_\_. He prefers to eat alone in small dining places for the homeless. His passions are \_\_\_\_\_ his football club, San Lorenzo de Almagro.

Pope Francis held his first Mass in the Sistine Chapel, urging the Catholic Church to stick to its roots and to shun temptations. \_\_\_\_\_ of the Catholic church amid a string of sex abuse scandals, infighting within the churches administration arm and allegations of \_\_\_\_\_. The new Pope has criticised Christine Fernandez, who is the President of Argentina, over her support for liberal measures, such as gay marriage and \_\_\_\_\_.

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**WRITING/SPELLING**

**WRITING / SPEAKING**

**1) On the board** - *In pairs/small groups* – list three important issues the new Pope has to deal with. Talk about each of them. *5-10 mins.*

**2) Sentence starters** - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- 1) The new Pope \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) Catholics \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) The Catholic church \_\_\_\_\_

**3) Homework** - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: **The new Pope.** Your email can be read out in class.

**GAP FILL READING**

- 1) Pope
- 2) Catholic
- 3) resignation
- 4) former
- 5) choice
- 6) poverty
- 7) bishop
- 8) archbishop

**ANSWERS**

- 1) orthodox
- 2) homeless
- 3) Mass
- 4) helm
- 5) scandals
- 6) allegations
- 7) wrongdoings
- 8) contraceptive  
s

**SPELLING**

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

- 1) Vatican
- 2) Pope Francis I
- 3) cardinal
- 4) choice
- 5) Argentina
- 6) surprise
- 7) poverty
- 8) Latin America
- 9) Buenos Aires
- 10) Jesuit

**SPELLING**

Use the following ratings:

**Pass = 12**

**Good = 15**

**Very good = 18**

**Excellent = 20**

- 11) bishop
- 12) archbishop
- 13) orthodox
- 14) social justice
- 15) homeless
- 16) shun
- 17) temptations
- 18) helm
- 19) infighting
- 20) contraceptive  
s

The new Pope – *25<sup>th</sup> March 2013*