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Level 1

250 million children cannot read or write

2nd February, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140202-literacy-1.html>

Contents

The Reading	2
Vocabulary Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Writing and Speaking	6
Writing	7

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140202-literacy-1.html>

The United Nations says over 250 million children of primary school age cannot read, write or do basic maths. 120 million children have spent little or no time in school. Countries are poorer when children do not go to school. Each year, countries lose up to \$130 billion. The U.N. said there was a global "learning crisis". In a third of countries, 75% of primary school teachers do not have enough training. The U.N. said it was important "to focus on quality".

Most children not going to school are girls. Countries get richer if girls go to school – up to 25% richer in 40 years. Almost two-thirds (66%) of girls in Arab countries and parts of Africa may never go to school. In Yemen, just 36% of girls are literate. Reuters said poorer girls in developing countries wouldn't be literate until 2072. The good news is that in Laos, Rwanda and Vietnam, the number of children not going to school fell by 85% in the last five years.

Sources: 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-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. cannot read, write or | a. was important |
| 2. spent little or | b. "learning crisis" |
| 3. Countries are poorer when children | c. of countries |
| 4. The U.N. said there was a global | d. on quality |
| 5. In a third | e. do not go to school |
| 6. 75% of primary school teachers do not | f. do basic maths |
| 7. The U.N. said it | g. have enough training |
| 8. focus | h. no time in school |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Most children not going to | a. developing countries |
| 2. Countries get richer if girls | b. in 40 years |
| 3. up to 25% richer | c. five years |
| 4. Almost two-thirds (66%) of | d. go to school |
| 5. In Yemen, just 36% | e. fell by 85% |
| 6. poorer girls in | f. school are girls |
| 7. children not going to school | g. of girls are literate |
| 8. in the last | h. girls in Arab countries |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140202-literacy-1.html>

The United Nations says over 250 million children of primary school age cannot read, write (1) _____. 120 million children have (2) _____ time in school. Countries (3) _____ children do not go to school. Each year, countries (4) _____ billion. The U.N. said there was a (5) _____. In a third of countries, 75% of primary school teachers do not have enough training. The U.N. said it was important "(6) _____".

Most children not going (7) _____. Countries get richer if girls go to school – (8) _____ in 40 years. (9) _____ (66%) of girls in Arab countries and parts of Africa may never go to school. In Yemen, just 36% (10) _____. Reuters said poorer girls in (11) _____ wouldn't be literate until 2072. The good news is that in Laos, Rwanda and Vietnam, the number of children not going to school (12) _____ the last five years.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140202-literacy-1.html>

The United Nations say over 250 million children of primary school age cannot read, write or do basic maths. 120 million children have spent little or no time in school. Countries are poorer when children do not go to school. Each year, countries lose up to \$130 billion. The U.N. said there was a global "learning crisis". In thirty of countries, 75% of primary school teachers do not have enough training. The U.N. said it was important "to focus on quality". Most children not going to school are girls. Countries get richer if girls go to school – up to 25% richer in 40 years. Almost two-thirds (66%) of girls in Arab countries and parts of Africa may never go to school. In Yemen, just 36% of girls are literate. Reuters said poorer girls in developing countries wouldn't be literate until 2072. The good news is that in Laos, Rwanda and Vietnam, the number of children not going to school fell by 8.5% in the last five years.

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)
