
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

News Review

The Russian Revolution: 100 years on

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BBC World Service report

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The story

Low-key events are being held in Russia to mark the 100th anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution.

Members of the communist party, now in opposition, are celebrating the armed uprising by Lenin's Bolsheviks with a march and rally in Moscow.

But President Putin and his government are playing down the significance of the revolution. There are no special events at the Kremlin on what is an ordinary working day.

Vocabulary

low-key

without much activity or excitement

lessons

experiences that help people make better decisions in future

the promise of

the hope or suggestion something positive will happen

Language challenge

If you use the informal expression 'to teach someone a lesson', what does it mean?

- a) you show someone how to do something
- b) you punish someone
- c) you train to become a teacher

Answer

b) you punish someone