**Level: B2**

**Lesson: 8 Minutes and 46 seconds**

**From:** <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/31/us/george-floyd-investigation.html>

**Learning Outcome**

**By the end of this lesson, students should be able to:**

* Identify lexical items related to the contents of the unit.
* Listen for general and specific information from a video text.
* Repeat with accuracy the content of the lesson video text.
* Re-express lexical items used in the lesson video text.
* Express themselves following a model about the event presented on the lesson video text.

**Warm Up (5 min)**

* Were you familiar with the event recounted in the video?
* Did the video inform you about anything you didn’t know in regards to the death of African American George Floyd?
* What effects did the video have on you?

**1. Vocabulary (5 min)**

**Adapted from: Oxford Languages**

**1.1 Nouns**

* bouncer (n.) [ˈbaun-sēr]: a person employed by a nightclub or similar establishment to prevent troublemakers from entering.
* bystander (n.) [baɪs-ˈtaan-dēr]: a person who is present at an event or incident but does not take part.
* camera footage (n. ph.) [ˈfuu-*r*ɪdch]: an amount of film or tape used to record something.

**1.2. Adjectives**

* counterfeit (adj.) [ˈkau-nēr-fiit]: made in exact imitation with the intention to deceive or defraud.

**1.3.** **Adverbs**

* allegedly (adv.) [a-ˈle-dyēd-lɪ]

**2. Video (10 min)**

**Directions:** Under your teacher’s supervision,practice reading of the video transcript for pronunciation assessment.

**8 Minutes and 46 Seconds: *How George Floyd Was Killed in Police Custody* (10 mins)**

*The Times has reconstructed the death of George Floyd on May 25th. Security footage, witness videos and official documents show how a series of actions by officers turned fatal.*

*It’s a Monday evening in Minneapolis. Police respond to a call about a man who allegedly used a counterfeit $20 bill to buy cigarettes. Seventeen minutes later, the man they are there to investigate lies motionless on the ground, and is pronounced dead shortly after. The man was 46-year-old George Floyd, a bouncer originally from Houston who had lost his job at a restaurant when the coronavirus pandemic hit.*

*Crowd: “No justice, no peace.”*

*Floyd’s death triggered major protests in Minneapolis, and sparked rage across the country. One of the officers involved, Derek Chauvin, has been arrested and charged with second-degree murder. The other three officers have been charged with aiding and abetting murder. The Times analyzed bystander videos, security camera footage and police scanner audio, spoke to witnesses and experts, and reviewed documents released by the authorities to build a picture as comprehensive as possible and better understand how George Floyd died in police custody.*

*The events of May 25th begin here (…).*

**3. Comprehension (10 min)**

**3.1. What’s the purpose of the video?**

**A.** Reconstruct the events around the death of George Floyd.

**B.** Compare the events of May 25th to other similar moments in US History.

**C.** Analyze the social causes that led to the death of George Floyd.

**3.2. Watch the video again and answer the following questions:**

**a)** Who was George Floyd? (How old was he? Where was he from? How did he earn his living?)

**b)** How did Coronavirus affect his life?

**c)** What was he accused of?

**d)** How did he die?

**e)** What were the aftermaths of Floyd’s death?

 **2. Vocabulary Practice (15 min)**

**2.1. Synonyms (1): Multiple Choice.**

**Directions:** Which is the best synonym for the words in *italics*?

**a)** Floyd *allegedly* committed a crime.

**A.** purposely **B.** supposedly

**b)** Seventeen minutes later, Floyd was *motionless* on the ground.

**A.** still **B.** silent

**c)** He was *pronounced* dead shortly after

**A.** declared **B.** thought

**d)** Floyd’s death triggered *rage* across the country.

**A.** reactions  **B.** anger

**e)** Some documents have been *released* by authorities.

**A.** discovered **B.** disclosed

**f)** The New York Times has tried to build a picture as *comprehensive* as possible.

**A.** complete **B.** understanding

**2.2. Synonyms (2): Say it Another Way!**

**Directions:** Replace the underlined words and phrases with synonyms. Make sure not to change the sense of the quoted sentences.

**a)** The Times has reconstructed the death of George Floyd on May 25th.

**b)** Security footage, witness videos and official documents show how a series of actions by officers turned fatal.

**c)** Police respond to a call about a man who allegedly used a counterfeit $20 bill to buy cigarettes.

**d)** Seventeen minutes later, the man (…) lies motionless on the ground, and is pronounced dead shortly after.

**e)** Floyd had lost his job (…) when the coronavirus pandemic hit.

**f)** Floyd’s death triggered major protests in Minneapolis (…) and across the country.

**g)** The Times analyzed bystander videos, security camera footage and police scanner audio (…) and reviewed documents released by the authorities (…) to better understand how George Floyd died in police custody.

**2.3. Word Families: Nouns & Verbs.**

**Directions:** Fill in the blanks in the second sentences withwords from the samefamily of the units **in bold.** Make any necessary changes (verb tense or plural form adjustments) in the resulting sentence. The first example has been done for you.

**a)** One of the officers involved, Derek Chauvin, has been **arrested**.

* One of the officers involved, Derek Chauvin, has been put under *arrest*.

**b)** Floyd’s death triggered major **protests** in Minneapolis.

* People are ­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Minneapolis because of Floyd’s death.

**c)** Derek Chauvin has been **charged** with second-degree murder.

* Derek Chauvin faces \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of second-degree murder.

**d)** The New York Times spoked to **witnesses** of George Floyd’s death.

* The New York Times spoke to people who \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the death of George Floyd.

**e)** The Times also **analyzed** bystander videos and security camera footage to understand how George Floyd died in police custody.

* From the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of bystander videos, The Times could understand how George Floyd dies in police custody.

**g)** The authorities **released** documents help reconstruct the events of May 25th.

* The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of documents by the authorities helped reconstruct the events of May 25th.

**h)** Security footage and witness videos showed how a series of actions by officers turned **fatal**.

* Security footage and witness videos showed how a series of actions by officers turned into a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**i)** The Times analyzed police scanner audio to better understand how George Floyd died.

* The Times analyzed police scanner audio for a better \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of how George Floyd died.

**j)** The events of May 25th **begin** here in Minneapolis.

* The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of events of May 25th is set right here in Minneapolis.

**4. Speaking: Saying Fluently! (10 min)**

**Directions:** Answer the following questions in the form of a brief monologue. Add any information you consider relevant to your presentation.

**a)** Where did you hear about the tragic death of African-American George Floyd on May 25th?

**b)** What emotional effect did his tragic death have on you (if applicable)?

**c)** Do you agree with the charges faced by the four police officers involved in Floyd’s death?

**d)** What’s your personal opinion about the eventsaround his death?

**e)** George Floyd’s death sparked protests all over the USA, many of which were violent and unlawful. What’s your view about these protests?

**f)** Do you think that the events of May 25th will eventually bring about a social change to the so-called *systemic racism* in the USA?