

Boris Johnson's legacy

by Paul Jenkinson



© RAABE 2023

© Nigel/Adobe Stock

Diese Unterrichtseinheit bietet einen kompakten Überblick über Boris Johnsons Amtszeit als Premierminister, seinen Aufstieg und Fall. Welche Folgen hat seine Regierungszeit auf die britische Politik und das Vertrauen der Bevölkerung in Politiker/-innen? Die Schülerinnen und Schüler setzen sich zunächst anhand eines Videos sowie zweier Artikel aus *The Guardian* mit Boris Johnsons seiner Politik und Wahrnehmung in der Öffentlichkeit auseinander. Abschließend erhalten die Lernenden einen kurzen Einblick in die Amtszeit der Nachfolgerin Johnsons, Premierministerin Liz Truss.

Boris Johnson's legacy

by Paul Jenkinson

Facts

1

Notes on the material

1

Topic 1: The rise and fall of Boris Johnson

3

Topic 2: Johnson's baleful legacy

8

Topic 3: The lessons from Johnson's tenure

14

Topic 4: Johnson's successor – Liz Truss

21

Competences and skills:

In this unit, students' **viewing** and **listening comprehension** skills are trained when working with two videos. They also improve their **reading** and **analysing competences** by working with two articles from *The Guardian*. Furthermore, students produce written texts (summaries, comments) and, thus, enhance their **writing skills**. By holding short presentations and engaging in discussions, students also improve their **speaking skills**.

Overview:

List of abbreviations:

C Comment**D** Discussion/debate**GF** Gap filling**MC** Multiple choice**PR** Presentation**R** Research**S** Summary**T** Working with the text**VI** Working with the video

Topic	Material	Methods/skills
1: The rise and fall of Boris Johnson	M1	GF, MC, S, VI
2: Johnson's baleful legacy	M2–M3	C, PR, R, T
3: The lessons from Johnson's tenure	M4–M5	C, PR, R, T
4: Johnson's successor – Liz Truss	M6	D, MC, VI

Topic 1: The rise and fall of Boris Johnson

Worksheet – The rise and fall of Boris Johnson

M1

Video: *Boris Johnson Resigns: A Look Back at His Political Career*
<https://raabe.click/Johnson-rise-fall> [last access: 08/11/2022]



Part 1: Boris Johnson's rise (00:00–03:50)

1. Watch the video from 0:00 to 03:50. While watching, tick (✓) whether the statements are true or false.



Statements	True	False
Johnson's downfall was linked to his behaviour.		
His career began in the media.		
He was not well liked within his own party.		
He was already evading questions in interviews early in his career.		
Johnson came to people's attention by being on television.		
His main attribute was being charismatic and amusing.		
In 2001, he became Mayor of London.		
His success as Mayor was in fighting racism.		
One major publicity stunt ended embarrassingly for him.		
Johnson did not support his Prime Minister regarding Brexit.		
He left the leadership of the Brexit campaign to others.		
The general election was won with only a small majority.		
He wanted a new approach to politics.		

2. Provide a analytical summary of Johnson's rise to Prime Minister doing the following steps:
- Make notes from your answers to the previous exercise.
 - Watch the video section (0:00–3:50) again and make additional relevant notes.
 - Write your summary using about 250 words.



without which there is no avenue to sustained prosperity. Russia must know that unequivocal support for Ukraine is not down to Johnson alone, but adopted by all parties, as is our commitment to Nato. This agenda can be shared across the opposition parties, liberating the tactical voting that is such a necessity in a first-past-the-post system. The Johnson curse has at last been lifted. Britain must strike out anew. (914 words)

Observer editorial: The Observer view on Boris Johnson's baleful legacy. In: The Guardian. 10.07.2022. Found at: <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2022/jul/10/observer-view-on-boris-johnson-baleful-legacy> [last access: 08/11/2022]

Annotations

1 **baleful**: here: harmful – 2 **overweening**: egoistical – 3 **buffoonish**: acting the fool – 4 **hubris**: arrogance – 5 **excoriating**: here: damaging – 6 **(to) ameliorate**: (to) rectify – 7 **in thrall to**: influenced by

M3 Worksheet – The Observer view on Boris Johnson's baleful legacy

Pre-reading activities

1. Briefly, express your views in class concerning the following:
 - a) Should politicians be answerable in some way for lying to the public or misleading them?
 - b) Once found to have conducted themselves dishonestly, should politicians be automatically expelled from their party and banned from having a political future?
2. Divide into small groups. Research one of the following issues and present your findings to the class.
 - Partygate
 - Johnson's promises regarding the leave referendum
 - The Sue Gray report
 - The Northern Ireland protocol
 - Levelling up

Reading comprehension

3. Identify the author's criticism of Johnson's approach to Brexit, the Conservative manifesto and the fallout of it.

Working with the text

4. Read the first three paragraphs and comment upon Boris Johnson's character as put forward by the author.
5. State what the author advocates and comment upon it.

Sie wollen mehr für Ihr Fach?

Bekommen Sie: Ganz einfach zum Download im RAABE Webshop.



Über 5.000 Unterrichtseinheiten
sofort zum Download verfügbar



Webinare und Videos
für Ihre fachliche und
persönliche Weiterbildung



Attraktive Vergünstigungen
für Referendar:innen mit
bis zu 15% Rabatt



Käuferschutz
mit Trusted Shops



Jetzt entdecken:
www.raabe.de