After a busy and exciting day in Belfast, Sarah, Merve, Tim and Peter are relaxing in their comfortable hotel room in Belfast and decide to watch television. They are watching a special broadcast on the anniversary of the signing of the Belfast Agreement or Good Friday Agreement.

The four teenagers take a closer look, as they have seen a lot of facets of this years-long conflict during their city tour of Belfast: wall-murals, divided neighborhoods, the “Peace Wall” and many more.

After the broadcast, they decide to research the history of the conflict on the Internet and Sarah finds the following interesting article.

**BBC news: Quick Guide: Northern Ireland conflict**

Source:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/shared/spl/hi/pop_ups/quick_guides/04/uk_northern_ireland_conflict/html/1.stm>; Zugriff: 14.03.2021

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**Conflict's core**

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The conflict in Northern Ireland, which has killed thousands, has political and religious roots that are centuries old. In modern times the conflict is centred on opposing views of the area's status. Some people in Northern Ireland, especially the mainly Protestant Unionist community, believe it should remain part of the United Kingdom. Others, particularly the mainly Catholic Nationalist community, believe it should leave the UK and become part of the Republic of Ireland.

Ein Bild, das Karte enthält.

Automatisch generierte Beschreibung

**Origins**  
Since the 12th Century constant revolts challenged the often brutal British rule of Ireland, climaxing in the 1916 Easter Uprising in Dublin. It sparked a chain of events leading to civil war and partition of the island. In the south 26 counties formed a separate state, while six counties in the north stayed within the UK. Over successive decades the Catholic minority there suffered discrimination over housing and jobs, which fuelled bitter resentment.

**The 'Troubles' begin**

In 1969 Catholic civil rights marches and counter-protests by Protestant loyalists (as in "loyal" to the British Crown) spiralled into violent unrest. British troops were sent in but soon came into conflict with the Provisional IRA (Irish Republican Army). Loyalist paramilitary groups responded with a campaign of sectarian violence against the Catholic community. As the situation worsened, Northern Ireland's parliament was suspended and direct rule imposed from London.

**Violence on all sides**

Throughout the 1970s, 1980s and early 1990s paramilitary groups waged violent campaigns to pursue their goals. The IRA carried out deadly bomb and gun attacks in Britain and Northern Ireland that targeted police, soldiers, politicians and civilians. Loyalist paramilitaries targeted Catholics in "tit-for-tat" killings. Police and British forces tried to keep order, sometimes amid controversy, such as the alleged co-operation of some undercover units with loyalist groups.

**Peace in sight**

In the early 1990s negotiations took place between political parties and the British and Irish governments. After several years of talks IRA and loyalist ceasefires held and in 1998 the "Good Friday" agreement was signed. It set up a power-sharing executive, with ministerial posts distributed by party strength, and elected assembly. The deal was backed by voters in referendums in Northern Ireland and the Republic, which scrapped its constitutional claim to the north.

**Fragile future?**

Problems remain as devolution has been suspended several times since it began. Unionists want the IRA to verifiably scrap its weapons and end activity such as so-called punishment beatings. With the IRA claiming it will do both, Republicans say Unionist demands for pictures of weapons decommissioning are an excuse to avoid power-sharing. Northern Ireland society has hurdles to overcome too, with views still divided over issues like policing, and a sharply rising crime rate.

**Your task:**

1. Please read the text on your own. Make sure that you mark and look up only the unknown words which you need to understand the text in an online dictionary of your choice (20 minutes). As you read, note down up to 5 important keywords for each paragraph.
2. Work with a partner. Take turns to orally sum up what you have read in each paragraph with the help of your keywords. (10 minutes)
3. Have fun with the following quiz (learning app) and try to answer as many questions as possible. (15 minutes)

 <https://learningapps.org/display?v=pnv5rd7oj21>

1. After that create a digital storyboard about the Northern Ireland conflict together with your partner and try to include these criteria (you are free to search on the Internet for information as well). (85 minutes)

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| --- | --- |
|  | Description of the conflict: Who is involved? Which groups are there? How is the conflict carried out (threats, economic coercion, use of force)? |
|  | How did the conflict arise? Can it be divided into phases? |
|  | Which different group interests play a role? What are the specific interests of these different groups? |
|  | How does the situation affect the local people? |
|  | What has been done so far to resolve the conflict? Who is involved in the resolution? |

1. Be prepared to present your digital storyboard about the conflict in class and give feedback to your fellow students, e.g. with the help of the following assessment sheet (35 minutes):

**Northern Ireland conflict digital storyboard assessment sheet**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Rating  \*\*\*  Great | Rating  \*  Medium | Rating  ---  Not perfect | What could be improved? |
| The digital storyboard which you have planned follows the criteria. |  |  |  |  |
| Your digital storyboard is clear, creative and well- structured. |  |  |  |  |
| Your product is not too crowded, there is not too much text and it is easy to understand. |  |  |  |  |
| The photos/pictures/diagrams are well chosen and display important information about the conflict. |  |  |  |  |
| You use different colours and they are well chosen. |  |  |  |  |
| There are hardly any language mistakes in your digital storyboard. |  |  |  |  |
| Your body language during your talk was brilliant and you stood straight but relaxed. |  |  |  |  |
| You kept eye contact with your listeners and you smiled! |  |  |  |  |