

NEWS BREAK

Wednesday's News Break selects an article from Monday, February 29 of The Seattle Times e-Edition for an in-depth reading of the news. Read the selected article and answer the attached study questions. **Please remember to always preview the content of the article before sharing with your students.**

Facebook vows to crack down on hate speech on German site (Main, page A10).

Pre-Reading and Vocabulary

1. What do you think hate speech is defined as? Why do you think someone would use hate speech? How do you think hate speech is different from free speech?

2. **Vocabulary: Match the words to the numbered definitions below.**

- A. anonymity
- B. combat
- C. concede
- D. diplomatic
- E. elusive
- F. influx
- G. malicious
- H. memo
- I. migrant
- J. oppression
- K. police
- L. racism
- M. refugees
- N. source
- O. tolerance

- 1. someone who has been forced to leave a country because of war or for religious or political reasons
- 2. to admit (something) usually in an unwilling way
- 3. the arrival of a large number of people
- 4. a person, book, etc., that gives information
- 5. to control (something) by making sure that rules and regulations are being followed
- 6. the quality or state of being unknown to most people
- 7. a usually brief written message from one person or department in an organization, company, etc., to another
- 8. to treat (a person or group of people) in a cruel or unfair way
- 9. hard to find or capture
- 10. poor treatment of or violence against people because of their race; the belief that some races of people are better than others

11. to try to stop (something) from happening or getting worse
12. having or showing a desire to cause harm to another person
13. the ability to accept, experience, or survive something harmful or unpleasant
14. not causing bad feelings : having or showing an ability to deal with people politely;
involving the work of maintaining good relations between the governments of different countries
15. a person who goes from one place to another especially to find work

Comprehension

1. Mark Zuckerberg _____ Friday that Facebook didn't do enough until recently to _____ hate speech on the social-media site in Germany. **(Fill in the blanks)**
2. What is Germany dealing with an influx of that has German authorities concerned about racist abuse being posted on Facebook?
3. Who did Zuckerberg meet with in September to personally talk about the issue with?
 - a) Chief of Staff for the German Chancellor
 - b) German Chancellor Angela Merkel
 - c) Police in Germany
4. What efforts did Zuckerberg say Facebook had recently made in Germany to combat hate speech on Facebook?
5. Mark Zuckerberg said learning German law has led the company to expand its view of what?
6. What did Mark Zuckerberg say the company has no tolerance for?
7. What did some Facebook employees do recently that made Mark Zuckerberg lash out in an internal memo this week?
8. After Mark Zuckerberg sent out the memo to employees the incidents stopped – **true or false?**

Additional Activities

1. Read the following quote by Mark Zuckerberg from the article: ***“There are specific issues affecting the black community in the United States, coming from a history of oppression and racism,” Zuckerberg wrote. “‘Black lives matter’ doesn’t mean other lives don’t – it’s simply asking that the black community also achieves the justice they deserve.”*** Do you agree with Mark Zuckerberg’s statement – why or why not? Why do you think some of the employees replaced the words “Black lives matter” with “all lives matter”? Watch the following video of President Obama discussing the “Black Lives Matter” movement at: <http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/black-lives-matter-barack-obama-makes-first-public-statement-movement-video-1525348>
2. As a class discuss the following: How does hate speech affect individuals? How does it affect our communities? What affect do you think hate speech found on social-media sites such as Facebook is having on the migrants coming to Germany and the country itself? How can we as global citizens create a world, a country, a community where any type of hate speech is not tolerated? Have students create a set of rules or guidelines for dealing with hate speech at school or on social media sites.

News Break is posted to the Web on Wednesday and Friday. Please share this NIE News Break program with other teachers. To sign-up for the electronic edition for your class, please register on-line or call 206/652-6290 or toll-free 1-888/775-2655. Copyright © 2016 The Seattle Times Company

Answer Key to Vocabulary

- A. 6
- B. 11
- C. 2
- D. 14
- E. 9
- F. 3
- G. 12
- H. 7
- I. 15
- J. 8
- K. 5
- L. 10
- M. 1
- N. 4
- O. 13

Answer Key to Comprehension Questions

- 1. conceded, police
- 2. Germany is dealing with an influx of hundreds of thousands of migrants (or refugees).
- 3. b) German Chancellor Angela Merkel
- 4. He said that they had funded a team to work with police.
- 5. Protected groups
- 6. He said the company has no tolerance for hate speech against migrants.
- 7. They crossed out “black lives matter” on Facebook’s signature walls and replaced the words with “all lives matter”. **(Answers may vary)**
- 8. False – the incidents continued.