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## **Level 0**

# **250 million children cannot read or write**

**2nd February, 2014**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140202-literacy-0.html>

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**Please try Levels 1, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140202-literacy-0.html>

Over 250 million primary school children cannot read, write or do basic maths. Up to 120 million children have never been to school. This makes countries poorer. Countries lose up to \$130 billion every year. The U.N. said there is a "learning crisis". In 30% of countries, 75% of primary school teachers do not have enough training.

Most children not going to school are girls. Countries are richer when girls go to school. Almost 66% of girls in some countries never go to school. In Yemen, just 36% of girls are literate. Girls in poorer countries will not be literate until 2072. In Laos, Rwanda and Vietnam, the number of children not going to school fell by 85%.

Sources: [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/01/29/kid-literacy-rate\\_n\\_4691196.html?utm\\_hp\\_ref=world](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/01/29/kid-literacy-rate_n_4691196.html?utm_hp_ref=world)  
<http://www.dw.de/unesco-report-higher-illiteracy-rate-more-waste-in-education-than-previously-believed/a-17393234>  
<http://www.trust.org/item/20140130051043-gzad3/>  
<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/education/themes/leading-the-international-agenda/efareport/reports/2013/>

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140202-literacy-0.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                       |                         |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. primary school                     | a. never been to school |
| 2. read, write or                     | b. countries            |
| 3. Up to 120 million children have    | c. countries poorer     |
| 4. This makes                         | d. crisis               |
| 5. Countries lose up to \$130 billion | e. children             |
| 6. a learning                         | f. enough training      |
| 7. In 30% of                          | g. every year           |
| 8. teachers do not have               | h. do basic maths       |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |  |                            |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. children not                        | a. girls                   |
| 2. Countries are richer                | b. go to school            |
| 3. Almost 66% of                       | c. going to school         |
| 4. never                               | d. until 2072              |
| 5. In Yemen, just 36% of girls are     | e. poorer countries        |
| 6. Girls in                            | f. when girls go to school |
| 7. ...will not be literate             | g. school fell by 85%      |
| 8. the number of children not going to | h. literate                |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140202-literacy-0.html>

Over 250 million (1) \_\_\_\_\_ children cannot read, write or (2) \_\_\_\_\_. Up to 120 million children (3) \_\_\_\_\_ to school. This makes countries poorer. Countries (4) \_\_\_\_\_ \$130 billion every year. The U.N. said there is a "(5) \_\_\_\_\_ ". In 30% of countries, 75% of primary school teachers (6) \_\_\_\_\_ training.

Most children not going to (7) \_\_\_\_\_. Countries are richer when girls go to school. (8) \_\_\_\_\_ girls in some countries (9) \_\_\_\_\_ school. In Yemen, just 36% of (10) \_\_\_\_\_. Girls in poorer countries will not be (11) \_\_\_\_\_. In Laos, Rwanda and Vietnam, the number of children not going to school (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140202-literacy-0.html>

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

d) \_\_\_\_\_

e) \_\_\_\_\_

f) \_\_\_\_\_

*250 million children cannot read or write – 2nd February, 2014*  
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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) \_\_\_\_\_

