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Level 2

Why do people yawn?

3rd September, 2017

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1709/170903-yawning-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1709/170903-yawning-2.html>

Do you ever think about why we yawn? Do you yawn when you see others yawn? A new study from the UK has researched this. It found that yawning is contagious, powerful and unstoppable. People automatically yawn when they see other people yawn. Researchers said people yawn more when they try to stop yawning. They also found that some people want to yawn a lot more than other people. Lead researcher Professor Stephen Jackson said that even reading about yawning could make people yawn. You might even want to yawn right now.

The researchers studied the actions and brain activity of 36 adults. The adults looked at videos of people yawning. They then had to yawn or stop themselves yawning. The volunteers were videoed as they did either of these. The researchers also checked the brain activity of the adults and checked how much they wanted to yawn. Jackson said understanding more about yawning will help to treat illnesses such as dementia and epilepsy. He said: "We are looking for potential non-drug, personalized treatments...that might be effective in [changing] imbalances in the brain."

Sources: <http://www.nottinghampost.com/news/nottingham-news/why-is-yawning-contagious-answer-407557>
<http://metro.co.uk/2017/08/31/why-is-yawning-contagious-6892289/>
<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/319227.php>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1709/170903-yawning-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. A new study | a. try to stop yawning |
| 2. yawning is | b. about yawning |
| 3. automatically yawn when they | c. from the UK |
| 4. people yawn more when they | d. to yawn right now |
| 5. yawn a lot | e. see other people yawn |
| 6. reading | f. yawn |
| 7. make people | g. contagious |
| 8. You might even want | h. more than other people |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. The adults looked at videos | a. activity |
| 2. stop themselves | b. treatments |
| 3. brain | c. of people yawning |
| 4. checked how much they | d. in the brain |
| 5. understanding more | e. wanted to yawn |
| 6. illnesses such as | f. about yawning |
| 7. personalized | g. yawning |
| 8. imbalances | h. dementia and epilepsy |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1709/170903-yawning-2.html>

Do (1) _____ about why we yawn? Do you yawn when you see others yawn? A new (2) _____ UK has researched this. It found that (3) _____, powerful and unstoppable. People (4) _____ when they see other people yawn. Researchers said people yawn more when they try (5) _____. They also found that some people want to yawn a lot more than other people. Lead researcher Professor Stephen Jackson said that even reading about yawning could make people yawn. You (6) _____ to yawn right now.

The researchers studied (7) _____ brain activity of 36 adults. The adults looked (8) _____ people yawning. They then had to yawn or stop themselves yawning. The volunteers were videoed as they (9) _____ these. The researchers also checked the brain activity of the adults and (10) _____ they wanted to yawn. Jackson said understanding more about yawning will help (11) _____ such as dementia and epilepsy. He said: "We are looking for potential non-drug, personalized treatments...that might (12) _____ [changing] imbalances in the brain."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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YAWNING SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1709/170903-yawning-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about yawning 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) _____

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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) _____

