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## Level 3

# Toy store stops selling drug-dealer dolls

24th October, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad.html>

The store Toys R Us has stopped selling a drug-dealer doll because of an online campaign. The store was selling action figures from the popular American TV series 'Breaking Bad'. One of the figures came with bags full of drug money and blue crystal drugs. A mother, Susan Myers, started an online petition to get Toys R Us to stop selling the toys. More than 3,000 people signed the petition and the store took the dolls off of its online store. Ms Myers wrote on Change.org: "Toys R Us is well known around the world....However their decision to sell a Breaking Bad doll, complete with a detachable sack of cash and a bag of [drugs], alongside children's toys is a dangerous [move away] from their family-friendly values."

Ms Myers explained that although Breaking Bad was a popular show with adults, dolls from the show did not belong on a toy store shelf next to Barbie dolls and Disney characters. She said: "Parents and grandparents around the world shop at Toys R Us, online and in stores, with their children. They should not be forced to explain why a certain toy comes with a bag of highly dangerous and illegal drugs, or why someone who sells those drugs deserves to be made into an action figure." A Toys R Us spokesperson said: "The product packaging clearly notes that the items are intended for ages 15 and up. The toys [were] located in the adult action figure area of our stores."

Sources: <http://news.sky.com/story/1356927/breaking-bad-dolls-spark-online-petition>  
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/northamerica/usa/11177774/Toys-R-Us-quietly-withdraws-drug-dealer-Breaking-Bad-dolls.html>  
<http://www.change.org/p/toys-r-us-remove-breaking-bad-dolls-from-their-shelves>

# WARM-UPS

**1. TOY STORES:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about toy stores. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

*toy store / doll / online / action figure / drug money / online petition / decision / family-friendly values / popular / Disney characters / packaging / ages 15 and up*

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. TOYS:** What is good and bad about these toys? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Good	Bad
Action figures		
Board games		
Swords and guns		
Computer games		
Lego		
Trading cards		

**4. DOLLS:** Students A **strongly** believe they are good for kids; Students B **strongly** believe they aren't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. ACTION FIGURES:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- Barbie
- soldiers
- Mickey Mouse
- Frankenstein
- Hello Kitty
- Barack Obama
- T-Rex dinosaur
- alien

**6. PETITION:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "petition". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad.html>

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| a. A toy store was selling dolls to drug dealers.                           | T / F |
| b. A toy store was selling a doll based on a TV series about a drug dealer. | T / F |
| c. The doll came with a bag of pretend drugs.                               | T / F |
| d. Over 30,000 people signed an online petition against the dolls.          | T / F |
| e. A woman said the drug-dealer doll should not be next to Barbie.          | T / F |
| f. The woman asked the toy store to teach children that drugs are bad.      | T / F |
| g. The box the doll comes in says the product is unsuitable for under-18s.  | T / F |
| h. The store put the dolls in the adult section of its stores.              | T / F |

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the following synonyms from the article.

- |                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. stopped      | a. wrapping   |
| 2. well known   | b. ceased     |
| 3. detachable   | c. standards  |
| 4. cash         | d. removable  |
| 5. values       | e. very       |
| 6. popular      | f. famous     |
| 7. highly       | g. well liked |
| 8. packaging    | h. section    |
| 9. intended for | i. money      |
| 10. area        | j. aimed at   |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. because of an online    | a. series             |
| 2. the popular American TV | b. action figure area |
| 3. 3,000 people signed     | c. campaign           |
| 4. alongside               | d. values             |
| 5. family-friendly         | e. toy store shelf    |
| 6. a popular show          | f. children's toys    |
| 7. did not belong on a     | g. packaging          |
| 8. product                 | h. ages 15 and up     |
| 9. intended for            | i. the petition       |
| 10. located in the adult   | j. with adults        |

# GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad.html>

The store Toys R Us has stopped selling a drug-dealer doll because of an online (1) \_\_\_\_\_. The store was selling action figures from the popular American TV (2) \_\_\_\_\_ 'Breaking Bad'. One of the figures came with (3) \_\_\_\_\_ full of drug money and blue crystal drugs. A mother, Susan Myers, started an online (4) \_\_\_\_\_ to get Toys R Us to stop selling the toys. More than 3,000 people (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the petition and the store took the dolls off of its online store. Ms Myers wrote on Change.org: "Toys R Us is well (6) \_\_\_\_\_ around the world....However their decision to sell a Breaking Bad doll, complete with a detachable sack of (7) \_\_\_\_\_ and a bag of [drugs], alongside children's toys is a dangerous [move away] from their family-friendly (8) \_\_\_\_\_."

*bags*  
*cash*  
*campaign*  
*signed*  
*values*  
*series*  
*petition*  
*known*

Ms Myers explained that although Breaking Bad was a (9) \_\_\_\_\_ show with adults, dolls from the show did not belong on a toy store (10) \_\_\_\_\_ next to Barbie dolls and Disney characters. She said: "Parents and grandparents around the world shop at Toys R Us, online and in stores, with their children. They should not be (11) \_\_\_\_\_ to explain why a certain toy comes with a bag of (12) \_\_\_\_\_ dangerous and illegal drugs, or why someone who sells those drugs (13) \_\_\_\_\_ to be made into an action figure." A Toys R Us spokesperson said: "The product (14) \_\_\_\_\_ clearly notes that the items are intended for (15) \_\_\_\_\_ 15 and up. The toys [were] located in the adult action figure (16) \_\_\_\_\_ of our stores."

*highly*  
*shelf*  
*ages*  
*popular*  
*deserves*  
*area*  
*forced*  
*packaging*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad.html>

- 1) stopped selling a drug-dealer doll because of an \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. inline campaign
  - b. in lane campaign
  - c. online campaign
  - d. offline campaign
- 2) The store was selling action figures from the \_\_\_\_\_ series
  - a. popularly American TV
  - b. poplar American TV
  - c. popular American TV
  - d. populate American TV
- 3) One of the figures came with bags full of drug money and \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. blue crystals drugs
  - b. blue cry stall drugs
  - c. blue cries tall drugs
  - d. blue crystal drugs
- 4) More than 3,000 people \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. signed the petition
  - b. singed the petition
  - c. sighed the petition
  - d. sine the petition
- 5) a dangerous move away from their \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. family-friend value
  - b. family-friendly values
  - c. family-friendly valued
  - d. family-friend values
- 6) dolls from the show did not belong on a toy store \_\_\_\_\_ Barbie dolls
  - a. shells next to
  - b. shelved next to
  - c. shell next to
  - d. shelf next to
- 7) forced to explain why a certain toy comes with a bag of highly dangerous \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. and illegal drugs
  - b. and illegally drugs
  - c. and ill eagle drugs
  - d. and ill legal drugs
- 8) why someone who sells those drugs deserves to be made \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. onto an action figure
  - b. on too an action figure
  - c. in two an action figure
  - d. into an action figure
- 9) The product packaging clearly notes that the items are intended for \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. aged 15 and up
  - b. ages 15 and up
  - c. ageist 15 and up
  - d. adages 15 and up
- 10) located in the adult action figure \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. arena of our stores
  - b. areas of our stores
  - c. area of our stores
  - d. airy of our stores

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad.html>

The store Toys R Us has stopped selling a drug-dealer doll because of an online campaign. The store was selling (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the popular American TV series 'Breaking Bad'. One of the figures came with bags full of drug money and (2) \_\_\_\_\_. A mother, Susan Myers, started (3) \_\_\_\_\_ to get Toys R Us to stop selling the toys. More than 3,000 people (4) \_\_\_\_\_ and the store took the dolls off of its online store. Ms Myers wrote on Change.org: "Toys R Us is well known around the world...However their (5) \_\_\_\_\_ Breaking Bad doll, complete with a detachable sack of cash and a bag of [drugs], alongside children's toys is a dangerous [move away] from their (6) \_\_\_\_\_."

Ms Myers explained that although Breaking Bad was (7) \_\_\_\_\_ adults, dolls from the show (8) \_\_\_\_\_ toy store shelf next to Barbie dolls and Disney characters. She said: "Parents and grandparents around the world shop at Toys R Us, online and in stores, with their children. They should not be (9) \_\_\_\_\_ a certain toy comes with a bag of highly dangerous and illegal drugs, or why someone who sells those (10) \_\_\_\_\_ be made into an action figure." A Toys R Us spokesperson said: "The (11) \_\_\_\_\_ clearly notes that the items are intended for ages 15 and up. The toys [were] located in the adult action figure (12) \_\_\_\_\_."

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad.html>

1. What kind of campaign got Toys R Us to stop selling an action figure?

---

2. What was the action figure based on (where did it come from)?

---

3. How many people signed a petition for the store to stop selling the doll?

---

4. What was the website the mother used for her petition?

---

5. What values did the mother talk about at the end of paragraph one?

---

6. Who did the mother say the TV show was popular with?

---

7. Where did the mother say the action figure did not belong?

---

8. Who should not be made to explain to children about the doll?

---

9. What age group did Toys R Us say the action figure was for?

---

10. Where in Toys R Us could we find the action figure?

---



# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad.html>

1. What kind of campaign got Toys R Us to stop selling an action figure?
  - a) a street protest
  - b) a viral campaign
  - c) an offline campaign
  - d) an online campaign
2. What was the action figure based on (where did it come from)?
  - a) a comic book
  - b) the TV series Breaking Bad
  - c) a cartoon called Bad Breaks
  - d) an online video that went viral
3. How many people signed a petition for the store to stop selling the doll?
  - a) 30,000
  - b) 33,000
  - c) 13,000
  - d) over 3,000
4. What was the website the mother used for her petition?
  - a) NoDrugs.com
  - b) ToysRUs.com
  - c) Change.org
  - d) Yahoo!
5. What values did the mother talk about at the end of paragraph one?
  - a) educational values
  - b) 20th-century values
  - c) value for money
  - d) family-friendly values
6. Who did the mother say the TV show was popular with?
  - a) drug dealers
  - b) toy store bosses
  - c) adults
  - d) children
7. Where did the mother say the action figure did not belong?
  - a) on a toy-store shelf
  - b) on this planet
  - c) in the USA
  - d) in the entrance of the store
8. Who should not be made to explain to children about the doll?
  - a) websites
  - b) toy store owners
  - c) parents and grandparents
  - d) other children
9. What age group did Toys R Us say the action figure was for?
  - a) 13+
  - b) 15 and up
  - c) over 18s
  - d) pre-teens
10. Where in Toys R Us could we find the action figure?
  - a) the adult action figure area
  - b) the entrance
  - c) the top shelf
  - d) the Disney section

# ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad.html>

## **Role A – Barbie**

You think Barbie is the best doll for kids. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their dolls. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): Frankenstein, a T-Rex dinosaur or a soldier.

## **Role B – Frankenstein**

You think Frankenstein is the best doll for kids. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their dolls. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): Barbie, a T-Rex dinosaur or a soldier.

## **Role C – T-Rex dinosaur**

You think a T-Rex dinosaur is the best doll for kids. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their dolls. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): Frankenstein, Barbie or a soldier.

## **Role D – Soldier**

You think a soldier is the best doll for kids. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their dolls. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): Frankenstein, a T-Rex dinosaur or Barbie.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'toy' and 'store'.

<b>toy</b>	<b>store</b>
------------	--------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• because</li><li>• blue</li><li>• get</li><li>• 3,000</li><li>• decision</li><li>• family</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• adults</li><li>• belong</li><li>• explain</li><li>• someone</li><li>• 15</li><li>• area</li></ul>
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# ACTION FIGURES SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad.html>

Write five GOOD questions about action figures 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.

# **ACTION FIGURES DISCUSSION**

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- 1) What did you think when you read the headline?
- 2) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'doll'?
- 3) How important are dolls for children?
- 4) What's the difference between a doll and an action figure?
- 5) What were (are) your favourite dolls and action figures?
- 6) What do you think of the idea of a drug-dealer action figure?
- 7) Was the woman right to start the campaign?
- 8) Would you have signed the petition?
- 9) Why do you think Toys R Us sold a drug-dealer figure?
- 10) What do you know about the show 'Breaking Bad'?

*Toy store stops selling drug-dealer dolls – 24th October, 2014*  
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# **ACTION FIGURES DISCUSSION**

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- 11) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- 12) Do action figures for adults belong in a toy store?
- 12) What's the best toy store in the world (and why)?
- 14) What would you tell a child about the drug-dealer figure?
- 15) What other toys do you think are bad for kids?
- 16) Why did a company turn a drug dealer character into an action figure?
- 17) Is it OK if Toys R Us put the doll in the adult section of its stores?
- 18) What is the use of action figures?
- 19) How do you think the TV show producers feel about this?
- 20) What questions would you like to ask the Toys R Us boss?

# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad.html>

The store Toys R Us has (1) \_\_\_\_\_ selling a drug-dealer doll because of an online campaign. The store was selling action figures from the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ American TV series 'Breaking Bad'. One of the figures came with bags full of drug money and blue crystal drugs. A mother, Susan Myers, (3) \_\_\_\_\_ an online petition to get Toys R Us to stop selling the toys. More than 3,000 people signed the petition and the store took the dolls (4) \_\_\_\_\_ of its online store. Ms Myers wrote on Change.org: "Toys R Us is (5) \_\_\_\_\_ known around the world....However their decision to sell a Breaking Bad doll, complete with a detachable sack of cash and a bag of [drugs], alongside children's toys is a dangerous [move away] from their family-friendly (6) \_\_\_\_\_."

Ms Myers explained that (7) \_\_\_\_\_ Breaking Bad was a popular show with adults, dolls from the show did not (8) \_\_\_\_\_ on a toy store shelf next to Barbie dolls and Disney characters. She said: "Parents and grandparents around the world shop (9) \_\_\_\_\_ Toys R Us, online and in stores, with their children. They should not be forced to explain why a certain toy comes (10) \_\_\_\_\_ a bag of highly dangerous and illegal drugs, or why someone who sells those drugs deserves to be made into an action figure." A Toys R Us spokesperson said: "The product packaging (11) \_\_\_\_\_ notes that the items are intended for ages 15 and (12) \_\_\_\_\_. The toys [were] located in the adult action figure area of our stores."

## Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- |     |              |               |              |              |
|-----|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1.  | (a) stopped  | (b) stops     | (c) stopping | (d) stoppage |
| 2.  | (a) populate | (b) populace  | (c) popular  | (d) poplar   |
| 3.  | (a) creation | (b) beginning | (c) launch   | (d) started  |
| 4.  | (a) on       | (b) off       | (c) to       | (d) as       |
| 5.  | (a) famous   | (b) nice      | (c) good     | (d) well     |
| 6.  | (a) valued   | (b) valuation | (c) values   | (d) valuing  |
| 7.  | (a) however  | (b) although  | (c) so       | (d) but      |
| 8.  | (a) belong   | (b) selling   | (c) be       | (d) locate   |
| 9.  | (a) at       | (b) by        | (c) into     | (d) on       |
| 10. | (a) for      | (b) to        | (c) with     | (d) on       |
| 11. | (a) clear    | (b) clears    | (c) cleared  | (d) clearly  |
| 12. | (a) on       | (b) up        | (c) onward   | (d) forward  |

# SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. an online iacpmagn
2. blue scrylta drugs
3. started an online tpoitine
4. More than 3,000 people gdnsei
5. Iniegsado children's toys
6. family friendly alusve

## Paragraph 2

7. a uopplra show with adults
8. ebnolg on a toy store shelf
9. Disney aatcrchesr
10. alilegl drugs
11. action guifre
12. The product kgicnpgaa



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) campaign. The store was selling action figures from the popular American TV series 'Breaking Bad'. One
- ( ) and grandparents around the world shop at Toys R Us, online and in stores, with their
- ( ) known around the world....However their decision to sell a Breaking Bad doll, complete with a detachable sack of cash
- ( ) for ages 15 and up. The toys [were] located in the adult action figure area of our stores."
- ( **1** ) The store Toys R Us has stopped selling a drug-dealer doll because of an online
- ( ) belong on a toy store shelf next to Barbie dolls and Disney characters. She said: "Parents
- ( ) figure." A Toys R Us spokesperson said: "The product packaging clearly notes that the items are intended
- ( ) of the figures came with bags full of drug money and blue crystal drugs. A mother, Susan Myers, started an online
- ( ) children. They should not be forced to explain why a certain toy comes with a bag of highly
- ( ) petition to get Toys R Us to stop selling the toys. More than 3,000 people
- ( ) Ms Myers explained that although Breaking Bad was a popular show with adults, dolls from the show did not
- ( ) dangerous and illegal drugs, or why someone who sells those drugs deserves to be made into an action
- ( ) signed the petition and the store took the dolls off of its online store. Ms Myers wrote on Change.org: "Toys R Us is well
- ( ) and a bag of [drugs], alongside children's toys is a dangerous [move away] from their family-friendly values."

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad.html>

1. because online Stopped doll an a of campaign selling .

---

2. from series the popular Action American figures TV .

---

3. of full bags with came figures the of One money drug .

---

4. the More , signed people petition than 3,000 .

---

5. friendly from values their family Move - away .

---

6. did from shelf a not the toy belong show Dolls store on .

---

7. around Grandparents world Toys R Us the at shop .

---

8. be forced They to should explain not why .

---

9. ages up items for and The intended 15 are .

---

10. Located adult area stores the figure our in action of .

---

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad.html>

The store Toys R Us has stopped *sales / selling* a drug-dealer doll because of an online *campaign / campaigns*. The store was selling action figures from the *popularity / popular* American TV series 'Breaking Bad'. One of the figures *came / come* with bags full of drug money and blue crystal *drug / drugs*. A mother, Susan Myers, started an *online / offline* petition to get Toys R Us to stop *sales / selling* the toys. More than 3,000 people *singed / signed* the petition and the store took the dolls off of its online store. Ms Myers wrote on Change.org: "Toys R Us is well known around the world....However their *decision / decide* to sell a Breaking Bad doll, complete with a detachable sack of cash and a bag of drugs, alongside children's toys is a dangerous move away from their family-friendly *valued / values*."

Ms Myers *explained / explaining* that although Breaking Bad was a popular *show / showing* with adults, dolls from the show did not *belonging / belong* on a toy store shelf next *of / to* Barbie dolls and Disney characters. She said: "Parents and grandparents *about / around* the world shop at Toys R Us, online and in stores, with their children. They should not *have / be* forced to explain why a certain toy comes with a bag of *high / highly* dangerous and illegal drugs, or why someone who sells those drugs *deserves / deserving* to be made into an action *figured / figure*." A Toys R Us spokesperson said: "The product packaging clearly notes that the items are intended for ages 15 and up. The toys were *located / location* in the adult action figure area of our stores."

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad.html>

Th\_ st\_r\_ T\_ys R \_s h\_s st\_pp\_d s\_ll\_ng \_ dr\_g-d\_\_l\_r  
d\_ll b\_c\_\_s \_f \_n \_nl\_n\_ c mp\_\_gn. Th\_ st\_r\_ w\_s  
s\_ll\_ng \_ct\_\_n f\_g\_r\_s fr\_m th\_ p\_p\_l\_r \_m\_r\_c\_n TV  
s\_r\_\_s 'Br\_\_k\_ng B\_d'. \_n\_ \_f th\_ f\_g\_r\_s c\_m\_ w\_th  
b\_gs f\_ll \_f dr\_g m\_n\_y \_nd bl\_\_ cryst\_l dr\_gs. \_  
m\_th\_r, S\_s\_n My\_rs, st\_rt\_d \_n \_nl\_n\_ p\_t\_t\_\_n t\_  
g\_t T\_ys R \_s t\_ st\_p s\_ll\_ng th\_ t\_ys. M\_r\_ th\_n 3,000  
p\_\_pl\_ s\_gn\_d th\_ p\_t\_t\_\_n \_nd th\_ st\_r\_ t\_\_k th\_  
d\_lls \_ff \_f \_ts \_nl\_n\_ st\_r\_. Ms My\_rs wr\_t\_ \_n  
Ch\_ng\_.rg: "T\_ys R \_s \_s w\_ll kn\_wn \_r\_\_nd th\_  
w\_rld...H\_w\_v\_r th\_\_r d\_c\_s\_\_n t\_s ll \_ Br\_\_k\_ng B\_d  
d\_ll, c\_mpl\_t\_ w\_th \_ d\_t\_ch bl\_ s\_ck \_f c\_sh \_nd \_  
b\_g \_f [dr\_gs], \_l\_ngs\_d\_ ch\_ldr\_n's t\_ys \_s \_  
d\_ng\_r\_\_s [m\_v\_ \_w\_y] fr\_m th\_\_r f\_m\_ly-fr\_\_ndly  
v\_l\_\_s."

Ms My\_rs \_xpl\_\_n\_d th\_t \_lth\_\_gh Br\_\_k\_ng B\_d w\_s \_  
p\_p\_l\_r sh\_w w\_th \_d\_lts, d\_lls fr\_m th\_ sh\_w d\_d n\_t  
b\_l\_ng \_n \_t\_y st\_r\_ sh\_lf n\_xt t\_ B\_rb\_\_ d\_lls \_nd  
D\_sn\_y ch\_r\_ct\_rs. Sh\_ s\_\_d: "P\_r\_nts \_nd  
gr\_ndp\_r\_nts \_r\_\_nd th\_ w\_rld sh\_p \_t T\_ys R \_s,  
\_nl\_n\_ \_nd \_n st\_r\_s, w\_th th\_\_r ch\_ldr\_n. Th\_y sh\_\_ld  
n\_t b\_ f\_rc\_d t\_ \_xpl\_\_n why \_c\_rt\_\_n t\_y c\_m\_s w\_th  
\_ b\_g \_f h\_ghly d\_ng\_r\_\_s \_nd \_ll\_g\_l dr\_gs, \_r why  
s\_m\_\_n\_ wh\_ s\_lls th\_s\_ dr\_gs d\_s\_rv\_s t\_ b\_ m\_d\_  
\_nt\_ \_n \_ct\_\_n f\_g\_r\_." \_ T\_ys R \_s sp\_k\_sp\_rs\_n  
s\_\_d: "Th\_ pr\_d\_ct p\_ck\_g\_ng cl\_\_rly n\_t\_s th\_t th\_  
\_t\_ms \_r\_ \_nt\_nd\_d f\_r\_g\_s 15 \_nd \_p. Th\_ t\_ys  
[w\_r\_] l\_c\_t\_d \_n th\_ \_d\_l\_t \_ct\_\_n f\_g\_r\_ \_r\_\_ \_f\_\_r  
st\_r\_s."

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad.html>

the store toys r us has stopped selling a drug-dealer doll because of an online campaign the store was selling action figures from the popular american tv series 'breaking bad' one of the figures came with bags full of drug money and blue crystal drugs a mother susan myers started an online petition to get toys r us to stop selling the toys more than 3000 people signed the petition and the store took the dolls off of its online store ms myers wrote on changeorg "toys r us is well known around the world...however their decision to sell a breaking bad doll complete with a detachable sack of cash and a bag of [drugs] alongside children's toys is a dangerous [move away] from their family-friendly values"

ms myers explained that although breaking bad was a popular show with adults dolls from the show did not belong on a toy store shelf next to barbie dolls and disney characters she said "parents and grandparents around the world shop at toys r us online and in stores with their children they should not be forced to explain why a certain toy comes with a bag of highly dangerous and illegal drugs or why someone who sells those drugs deserves to be made into an action figure" a toys r us spokesperson said "the product packaging clearly notes that the items are intended for ages 15 and up the toys [were] located in the adult action figure area of our stores"

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141024-breaking-bad.html>

The store Toys R Us has stopped selling a drug-dealer doll because of an online campaign. The store was selling action figures from the popular American TV series 'Breaking Bad'. One of the figures came with bags full of drug money and blue crystal drugs. Another, Susan Myers, started an online petition to get Toys R Us to stop selling the toys. More than 3,000 people signed the petition and the store took the dolls off of its online store. Ms Myers wrote on Change.org: "Toys R Us is well known around the world.... However their decision to sell a Breaking Bad doll, complete with a detachable sack of cash and a bag of [drugs], alongside children's toys is a dangerous [move away] from their family-friendly values." Ms Myers explained that although Breaking Bad was a popular show with adults, dolls from the show did not belong on a toy store shelf next to Barbie dolls and Disney characters. She said: "Parents and grandparents around the world shop at Toys R Us, online and in stores, with their children. They should not be forced to explain why a certain toy comes with a bag of highly dangerous and illegal drugs, or why someone who sells those drugs deserves to be made into an action figure." A Toys R Us spokesperson said: "The product packaging clearly notes that the items are intended for ages 15 and up. The toys [were] located in the adult action figure area of four stores."







# HOMework

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about action figures. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. ACTION FIGURES:** Make a poster about action figures. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. BREAKING BAD:** Write a magazine article about the action figures from the TV show Breaking Bad. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against them.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on action figures. Ask him/her three questions about action figures. Give him/her three of your ideas. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F    b T    c T    d F    e T    f F    g F    h T

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. stopped      | a. ceased     |
| 2. well known   | b. famous     |
| 3. detachable   | c. removable  |
| 4. cash         | d. money      |
| 5. values       | e. standards  |
| 6. popular      | f. well liked |
| 7. highly       | g. very       |
| 8. packaging    | h. wrapping   |
| 9. intended for | i. aimed at   |
| 10. area        | j. section    |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. An online campaign
2. The American TV series 'Breaking Bad'
3. Over 3,000
4. Change.org
5. Family-friendly values
6. Adults
7. On toy store shelves
8. Parents and grandparents
9. 15 and up
10. The adult action figure area

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. d    2. b    3. d    4. c    5. d    6. c    7. a    8. c    9. b    10. a

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)