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Level 5

Workaholic fathers 'leave orphans'

30th January, 2015

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1501/150130-workaholic-fathers-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/1501/150130-workaholic-fathers-5.html>

Pope Francis has issued a strong warning to fathers who work long hours. He criticised workaholic dads for being 'symbolically absent' from families and for making their children 'orphans'. The Pope was speaking to a congregation at the Vatican when he made his plea for fathers to spend more time with their children and get more involved in family life. He said the absence of fathers in the family is one of the reasons that children have problems growing up. He said fathers who focused too much on their jobs was a cause of children and adolescents getting into trouble.

The Pope said fathers being obsessed with their jobs and not spending time with their family was very common. He said: "Fathers are so focused on themselves...and at times their personal fulfillment, that they even forget their families, leaving children...to their own devices." He added: "The feeling of orphanhood experienced by many young people is worse than we might think." He said children are orphans because their fathers are absent from the home, and they do not act like fathers when they are at home. He warned that fatherless families could be accepted as the norm.

Sources: <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/pope-criticizes-workaholic-dads-says-theyre-symbolically-absent>
<http://www.sconews.co.uk/news/43247/pope-warns-absent-working-fathers-leave-orphans/>

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1501/150130-workaholic-fathers-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Pope Francis has issued a strong | a. growing up |
| 2. He criticised workaholic | b. in family life |
| 3. he made | c. trouble |
| 4. get more involved | d. his plea |
| 5. one of | e. warning to fathers |
| 6. children have problems | f. the reasons |
| 7. children and | g. dads |
| 8. getting into | h. adolescents |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. fathers being obsessed | a. by many young people |
| 2. not spending time | b. as the norm |
| 3. Fathers are so focused | c. devices |
| 4. leaving children to their own | d. with their family |
| 5. The feeling of orphanhood experienced | e. they are at home |
| 6. worse than we might | f. with their jobs |
| 7. they do not act like fathers when | g. think |
| 8. be accepted | h. on themselves |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1501/150130-workaholic-fathers-5.html>

Pope Francis (1) _____ warning to fathers who work long hours. He criticised workaholic dads for being 'symbolically absent' from families (2) _____ children 'orphans'. The Pope was speaking to a congregation at the Vatican when (3) _____ for fathers (4) _____ with their children and get more involved in family life. He (5) _____ fathers in the family is one of the reasons that children have problems growing up. He said fathers who focused too much on their jobs (6) _____ children and adolescents getting into trouble.

The Pope said fathers (7) _____ their jobs and not spending time with their family was very common. He said: "Fathers are so focused on themselves... (8) _____ personal fulfillment, that they even forget their families, leaving children... (9) _____." He added: "The feeling of orphanhood experienced by many young people is worse (10) _____." He said children are orphans because their fathers are absent from the home, and (11) _____ like fathers when they are at home. He warned that fatherless families could be (12) _____.

FATHERS SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1501/150130-workaholic-fathers-5.html>

Write five GOOD questions about fathers 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)

FREE WRITING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1501/150130-workaholic-fathers-5.html>

Write about **fathers** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.
