

Name:

Klasse:

Datum:

Pre-reading tasks

Match the verbs on the left with the correct definition on the right.

1. to vaccinate	a. to give or provide sth.
2. to obey	b. to admit as being fact
3. to invade	c. to give an injection that protects against a disease
4. to supply sth.	d. to enter with an army into another country
5. to acknowledge sth.	e. to pause briefly, e.g. because of uncertainty
6. to hesitate	f. to do what you are told to do

- e) It was too dangerous for Johnson to visit Kyiv in war time, so he had an online meeting with President Zelensky.
- f) President Zelensky was pleased with the UK’s response and praised Johnson for his help.
- g) The UK has taken in more refugees than Germany and Poland.
- h) The Ukrainians now want to name a street in Kyiv after Boris Johnson as a gesture of gratitude for his generous help.

M1 UK stands with Ukraine

Boris Johnson has found a new role in leading global support for Ukraine following Britain’s isolation following Brexit and his problems over “Partygate”.

Only a few weeks before Ukraine was attacked by Russia, Boris Johnson was facing many problems at home. “Partygate” was a scandal that involved him and his government breaking lockdown-laws by having parties at Downing Street despite the fact that the government itself had outlawed social gatherings at the time. The British public, who largely obeyed the lockdown rules and made many sacrifices, have not forgiven him for this. But then other serious events happened that overshadowed the Partygate issues.

When Russia invaded Ukraine, Johnson could step up to what he himself calls “leading the world” in helping Ukraine to defend itself. It was also a moment for Johnson to find a new place for Britain on the international stage after driving his country into isolation following Brexit by uniting with Britain’s NATO partners and other European leaders as allies¹ again. The UK made a comeback as a leader and fighter for freedom and democracy, and acted quicker than other EU countries like Germany, which had been hesitant in offering help.

In April, Johnson announced the supply £100m of weapons for the Ukraine’s defence, e.g. Starstreak anti-aircraft missiles and 800 anti-tank missiles. A day later, Johnson secretly visited the Ukraine’s president Volodymyr Zelensky in Kyiv to show his solidarity with Ukraine. He was the first Western national leader to visit the country since the invasion, and he made it clear in his talks that the UK was firmly on Ukraine’s side and would also support the country in the long run. Shortly afterwards, it was announced



© LINGTREN.COM/Shutterstock.com

While-reading tasks

1. Read M1 and decide whether these statements are true or false. Correct the false ones with information from the text.

- a) Boris Johnson was unpopular because he accused other people of having lockdown parties.
- b) The war in Ukraine has overshadowed the Partygate events.
- c) Helping and supporting Ukraine brought the UK closer to other international allies and former EU partners after Brexit.
- d) Germany was quicker to act than the UK in supplying Ukraine with weapons.

“The UK stands with Ukraine”

Boris Johnson’s Ukraine Politics

Arbeitsblatt

Englisch
Klasse 9–12/13

Name:

Klasse:

Datum:

that the UK would support the Ukraine with another 120 armoured vehicles² and anti-ship missile³ systems, and would also provide further economic support. Mr Zelensky gratefully acknowledged the UK’s leading role in helping to defend Ukraine, and praised the UK for standing by Ukraine. At the same time, he demanded other Western countries put more pressure on Russia by intensifying sanctions.

weapon supplies that they even want to name a street after him! The future Boris-Johnson-street is currently still named after Russian poet Wladimir Majakowski and can be found in Fontanka, a smallish place on the outskirts of Odessa.

However, the UK’s response in taking in refugees from Ukraine was much slower than that of the EU countries. At first, Ukrainian refugees needed a family member in the UK to obtain a family visa. After criticism, the British government introduced a scheme called “Homes for Ukraine” which allows people in the UK to offer a rent-free place for a Ukrainian person or family, even if for those don’t have relatives in the UK. Participants, however, have complained that the system is too complicated. In mid-May, about 100,000 visas had been issued, which is an insignificant number compared to the almost 3.5 million Ukrainian refugees that Poland alone has taken in.

¹Verbündete, ²gepanzertes Fahrzeug, ³Rakete, ⁴Strafverfolgung

In a speech to the Ukrainian parliament in May, Johnson praised Ukraine’s patriotism, courage and energy. He called the brave fight against Russia “Ukraine’s finest hour”, and promised the country that it will be free. Again, he also promised £300m of extra military aid including electronic warfare equipment, and a counter-battery radar system.



© Allexandar/Shutterstock.com

Some people say that Johnson desperately needed better headlines to distract from the Partygate scandal, his prosecution⁴ for breaking COVID lockdown rules by having parties and lying about them to the British parliament and the public. Many people, even from his own Conservative party, wanted him to step down as prime minister. But after the war in Ukraine started, more politicians stood by Johnson, as they believed it would be unwise to change a leader in a time of war. The mood in the population also changed from criticism to support of the government.

So Johnson used his chance to shine in times of crisis as the defender of Ukraine’s freedom. And he got a lot of praise from Ukraine for his efforts. People in Ukraine are so grateful to Johnson for the generous

Further activities

1. Discuss whether you agree with the following statement: In times of crisis, the public is more likely to stand behind its own government. Give reasons and examples to support your answers.
2. a) Research the responses of different countries to the war in Ukraine. Present to your class how the government and the public of these countries reacted and compare them to the UK’s response.
 - Germany
 - USA
 - Finland
 - Poland
 - France
 - Chinab) Look at this survey of the British public’s view of the global response to the Ukrainian crisis and try to explain these findings by using the information from your own research:
<https://ukandeu.ac.uk/new-polling-the-british-publics-view-of-the-global-response-to-the-ukraine-crisis/>

Zum Thema

Nach seinem Partygate-Skandal war der britische Premierminister beim eigenen Volk in Ungnade gefallen, doch Rücktrittsforderungen wurden von den Ereignissen des Ukraine-Kriegs überschattet. Hier zeigte Johnson eine schnelle und entschlossene Unterstützung der Ukraine durch großzügige Waffenlieferungen, Besuche in Kiew und eine Rhetorik der Solidarität. Nach der aus dem Brexit resultierenden Isolation hat GB nun wieder die Chance, sich international zu engagieren und als führende Nation mit den NATO-Partnern im Kampf für Freiheit und Demokratie einzutreten.

Lernziele/Kompetenzen

Die Schüler und Schülerinnen (SuS) starten mit einer Vokabelentlastungsaufgabe, um wichtige Verben, die im Text vorkommen, noch mal zu aktivieren und das Verständnis zu sichern.

Die SuS lesen M1 und überprüfen ihr Leseverstehen durch True or False-Questions zum Text. Sie suchen gezielt nach den richtigen Informationen im Text, um falsche Statements zu korrigieren.

Die SuS diskutieren weiterführend über Gründe, warum die Bevölkerung in Krisenzeiten eher zu ihrer Regierung steht (oder warum nicht). Sie führen Beispiele an, um ihre Argumentation zu stützen. Sie recherchieren selbständig über die Antworten anderer Länder auf den Krieg und sind in der Lage, diese mit GB zu vergleichen. Weiterführend können sie aufbauend auf diesem Wissen versuchen, Umfrageergebnisse erklären.

Didaktische und methodische Hinweise / Differenzierungshinweise

Die Leseverstehensaufgaben können wahlweise alleine oder in Partnerarbeit, schriftlich oder mündlich durchgeführt werden. Die Diskussions- und Rechercheaufgaben aus den weiterführenden Aufgaben können wahlweise auch schriftlich verfasst werden und/oder in Gruppenarbeit bearbeitet werden.

Lösungshinweise

Pre-reading

1c, 2f, 3d, 4a, 5b, 6e

1

- a) False: He was accused of having lockdown parties in Downing Street despite such gatherings being forbidden
- b) True.
- c) True.
- d) False: Johnson was much quicker to act, promise and deliver weapons than the German Chancellor, Olaf Scholz.
- e) False: He went to meet him in Kyiv in April.
- f) True.
- g) False: They have taken a much smaller number of Ukrainian refugees.
- h) False: They do want to name a street after him, but it is not in Kyiv but in the outskirts of Odessa.