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Level 1 – 21st February, 2020

Criminals have smaller brain size, says study

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2002/200221-brain-size-1.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2002/200221-brain-size-1.html>

A study found that antisocial people could have smaller areas of the brain. It said criminals' brains had a different structure to the brains of non-criminals. Researchers looked at records of 672 people aged between seven and 26. At the age of 45, the researchers scanned their brains. Eighty of them were antisocial from their early teens. The areas of their brain that were linked to emotions, motivation and behaviour control were smaller in these people.

The research could help doctors understand long-term antisocial behaviour. Antisocial people may behave badly because of their brain structure. A researcher said: "They are operating under some disability at the level of the brain." She added that we needed to be kinder to these people. Another researcher said: "Differences in brain structure...may prevent them from engaging in antisocial behaviour. These people could benefit from more support."

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/science/2020/feb/17/long-term-offenders-have-different-brain-structure-study-says>
<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-02-life-course-persistent-antisocial-behaviour-differences-brain.html>
[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpsy/article/PIIS2215-0366\(20\)30002-X/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpsy/article/PIIS2215-0366(20)30002-X/fulltext)

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2002/200221-brain-size-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. A study found | a. age of 45 |
| 2. smaller areas | b. criminals |
| 3. criminals' brains had a different | c. to emotions |
| 4. the brains of non- | d. of the brain |
| 5. Researchers looked at records | e. teens |
| 6. At the | f. that |
| 7. from their early | g. of 672 people |
| 8. linked | h. structure |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. The research could help doctors | a. structure |
| 2. Antisocial people may behave | b. prevent them |
| 3. because of their brain | c. from more support |
| 4. They are operating under some | d. badly |
| 5. we needed to be kinder | e. antisocial behaviour |
| 6. Differences in brain structure may | f. to these people |
| 7. engaging in | g. understand |
| 8. These people could benefit | h. disability |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2002/200221-brain-size-1.html>

A (1) _____ antisocial people could have smaller areas of the brain. It said criminals' brains (2) _____ structure to the brains of non-criminals. Researchers looked at records of 672 (3) _____ seven and 26. At the age of 45, the researchers (4) _____. Eighty of them were antisocial from their early teens. The (5) _____ that were linked to emotions, motivation and behaviour control were (6) _____ people.

The research (7) _____ understand long-term antisocial behaviour. Antisocial people (8) _____ because of their brain structure. A researcher said: "They are operating under some (9) _____ level of the brain." She added that we needed (10) _____ to these people. Another researcher said: "Differences in brain structure... (11) _____ from engaging in antisocial behaviour. These people could benefit (12) _____."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2002/200221-brain-size-1.html>

A study found that antisocial people could have smaller areas of the brain. It said criminals' brains had a different structure to the brains of non-criminals. Researchers looked at records of 672 people aged between seven and 26. At the age of 45, the researchers scanned their brains. Eighty of them were antisocial from their early teens. The areas of their brain that were linked to emotions, motivation and behaviour control were smaller in these people. The research could help doctors understand long-term antisocial behaviour. Antisocial people may behave badly because of their brain structure. A researcher said: "They are operating under some disability at the level of the brain." She added that we needed to be kind to these people. Another researcher said: "Differences in brain structure... may prevent them from engaging in antisocial behaviour. These people could benefit from more support."

BRAIN SIZE SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2002/200221-brain-size-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about brain size 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) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2002/200221-brain-size-1.html>

Write about **brain size** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner’s paper.
