



# **New Internationalist**

The people, the ideas, the action in the fight for global justice

## **Countries**

NEW INTERNATIONALIST EASIER ENGLISH  
IELTS / ADVANCED READY LESSON

# The lesson today:

**Speaking:** discussion about countries

**Reading:** scan reading

**Reading:** for detailed information

**Language focus:** comparing simplified articles with original



# Discuss: which countries were these photos taken in?





# Discuss: what do you know about these countries?

Malawi



Indonesia



Mauritius





**Discuss: which (of Malawi, Indonesia or Mauritius) are the following statements about?**

1. Population: 239.9 million / life expectancy: 69
2. Population: 14.9 million / life expectancy: 54
3. Population: 1.3 million / life expectancy: 73
4. It's the biggest investor in India
5. Almost half the population live on under 2 dollars a day
6. The dodo became extinct here in 1780
7. It became independent from the British in 1968
8. It had the first female President in southern Africa (Joyce Banda)

# Now quickly scan the 3 articles to find out:

Mauritius:

- [http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country\\_profile: Mauritius](http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country_profile: Mauritius)

Indonesia:

- [http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country\\_profile - Indonesia](http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country_profile - Indonesia)

Malawi:

- [http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country\\_profile - Malawi](http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country_profile - Malawi)

# Key:



1. Population: 239.9 million / life expectancy: 69
  2. Population: 14.9 million / life expectancy: 54
  3. Population: 1.3 million / life expectancy: 73
  4. It's the biggest investor in India
  5. Almost half the population live on under 2 dollars a day
  6. The dodo became extinct here in 1780
  7. It became independent from the British in 1968
  8. It had the first female President in southern Africa (Joyce Banda)
1. Indonesia
  2. Malawi
  3. Mauritius
  4. Mauritius
  5. Indonesia
  6. Mauritius
  7. Mauritius
  8. Malawi



Now read the articles again and  
find out and discuss:

Which of the 3 countries:

- a) is the most politically unstable?
- b) has seen the most development?
- c) would you like to live in – and why?



Mauritius: [http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country\\_profile: Mauritius](http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country_profile: Mauritius)

Indonesia: [http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country\\_profile - Indonesia](http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country_profile - Indonesia)

Malawi: [http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country\\_profile - Malawi](http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country_profile - Malawi)

**Now read and compare the Easier English articles with the originals. This is the original – what do the red phrases mean?**

There was jubilation and ululation on the streets of Malawi's capital Lilongwe when news broke out that President Bingu wa Mutharika had died following a heart attack in his office. This was in April 2012, three years into his second term of office. Many blamed him for turning his back on 18 years of democracy in a country fondly described as the 'Warm Heart of Africa'.

This is the Easier English version –  
check your understanding:

Everyone was happy, everyone celebrated when they heard the news that President Bingu wa Mutharika had died from a heart attack in his office. This was in April 2012, three years after his second term as president began. Many people said he was turning his back on 18 years of democracy in a country called the ‘Warm Heart of Africa’.

# Now read, compare and learn new language from all 3 articles:

## Easier English articles:

Mauritius:

[http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country\\_profile:\\_Mauritius](http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country_profile:_Mauritius)

Indonesia:

[http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country\\_profile\\_-\\_Indonesia](http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country_profile_-_Indonesia)



Malawi:

[http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country\\_profile\\_-\\_Malawi](http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Country_profile_-_Malawi)

## Original articles:

Mauritius:

<http://newint.org/columns/country/2013/04/01/country-profile-mauritius/>

Indonesia:

<http://newint.org/columns/country/2013/05/01/country-profile-indonesia/>

Malawi:

<http://newint.org/columns/country/2013/06/01/malawi/>





# Homework:



There are many more Easier English articles on the wiki:

[http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Main\\_Page](http://eewiki.newint.org/index.php/Main_Page)

Select one you are interested in ( from one of the magazine covers, or from the “categories” on the left), read it, then compare it with the original article (at the bottom). Note down all the new vocabulary, phrases and grammar.