

Net Neutrality

<https://news.yahoo.com/video/now-fight-net-neutrality-092843341.html>

Task 1 – Brainstorming about expectations based on title

Before you watch the video, list 3 words that come to mind when you hear the expression 'net neutrality'. If not much springs to mind, don't worry – it'll all be clear by the end of this lesson.

1.
2.
3.

Task 2 – Taking notes while listening

Watch the video. Take notes as you listen. You will need to focus your attention on the language used by the speakers, so try to write down the words/expressions as you hear them.

Task 3 – The gist: What the heck is net neutrality??

Watch the video and explain net neutrality in your own words.

Proficiency level: B2

With the help of this short video, you will practice:

how to listen actively

how to extract the most important message from a text

powerful idioms to talk about actions

EU terms

Task 4 – Powerful idioms

The expressions in column A all come from the video. Complete them and match them to their definitions in column B.

A

- get treatment
- have a at success
- coin the
- leave someone in the
- the costsdown to the customer
- pay the
- step up to the
- the ball is in their
- put a plan on the

B

- leave someone behind
- pay the costs
- come up with a word for something
- get advantages that others don't get
- come up with a plan
- get an opportunity to succeed
- it's their turn to take action
- do what is necessary to deal with a situation
- the costs are paid by the customer

Task 5 – What's going on in the EU in terms of net neutrality?

EU to water down net neutrality rules

European Union governments are considering less **stringent** rules on how internet service providers manage traffic on their networks, according to a draft seen by Reuters, a move that could be welcomed by Europe's large telecoms operators.

These so-called net neutrality rules are part of the **European Commission's** proposed **overhaul** of Europe's telecoms industry to help it to compete against rivals the United States and Asia.

Net neutrality is the principle that all content providers should have equal access on networks. It has become a hot topic in the United States where President Barack Obama has said internet service providers should be banned from striking paid "**fast lane**" deals with content companies.

EU lawmakers voted in April for strict net neutrality rules that barred telecoms operators like Orange and Telefonica from prioritising some internet traffic over others.

Match the words to the definitions to complete the glossary.

Glossary

A

to water down

stringent

European Commission

to overhaul

(in the) fast lane

B

examine something closely and repair it if necessary

EU executive in Eurojargon

make something less strong

where a lot is happening

very strict

For the complete article, read:

<http://www.euractiv.com/sections/infosociety/eu-water-down-net-neutrality-rules-310133>

Check out our book: EU English – Using English in EU Contexts for more information about the European Commission. See sample pages of the book here:

<http://www.klett.de/produkt/isbn/978-3-12-534640-6>

ANSWER KEY

Task 4

A

get preferential treatment

have a shot at success

coin the phrase

leave someone in the dust

the costs trickle down to the customer

pay the toll

step up to the plate

the ball is in their court

put a plan on the table

B

get advantages that others don't get

get an opportunity to succeed

come up with a word for something

leave someone behind

the costs are paid by the customer

pay the costs

do what is necessary to deal with a situation

it's their turn to take action

come up with a plan

Task 5

B

make something less strong

very strict

EU executive in Eurojargon

examine and repair something if necessary

where a lot is happening

A

to water down

stringent

European Commission

to overhaul

(in the) fast lane