
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

Lingohack

23rd December

The logo for BBC Learning English, featuring the letters 'BBC' in a white box above the words 'LEARNING ENGLISH' in white text on a teal background.

Today's Headlines:

US-UK forces in Afghanistan

Cancer not just 'bad luck'

Athletics boss steps down

Transcript:

Elite forces from the US and UK are in Afghanistan's Helmand province to help **confront** a major Taliban attack. They are said to be there in an advisory role as the militants continue to fight government forces for the control of the town of Sangin.

New research suggests up to 90% of cancer cases are due to environmental factors and lifestyle choices and not bad luck. Health campaigners – they're saying that this **reinforces** the message that our lifestyle choices can reduce the chances of getting the disease.

A senior official in world athletics, Nick Davies, is temporarily **stepping down**. An internal investigation is taking place into an email he sent. In it he suggests the naming of Russian drug cheats should be delayed till after the 2013 World Championships in Moscow.

Words and phrases and definitions:

confront

deal with a difficult situation

reinforces

confirms

stepping down

resigning from his position

Watch the video online: <http://bbc.in/1NA8u9E>

Exercise:

Use one of the words or phrases from Lingohack to complete each of these sentences. Note that you may have to change the form of a word or phrase to complete the sentence correctly.

confront / reinforces / stepping down

1. You have to _____ your fears if you want to succeed in life.
2. The CEO _____ after the company lost its leading position in the marketplace.
3. John won the race and this _____ the idea that intensive training pays off.

Answers:

1. You have to **confront** your fears if you want to succeed in life.
2. The CEO **stepped down** after the company lost its leading position in the marketplace.
3. John won the race and this **reinforces** the idea that intensive training pays off.