

ENGLISH CORNER MENU

Learning English Through Discussion

Leadership

Last week, Australia got a new Prime Minister. This was a shock for many people. This week's topic is about leadership and the qualities of a leader.

Hot topics

1. The Prime Minister of Australia, Kevin Rudd was voted out by his political party. Julian Gillard, the Deputy Prime minister was voted in. It is the first time Australia has had a female Prime Minister. Some students were concerned there might be riots or street marches. There weren't. What would happen in your country if your Prime Minister/President was suddenly changed?

2. Listening Activity: Why was Kevin Rudd removed as Prime minister? Listen to the teacher discuss the following 3 points in 2 minutes. Take notes and see if you can answer the question.

- asylum seeker policy,
- the ETS (Emission Trading Scheme)p
- and the mining tax

3. Who is your country's leader and how would you describe his/her leadership style?

- wise
- tough
- corrupt
- strong
- honest
- gentle
- arrogant

3. Have you ever been a leader? In your school, university, workplace, sports team, church? What are some of the pressures of being a leader? For example: making decisions, planning, communicating to others. Discuss your experiences.

4. Who do you think is a good leader? What type of person are they?

- just
- honest
- listens to others
- good decision-makers
- other...

5. There have been many great leaders in history – Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Mother Theresa, Nelson Mandela, Jesus. In the bible there is a story about some followers of Jesus who were arguing over who was the greatest leader.

An Argument about Greatness (Luke 22:24-27)

Break into pairs, one person reads **Narrator** and the other **Jesus**.

Narrator: The disciples of Jesus got into an argument about which one of them was the greatest. So Jesus said:

Jesus: Foreign leaders order their people around, and powerful rulers call themselves everyone's friends. But don't be like them. The most important one of you, should be like the least important, and your leader should be like a servant. Let the senior among you become like the junior; let the leader act the part of the servant. "Who would you rather be: the one who eats the dinner or the one who serves the dinner? You would rather eat and be served, right? But I have taken my place among you as a servant. I have come here to serve you.

Narrator: Jesus shocked them by saying he is the servant leader.

6. This is a very different kind of leadership – servant leadership. Can you give any examples of some servant leaders you know? What do they do? How are they servants?

Vocabulary

Wise: able to apply their knowledge. Make good decisions

Tough: strong, not sensitive

Corrupt no honest, takes bribes

Strong: not weak. Gives their opinion forcefully

Honest: truthful. Tries to do the right thing

Gentle: not forceful, sensitive

Just: thinks of fairness, acts for all people equally.

Arrogant: proud, boastful, thinks they are better than others.

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