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Level 5

A third of kids get no bedtime story

15th September, 2013

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1309/130915-bedtime-stories-5.html>

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Please try Level 4 (easier) and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1309/130915-bedtime-stories-5.html>

It seems the long tradition of bedtime stories for children before sleeping is disappearing in Britain. A study from British online retailer Littlewoods.com shows around a third of parents do not read bedtime stories. It also found that up to 50 per cent of children prefer to watch TV or play computer games. Researchers also found that just five per cent of British under-sevens do not own a book. Parents had many reasons for not reading stories. Thirteen per cent blamed a lack of time, nine per cent said they were "too stressed", while others said their children were not interested.

Littlewoods and British pop star Natasha Hamilton will try to end this trend. They started a bedtime story competition for kids under seven. Ms Hamilton said she was excited to see the different stories the kids come up with, and that choosing a winner was not going to be easy. She spoke about her own joy as a mother, saying: "As a mum of three, I know just how enjoyable reading bedtime stories to my kids is." Littlewoods said: "We appreciate how important it is for parents and kids to spend quality time together, and bedtime stories are a great way to do just this."

Sources: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2418076/Third-parents-longer-read-bedtime-story-children.html#ixzz2eLlyr8oq>
<http://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk/lifestyle/atomic-kittens-natasha-hamilton-ready-5906829>

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1309/130915-bedtime-stories-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. the long tradition | a. under-sevens |
| 2. online | b. of time |
| 3. a third of parents do | c. retailer |
| 4. children prefer | d. not read bedtime stories |
| 5. five per cent of British | e. of bedtime stories |
| 6. reasons for not | f. were not interested |
| 7. Thirteen per cent blamed a lack | g. to watch TV |
| 8. their children | h. reading stories |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| 1. try to end | a. important it is |
| 2. a bedtime story | b. a winner |
| 3. see the different stories the kids come | c. just this |
| 4. choosing | d. time together |
| 5. She spoke about her own | e. this trend |
| 6. We appreciate how | f. up with |
| 7. parents and kids to spend quality | g. joy as a mother |
| 8. a great way to do | h. competition |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1309/130915-bedtime-stories-5.html>

It seems (1) _____ bedtime stories for children before sleeping is disappearing in Britain. A study from British online retailer Littlewoods.com (2) _____ third of parents do not read bedtime stories. It also (3) _____ 50 per cent of children prefer to watch TV or play computer games. Researchers also found that just five per cent of British under-sevens (4) _____. Parents had many reasons for not reading stories. Thirteen per cent (5) _____, nine per cent said they were "too stressed", while others said their children (6) _____.

Littlewoods and British pop star Natasha Hamilton (7) _____ trend. They started a bedtime story competition for kids under seven. Ms Hamilton said she was excited to see the different (8) _____ with, and that (9) _____ was not going to be easy. She spoke about her own joy as a mother, saying: " (10) _____, I know just how enjoyable reading bedtime stories to my kids is." Littlewoods said: "We (11) _____ it is for parents and kids to spend (12) _____, and bedtime stories are a great way to do just this."

BEDTIME STORIES SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1309/130915-bedtime-stories-5.html>

Write five GOOD questions about bedtime stories in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____
- g) _____
- h) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____
- g) _____
- h) _____

