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Level 1

'Tom and Jerry' cartoon gets racism warning

4th October, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1410/141004-tom-and-jerry-1.html>

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1410/141004-tom-and-jerry-1.html>

Amazon.com is warning customers that some Tom and Jerry shows are racist. Amazon has put a warning on one series of the show. It says that some of the shows have "ethnic and racial prejudices" that used to be common in the USA. Amazon said this was wrong 70 years ago, and is still wrong today. People say the black maid in the cartoon is racist. Some cartoons were changed in the 1960s because of racism.

The cartoonists William Hanna and Joseph Barbera made Tom and Jerry in 1940. They made 114 Tom and Jerry cartoons from 1940 to 1957. The cartoons won seven Oscars. They are one of the most popular cartoons in history. Children watch them on TV every day. An animation expert said the quality of the early Tom and Jerry cartoons was "superb". Many people said it was "madness" that Amazon put a warning on the cartoons.

Sources: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/oct/1/amazon-adds-racism-disclaimer-to-tom-and-jerry-car/#ixzz3ExVKKSwh>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-29427843>
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tom_and_Jerry

VOCABULARY MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1410/141004-tom-and-jerry-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Amazon.com is | a. the cartoon |
| 2. one series of | b. warning customers |
| 3. ethnic and racial | c. in the 1960s |
| 4. Amazon said this wrong 70 | d. the show |
| 5. still wrong | e. of racism |
| 6. the black maid in | f. years ago |
| 7. Some cartoons were changed | g. prejudices |
| 8. because | h. today |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. They made 114 Tom and Jerry | a. on TV every day |
| 2. from 1940 | b. cartoons was "superb" |
| 3. The cartoons won | c. to 1957 |
| 4. of the most popular | d. "madness" |
| 5. watch them | e. cartoons |
| 6. An animation | f. cartoons in history |
| 7. the quality of the early Tom and Jerry | g. seven Oscars |
| 8. Many people said it was | h. expert |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1410/141004-tom-and-jerry-1.html>

Amazon.com is (1) _____ some Tom and Jerry shows are racist. Amazon has put a warning (2) _____ show. It says that some of the shows have "(3) _____ prejudices" that used to be common in the USA. Amazon said this (4) _____, and is (5) _____. People say the black maid in the cartoon is racist. Some cartoons were changed in the 1960s (6) _____.

The cartoonists William Hanna and Joseph Barbera made Tom and Jerry in 1940. (7) _____ Tom and Jerry cartoons from 1940 to 1957. (8) _____ seven Oscars. They (9) _____ most popular cartoons in history. Children (10) _____ TV every day. An animation expert said the quality of the early Tom and Jerry (11) _____. Many people said it was "madness" that Amazon (12) _____ the cartoons.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1410/141004-tom-and-jerry-1.html>

Amazon.com is warning customers that some Tom and Jerry shows are racist. Amazon has put a warning on one series of the show. It says that some of the shows have "ethnic and racial prejudices" that used to be common in the USA. Amazon said this was wrong 70 years ago, and is still wrong today. People say the black maid in the cartoon is racist. Some cartoons were changed in the 1960s because of racism. The cartoonists William Hanna and Joseph Barbera made Tom and Jerry in 1940. They made 114 Tom and Jerry cartoons from 1940 to 1957. The cartoons won seven Oscars. They are one of the most popular cartoons in history. Children watch them on TV every day. An animation expert said the quality of the early Tom and Jerry cartoons was "superb". Many people said it was "madness" that Amazon put a warning on the cartoons.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)
