

1 Worksheet on Listening Comprehension

Text: 1946 – Winston Churchill calls for a United States of Europe, from: David Beal, *Britain in Europe*, Viewfinder Topics New Edition plus (München: Langenscheidt, 2010), p. 39f.

A BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Winston Churchill was not the first person to call for a “United States of Europe” although the moment at which he made his appeal was one when Europe was probably most receptive to it.

Before you do the exercises, listen to the extracts from the speech given below (in blue). Do NOT read the text in the students’ book before you work on the task.

(Note: Please copy and paste the hyperlinks into your browser.)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q8oUyFS556s>

Transcript Students’ Book ll. 1 – 79 → YouTube video 0:00 – 5:57

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=endscreen&NR=1&v=RzfngEzmiSs>

Transcript Students’ Book ll. 81 – 104 → YouTube video 3:05 – 5:08
 ll. 106 – 126 → 6:33 – 8:28 (end)

B LISTENING EXERCISES

You are a reporter for a German paper who has been assigned to write a report on Churchill's speech. As Churchill will give his speech in English your report would in the first instance be in English. Your readers are particularly interested in the following points:

- How does Churchill, prime minister of Britain throughout the Second World War, view his former enemy, Germany?
- How does he see Germany's role in a post-war Europe?
- How does he see Britain's role in a post-war Europe?
- It has been rumoured that Churchill will propose something like a "United States of Europe". What form would this "United States of Europe" take? What concept of Europe does Churchill have?

Your editor has what he thinks is a transcript of Churchill's speech and has written down some points and asked you to check whether they are correct or not.

Tasks

- 1 Churchill ignores the contribution of the non-European world to world culture.
- 2 Churchill puts the main blame for the twentieth century European wars on Germany and Austria.
- 3 At the end of the Second World War the victors were agreed on what action to take.
- 4 European culture and civilisation was saved by the United States.
- 5 The United States entered the Second World War to save Europe from ruin.
- 6 Another European tragedy can be prevented by making Europe more like Switzerland.
- 7 A united Europe is necessary even if most people don't support it.
- 8 A new Europe is only possible if France and Germany work together.
- 9 Small states will be at an advantage in a united Europe.
- 10 Churchill sets out a detailed plan for how Europe can be united.

- 11 A united Europe can only go ahead if all the countries of Europe are involved.
- 12 The name "United States of Europe" is only a name suggested by Churchill.
- 13 Britain will be part of a United States of Europe.
- 14 Churchill hopes that the Soviet Union will support the creation of a united Europe.

(Daniela Pröls/David Beal)