

Tuesday English News Report: Broadcast Date: 22nd Oct, 2019**Ethiopian leader Abiy Ahmed wins Nobel Peace Prize**

The Prime Minister of Ethiopia Abiy Ahmed has won the Nobel Peace Prize. The Nobel committee said the 43-year-old leader won the **prestigious** accolade because of "his efforts to achieve peace and international cooperation, and in particular, for his decisive **initiative** to resolve the border conflict with neighboring Eritrea".

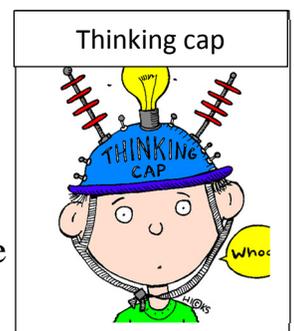
Since Mr Ahmed became Ethiopian Prime Minister in April 2018, he **has focused** his efforts on **repairing** relations with Eritrea. In addition, he played a **pivotal** role in **mediating** in a political crisis between Sudan and South Sudan. The UN Secretary-General said Mr Ahmed, "has set a wonderful example for others in and beyond Africa looking to overcome resistance from the past and put people first".

Mr Ahmed is being viewed as a *transformative leader* bringing hope to his region. In June 2018, he agreed to fully **implement** a peace treaty signed with Eritrea in 2000, which brought peace between the two countries after two decades of conflict. Ethiopia and Eritrea are two of the world's poorest countries but they spent hundreds of millions of dollars on the war. The conflict killed tens of thousands of people and further **impoverished** many more. The UN said Mr Ahmed "has set a wonderful example for others in and beyond Africa looking to overcome **resistance** from the past and put people first." It added: "His vision helped Ethiopia and Eritrea achieve a historic **reconciliation**".

Sources: sky.com / theeastaffrican.co.ke / news.un.org / <https://breakingnewsenglish.com>

Questions to think about:

- What is your opinion of the Nobel Peace Prize?
- Do you think the leader of Ethiopia should have received it? Do you think anyone else should have won it rather than Abiy Ahmed?
- Do you know of any other leaders who have received the Nobel Peace Prize? Do you think he/she should have received the Nobel Peace Prize?
- What do you think is meant by being a 'transformative leader'? Which other parts of the world need a 'transformative leader'? Is there anyone you know of who you would describe as *transformative*? How were, or how are they *transformative*? What would you most like to see changed in our world, and why? Has anyone transformed your world? If yes, how?
- Why do you think we keep having wars and areas of conflict? Which other areas of conflict or war do you know of currently taking place in the world? What is the cost of war?



1. I: Vocabulary and understanding meaning

Match the meaning and/or synonym to the words which have been highlighted in bold in the article.

Column A: Word from text	Letter	Column B: Meaning or synonym
1. prestigious (adj)	E	A: intervene in a dispute/conflict in order to bring about an agreement or solution, negotiate
2. initiative (n)	D	B: concentrate
3. focus (v)	B	C: crucial / very important
4. repair (v)	H	D: the ability to start something / to take charge of something yourself without waiting for someone else to push you
5. pivotal (adj)	C	E: inspiring respect and admiration; having high status
6. implement (v)	J	F: the refusal to accept or comply (agree) with something
7. mediate (v)	A	G: to be made poor
8. impoverished (adj)	G	H: to fix something, a problem
9. resistance (n)	F	I: to restore friendly relations
10. reconciliation (n)	I	J: to put into practice or action

II: Usage of vocabulary: Fill in the missing words of the sentences below using the vocabulary (1-10) from column A. The words in brackets or italics may help you. Make sure your answers are grammatically correct.

1. Despite coming from an (a) **impoverished** background whose parents *sometimes did not have even enough food to feed them all*, the boy, even from a young age used his (b) **initiative** to make sure he did not remain poor. *He would think of ways in which he could make money, not relying on anyone else's help*. When he was eventually able to go to school, he made sure he (c) **focused**, in other words, *concentrated on* his studies. He knew getting a good education was (d) **pivotal**, in fact, *crucial* if he was going to succeed in life. He did so well at school that he was able to go to a (e) **prestigious** and *very well-known, elite* university.

2. For many years it seemed there appeared to be a conflict between my grandfather and my father. Even when my father approached my grandfather to try and reach a (a) **reconciliation**, and *establish good relations*, in other words, try and (b) **repair** (*fix*) their differences, he met with (c) **resistance**. *My grandfather was so stubborn, he would not change his mind*. At one point, I even tried to (d) **mediate** and *help them resolve their differences*, but I had no success. I was obviously not a very good *negotiator*.

3. **Implementing** or *bringing* about change is one of the most difficult things to do.