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## THE ENGLISH LESSON PLAN “CORRUPTION AROUND THE WORLD AND ITS IMPACT ON SOCIETY”

*This work presents a scenario of the English lesson dealing with the discussion of one of the greatest problems humanity currently faces (corruption) and comprises a series of language activities for students at the C1 English level. The suggested activities envisage speaking, listening and reading exercises, encourage students to discuss the problem of corruption around the world and its impact on the contemporary society, and organise functional usage and efficient acquisition of language material.*

**Key words:** lesson plan; the English language; C1 level; corruption; nepotism; bribe; money laundering; impunity; cronyism; fraud; society.

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### ПРАКТИЧНЕ ЗАНЯТТЯ З АНГЛІЙСЬКОЇ МОВИ НА ТЕМУ «КОРУПЦІЯ У СВІТІ ТА ЇЇ ВПЛИВ НА СУСПІЛЬСТВО»

*Ця методична розробка є сценарієм практичного заняття з англійської мови, присвяченого обговоренню однієї з найактуальніших проблем людства – корупції, і містить комплекс завдань, орієнтованих на студентів, які досягли рівня C1 володіння англійською мовою. Наведені завдання та запропоновані форми роботи, які передбачають практику в говорінні, аудіюванні та читанні, заохочують студентів до спілкування з проблеми корупції у світі та її впливу на сучасне суспільство та організують активне тренування і засвоєння мовного та мовленнєвого матеріалу.*

**Ключові слова:** практичне заняття; англійська мова; рівень C1; корупція; непотизм; хабар; відмивання грошей; безкарність; кронізм; шахрайство; суспільство.

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### ПРАКТИЧЕСКОЕ ЗАНЯТИЕ ПО АНГЛИЙСКОМУ ЯЗЫКУ НА ТЕМУ «КОРУПЦИЯ В МИРЕ И ЕЕ ВЛИЯНИЕ НА ОБЩЕСТВО»

*Данная методическая разработка является сценарием практического занятия по английскому языку, посвященного обсуждению одной из наиболее актуальных проблем человечества – коррупции, и содержит комплекс упражнений и заданий, рассчитанных на студентов, достигших уровня C1 владения английским языком. Предложенные виды и формы деятельности направлены*

*на практику в говорении, аудировании и чтении, вовлекают студентов в общение по проблеме коррупции в мире и ее влиянии на современное общество, способствуют активному употреблению и эффективному усвоению языкового и речевого материала.*

**Ключевые слова:** практическое занятие; английский язык; уровень C1; коррупция; непотизм; взятка; отмывание денег; безнаказанность; кронизм; мошенничество; общество.

**Corruption is one of the serious global issues. It impacts all the countries in the world. It leads to poverty and death. It impedes economic growth and jeopardizes justice. It destroys our society and imperils the rule of law. It weakens the institutions. Corruption eats into our society. That is why this topic is important, enables us to get interested in it and concerns students of any major.**

### Theme: CORRUPTION AROUND THE WORLD AND ITS IMPACT ON SOCIETY

**Level:** C1.

**Objectives:** to improve students' skills in speaking, reading and listening comprehension; to practice thematic vocabulary and grammar.

**Materials to be used:** article “Dubai real estate: a money launderer's paradise” (retrieved from <https://voices.transparency.org/dubai-real-estate-a-money-launderers-paradise-65e319d9783a>); video “What is the cost of corruption?” (retrieved from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JUjGUp2I0k>); video “How Danske bank's Estonia branch became a pipeline for dirty money” (retrieved from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XYb5UUopLrA>).

**1. “Warm-up”:** a discussion of an important issue between the teacher and students

**T:** Complete the words with missing letters, pronounce them correctly and say what these words have in common:

br\_bery; n\_potism; extort\_on; patr\_nage; cron\_ism; emb\_zzlement.

**T:** Give the definitions of the words:

bribery; nepotism; extortion; patronage; cronyism; embezzlement.

**T:** *I am going to give six situations. Match each situation (1-6) with the words (a-f) from the list:*

a) bribery; b) nepotism; c) extortion; d) patronage; e) cronyism; f) embezzlement.

1. A governor appointing his inexperienced friend to an important staff position.
2. The coach chooses his own kid to be the quarterback even if his kid is not good at football.
3. The manager pockets thousands of dollars from the charity.
4. A manager at the University who has overall responsibility for the procurement of a service which is currently subject to re-tender is approached by the current supplier and offered (at the expense of the company) a day trip to London, including lunch in Harrods and a trip on the London Eye.
5. William, the corporate president, is having an affair with Gavin's secretary. Gavin, a salesperson at XYZ Marketing Corp., places a note in William's car, telling him that he will tell William's wife about the affair unless he promotes Gavin to District Supervisor within 2 weeks.
6. Democrat William Clinton appointed Republican William Cohen secretary of defense to lessen opposition from the Republican Congress.

### 2. Watching video 1

**T:** *Watch the video "What is the cost of corruption?" and be prepared to answer these questions:*

1. How do we define the level of corruption in the world?
2. Is corruption just a moral issue? How much does it cost countries a year? Which countries are regarded as less corrupt or more corrupt? What does it depend on?
3. Do you think a lot of people bribe others? Which areas? What are other types of corruption mentioned?
4. What are the sources of disclosing information about corruption? What are the revelations?
5. Why is corruption so bad? What are the consequences?
6. What is the role of such institutions as the IMF and the World Bank?

### 3. Discussing video 1

**T:** *Give your answers.*

### 4. Pre-reading activities

**T:** *Discuss these questions:*

1. What is your perception of the United Arab Emirates? Have you ever been there?
2. What is the standard of living in the UAE?
3. Do you think there is corruption there? Is it serious?

### 5. Reading comprehension. Understanding the main points

**T:** *Read the article "Dubai real estate: a money launderer's paradise" and say whether these statements are true (T) or false (F):*

1. Over the past months, the UK government has been taking important steps to keep suspicious foreign wealth out of the London property market and clamp down on anonymous company ownership in the overseas territories.
2. In reality, the United Arab Emirates' anti-money laundering law requires firms to conduct due diligence on their customers and verify who is actually behind the money or company buying property there.
3. The first step should be to establish a closed-data register of beneficial owners of companies and property.
4. Corruption is all too often a cross-border crime, and it takes single action to close the avenues through which the corrupt can flee justice, launder their stolen money and live the high-life with impunity.
5. Dubai is also a well-known centre for the centuries-old honour-based *hawala* system for moving money. The problem is that these transactions are almost impossible to trace or monitor for suspicious activity.

#### Dubai real estate: a money launderer's paradise

A) With its luxury hotels, skyscrapers and man-made islands, Dubai projects an image to the world of an ultra-modern luxury paradise. Behind the shimmering cityscape lies one of the most secretive – and cash-friendly – money-laundering hubs in the world.

Over the past months, the UK government has been taking important steps to keep suspicious foreign wealth out of the London property market and clamp down on anonymous company ownership in the overseas territories. This will slowly make it more difficult for the world's corrupt politicians and organized crime groups to launder their dirty billions through the combination of offshore tax haven and luxury real estate sector that exist within the British system.

B) But even as one door begins to close, another remains wide open. A new investigative report released this week by the Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP) shows that the Emirate of Dubai offers criminals and the corrupt an easy alternative for laundering their ill-gotten assets – particularly through high-end real estate.

According to the report, apartments in Dubai worth millions of pounds can be bought in exchange for bags of cash, with startlingly few questions asked. A few days after the purchase is complete, the transaction can be cancelled and the money electronically refunded to a bank account

chosen by the buyer. “This place is a money-laundering paradise,” one business expert told reporters.

C) On paper, the United Arab Emirates’ anti-money laundering law requires firms to conduct due diligence on their customers and verify who is actually behind the money or company buying property there. In reality, however, individuals under international sanctions, including organized crime figures from Russia and Central Asia, have managed to stash their money in Dubai’s thriving property sector. Once through the door, these criminals are encouraged to make themselves at home: a property investment of just US\$275,000 buys a Dubai residency visa that can be extended to family members.

D) Dubai is also a well-known centre for the centuries-old honour-based *hawala* system for moving money, in which a cash payment to a representative in one place is matched by a payment from a representative in another. The problem is that these transactions are almost impossible to trace or monitor for suspicious activity.

E) Corruption is all too often a cross-border crime, and it takes concerted international action to close the avenues through which the corrupt can flee justice, launder their stolen money and live the high-life with impunity. If the Emirates really want to establish their anti-corruption credentials among their peers, however, they can start by taking a tougher stance against the abuse of their property and financial sectors.

F) The first step should be to establish an open-data register of beneficial owners of companies and property. This would make it easier to enforce existing anti-money laundering laws and ban financial institutions, lawyers, accountants, real estate agents and trusts and corporate service providers from processing transactions if the beneficial owner of their customer cannot be identified. It would also mean they can take appropriate steps if the beneficial owner is on a sanctions list or is a politically exposed person.

G) In recent months, alongside the UK, we’ve seen countries with a fraction of Dubai’s per-capita wealth, like Afghanistan, Ghana and Nigeria commit to taking a similar step. The UAE already has some of the most advanced e-government services in the world, and access to the best information and communications technologies on the planet. Establishing a beneficial ownership register would be child’s play for the Emirate.

The question is, do its leaders have the political will?

## 6. Learning and practicing vocabulary

### Definitions

**T:** Match these words (1-10) from the article with their meanings (a-j):

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 1. corrupt     | a) escape   |
| 2. hub         | b) relating to rights to the use or benefit of property     |
| 3. asset       | c) prove that something is true                             |
| 4. startlingly | d) position   |
| 5. shimmering  | e) something valuable belonging to a person or organization |
| 6. stash       | f) morally bad  |
| 7. flee        | g) reflecting a gentle light that seems to move slightly    |
| 8. verify      | h) a center of activity                                     |
| 9. stance      | i) hide something secretly                                  |
| 10. beneficial | j) in a way that is surprising and often slightly worrying  |

**T:** Find words and expressions in the article which fit these meanings:

- 1) planned or done together for a shared purpose (paragraph E)
- 2) to stop or limit an activity or the people doing it (paragraph A)
- 3) the detailed examination of a company and its financial records (paragraph C)
- 4) of very good quality and usually expensive (paragraph B)
- 5) to cause a law or rule to be obeyed (paragraph F)
- 6) freedom from punishment (paragraph E)
- 7) feeling doubt or a lack of trust (paragraph D)
- 8) a place where people pay less tax than they would pay if they lived in their own country (paragraph A)
- 9) 9 dishonestly obtained (paragraph B)
- 10) 10 to move money that has been obtained illegally through banks and other businesses to make it seem to have been obtained legally (paragraph E)

### Word partnerships

**T:** Match these words to make adjective-noun partnerships from the article:

- |               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1. ill-gotten | a) politicians |
| 2. due        | b) real estate |
| 3. corrupt    | c) tax haven   |
| 4. high-end   | d) assets      |
| 5. offshore   | e) crime       |
| 6. organized  | f) diligence   |

### Text completion

**T:** Complete the text with the words and expressions without using the article.

With its luxury hotels, skyscrapers and man-made islands, Dubai projects an image to the world of an ultra-modern luxury paradise. Behind the 1) \_\_\_\_\_ cityscape lies one of the most secretive – and cash-friendly – money-laundering 2) \_\_\_\_\_ in the world.

Over the past months, the UK government has been taking important steps to keep suspicious foreign wealth out of the London property market and 3) \_\_\_\_\_ down on anonymous company ownership in the overseas territories. This will slowly make it more difficult for the world's corrupt politicians and organised crime groups to 4) \_\_\_\_\_ their dirty billions through the combination of offshore tax 5) \_\_\_\_\_ and luxury real estate sector that exist within the British system.

But even as one door begins to close, another remains wide open. A new investigative report released this week by the Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP) shows that the Emirate of Dubai offers criminals and the corrupt an easy alternative for laundering their 6) \_\_\_\_\_ assets – particularly through 7) \_\_\_\_\_ real estate.

On paper, the United Arab Emirates' anti-money laundering law requires firms to conduct 8) \_\_\_\_\_ diligence on their customers and verify who is actually behind the money or company buying property there. In reality, however, individuals under international sanctions, including 9) \_\_\_\_\_ crime figures from Russia and Central Asia, have managed to 10) \_\_\_\_\_ their money in Dubai's thriving property sector. Once through the door, these criminals are encouraged to make themselves at home: a property investment of just US\$275,000 buys a Dubai residency visa that can be extended to family members.

Dubai is also a well-known centre for the centuries-old honour-based *hawala* system for moving money, in which a cash payment to a representative in one place is matched by a payment from a representative in another. The problem is that these transactions are almost impossible to trace or monitor for 11) \_\_\_\_\_ activity.

Corruption is all too often a cross-border crime, and it takes 12) \_\_\_\_\_ international action to close the avenues through which the corrupt can 13) \_\_\_\_\_ justice, launder their stolen money and live the high-life with 14) \_\_\_\_\_. If the Emirates really want to establish their anti-corruption credentials among their peers, however, they can start by taking a tougher 15) \_\_\_\_\_ against the 16) \_\_\_\_\_ of their property and financial sectors.

The first step should be to establish an open-data register of beneficial owners of companies and property. This would make it easier to 17) \_\_\_\_\_ existing anti-money 18) \_\_\_\_\_ laws and 19) \_\_\_\_\_ financial institutions, lawyers, accountants, real estate agents and trusts and corporate service providers from processing transactions if the 20) \_\_\_\_\_ owner of

their customer cannot be identified. It would also mean they can take appropriate steps if the beneficial owner is on a sanctions list or is a politically exposed person.

## 7. Watching video 2

**T:** Watch the video “How Danske Bank’s Estonia branch became a pipeline for dirty money”. Guess the meanings of the words and expressions:

pipeline; assets; dubious; portfolio; whistleblowing; disclosure; wind up.

## 8. Discussing video 2

**T:** Which corruption scandal was Danske Bank involved? Which role did it play? What was the corruption scheme? How was it disclosed?

## 9. Summary

**T:** As you can see, there are no corrupt-free countries. All countries are involved. Corruption penetrates our life. It has no borders. Can we say that corruption is a way of life? Do you agree? Give your answers.

**T:** Let's sum up what we have learned about corruption.

Complete these statements:

1. Corruption isn't just a moral ... .
2. It's costing the global economy, ... .
3. Size doesn't guarantee ... .
4. Do you have a little ...?
5. The Turkish have a saying – ‘A fish ...’.
6. The types of corruption include ... .
7. Corruption can cost countries ... .
8. Corruption usually hurts a country's ... .
9. Corruption can also discourage people ... .
10. Corruption costs ... .
11. Corruption costs people ... .

**T:** Corruption is something we have to fight. But if we want to change something, and I quote Mahatma Gandhi “Be the change that you wish to see the world.”

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