

A structure for adapting online articles into ESL reading lessons

Karl Emmett



Discussion

- How much do you usually remember from an article you've read?
- What do you usually remember?
- When learning another language, how did you engage with reading material?

Category-based online reading lessons

Procedure

- Students read an article selected by the teacher and sort the information in the article into different categories.
- After the time limit is over, the students interview each other on what they learned from the article.
- Students work in groups to create comprehension questions from one of the categories assigned by the teacher.
- Students give swap their list of questions with another group.
- In their groups, students read the article again, answer the questions and compare their answers.
- Students pair with the students from the group they swapped questions with and check their answers.

Vocabulary

How many of these words do you know?

Research the words in your list.

Write down

- the definition
- the type of word
- pronunciation
- two example sentences

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Student A

wages

biographer

upbringing

upstanding

epiphany

Student B

tribunal

flamboyant

abstinence

instill

skolling

Vocabulary

Interview your partner about their words.

Ask them

Student A

wages

biographer

upbringing

upstanding

epiphany

What does _____ mean?

What type of word is it?

How do you pronounce it?

Can you give an example
of it in a sentence?

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Student B

tribunal

flamboyant

abstinence

instill

skolling

Famous Australians



What famous Australian musicians do you know?

actors

writers

athletes

politicians

Based on the vocabulary, who are you going to read about?



Read the article – 2 minutes

What was his name?

What was his job?

When did he die?

How old was he when he died?



What was his name?

His name was Bob Hawke.

What was his job?

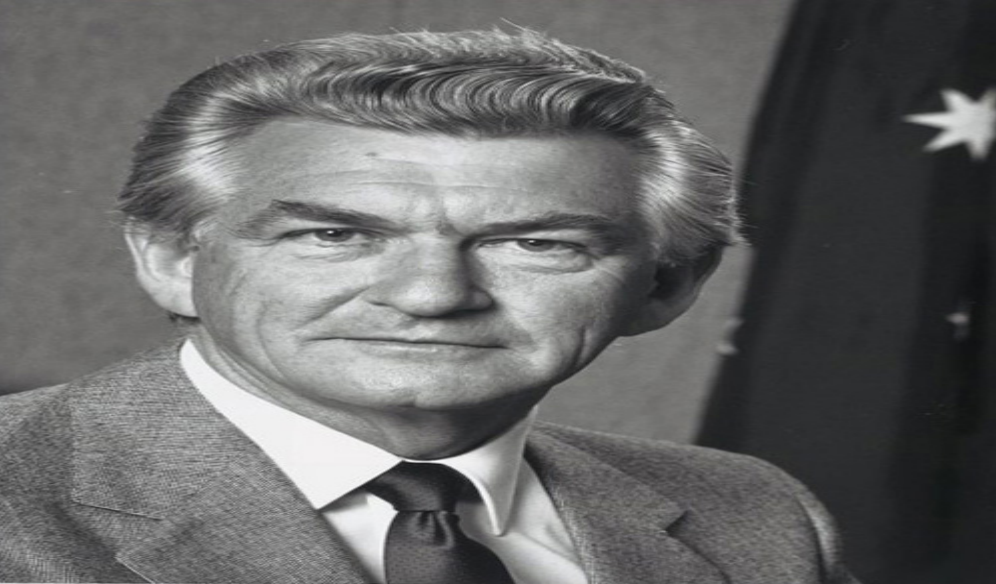
He was Prime Minister of Australia.

When did he die?

He died on the 16th of May 2019

How old was he when he died?

He was eighty-nine years old.



Read the article again and make notes under these headings

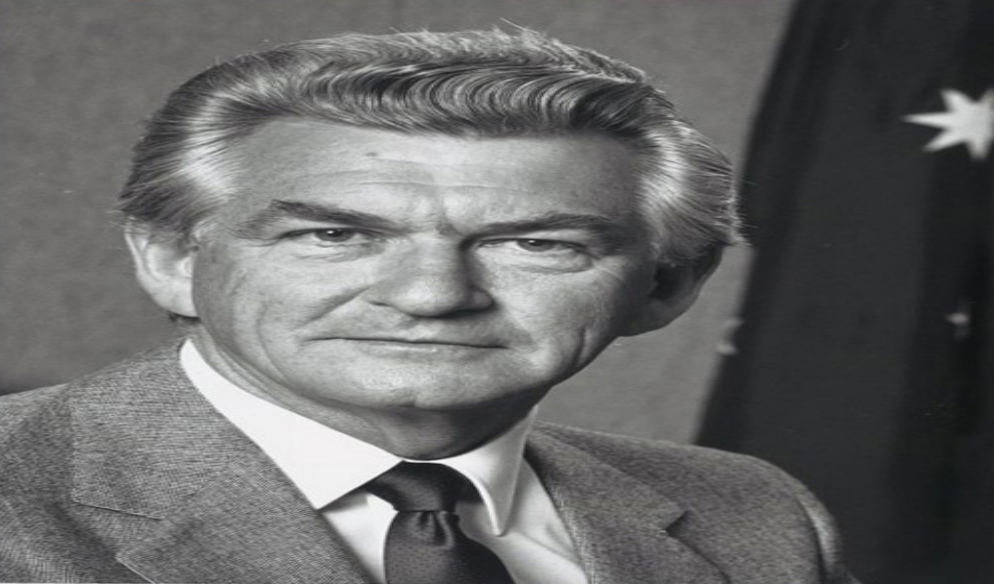
Family and childhood Career with ACTU Accident Political career



Interview your partner

“What did you learn about Bob Hawke’s....”

family and childhood? career with ACTU? accident? political career?



Check your answers

Family and childhood

He was born on December 9, 1929.
He was born in Bordertown in SA.
His Father was a Minister.
His mother was a teacher.
His parents loved him a lot.
At age nine, he mum made him a certificate to avoid alcohol for life.
His older brother died in 1939.
His family moved to Perth.

Career with ACTU

He joined the ACTU in 1958.
He helped all Australia get a pay increase of fifteen shillings.
In 1968, he became President of the ACTU.
He became famous in the 1970s.
He stopped drinking alcohol.

Accident

During his first year of university, He rode his motorbike to the library to catch up on study and had a terrible crash that nearly killed him.
When he recovered, he promised to work very hard for the rest of his life.

Political career

He became the president of the ACTU and was a workaholic.
He won the seat of Wills in 1980 and became Prime Minister in 1982.
He changed the National Anthem.
He increased the minimum wage.

Question formation

Look at the sentence below.

What questions could you ask?

Robert James Lee Hawke was born on December 9, 1929, into a religious family in remote Bordertown in South Australia, 250 kilometres from Adelaide.

[redacted] was born on December 9, 1929, into a religious family in remote Bordertown in South Australia, 250 kilometres from Adelaide.

Who was born on December 9, 1929, into a religious family in remote Bordertown in South Australia, 250 kilometres from Adelaide?

Robert James Lee Hawke was born [redacted] into a religious family in remote Bordertown in South Australia, 250 kilometres from Adelaide.

When was Bob Hawke born?

Robert James Lee Hawke was born on December 9, 1929, into a [redacted] family in remote Bordertown in South Australia, 250 kilometres from Adelaide.

What kind of family was Bob Hawke born into?



Write ten sentences about your topic and post them to padlet

Group A

Group B

Group C

Group D

family and childhood

career with ACTU

Marriages

Political career

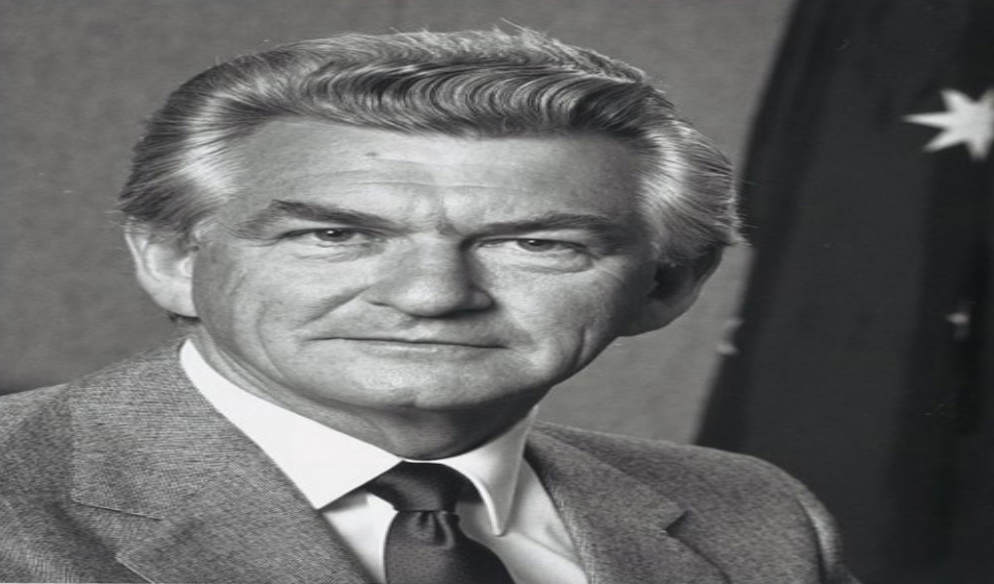
Group A and B padlet

<https://tinyurl.com/y5qszwtr>

Group C and D padlet

<https://tinyurl.com/yxrqy5ax>





Screenshot and delete the answers from your padlet

Group A

Group B

Group C

Group D

family and childhood

career with ACTU

Marriages

Political career

Group A and B padlet

<https://tinyurl.com/y5qszwtr>

Group C and D padlet

<https://tinyurl.com/yxrqy5ax>





Go to the other two group's padlet and answer the questions

Group A

Group B

Group C

Group D

family and childhood

career with ACTU

Marriages

Political career

Group A and B padlet

<https://tinyurl.com/y5qszwtr>

Group C and D padlet

<https://tinyurl.com/yxrqy5ax>





Check your answers with a person from the other group

Group A

Group B

Group C

Group D

family and childhood career with ACTU Marriages Political career

Group A and B padlet

<https://tinyurl.com/y5qszwtr>

Group C and D padlet

<https://tinyurl.com/yxrqy5ax>



Category-based online reading discussion

- What advantages do you think category-based reading has over other reading activities?
- What articles do you know that would suit this approach?
- What additional steps would you add to the lesson format?