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Level 4 – 27th August, 2020

Young people say full stop is intimidating

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200827-full-stop-4.html>

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Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200827-full-stop-4.html>

The full stop in British English is a period in American English. This punctuation mark is used to end sentences. Its use is changing today. A report says it is "intimidating" to young people. They view it as a sign of anger, especially on social media. Many youngsters largely do not punctuate, except for lots of exclamation marks!!!! A linguist said usage of full stops is being fundamentally 'revised'. He said people do not use them "unless they want to make a point".

A linguist said: "If you send a text message without a full stop, it's already obvious that you've concluded the message." A journalist wrote that a full stop is "simply not necessary" in text messages. She said: "It's clear when you've finished your thought, so what function does the period fulfill?...Using a period in messaging...can come across as if you're quite cross or annoyed." She added that full stops are being used to emphasise single words.

Sources: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8657089/Full-stop-intimidating-young-people-interpret-sign-anger-linguists-say.html>
<https://www.scotsman.com/read-this/young-people-are-intimidated-full-stops-text-messages-heres-psychology-explained-2951084>
<https://nypost.com/2020/08/24/young-people-dont-trust-anyone-who-use-this-punctuation-mark/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200827-full-stop-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. The full stop | a. a point |
| 2. punctuation | b. in British English |
| 3. it is intimidating | c. revised |
| 4. They view it as a sign | d. to young people |
| 5. except for lots of exclamation | e. use them |
| 6. being fundamentally | f. of anger |
| 7. people do not | g. marks |
| 8. they want to make | h. mark |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. send a text message | a. or annoyed |
| 2. you've concluded the | b. that |
| 3. A journalist wrote | c. finished your thought |
| 4. simply not | d. words |
| 5. It's clear when you've | e. without a full stop |
| 6. Using a period | f. necessary |
| 7. if you're quite cross | g. in messaging |
| 8. used to emphasise single | h. message |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200827-full-stop-4.html>

The full stop in British English is (1) _____ American English. This punctuation (2) _____ to end sentences. Its use is changing today. A report says it is "intimidating" to young people. They view it as a (3) _____, especially on social media. Many youngsters largely (4) _____, except for lots of exclamation marks!!!! A (5) _____ of full stops is being fundamentally 'revised'. He said people do not use them "unless they want to (6) _____".

A linguist said: "If you send (7) _____ without a full stop, it's (8) _____ you've concluded the message." A journalist wrote that a full stop is "(9) _____" in text messages. She said: "It's clear when you've (10) _____, so what function does the period fulfill?...Using a period in messaging...can come across as if you're quite (11) _____." She added that full stops are being used (12) _____ words.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200827-full-stop-4.html>

The full stop in British English is a period in American English. This punctuation mark is used to end sentences. Its use is changing today. Reports say it is "intimidating" to young people. They view it as a sign of anger, especially on social media. Many youngsters largely do not punctuate, except for lots of exclamation marks!!!! A linguist said usage of full stops is being fundamentally 'revised'. He said people do not use them "unless they want to make a point". A linguist said: "If you send a text message without a full stop, it's already obvious that you've concluded the message." A journalist wrote that a full stop is "simply not necessary" in text messages. She said: "It's clear when you've finished your thought, so what function does the period fulfill?... Using a period in messaging... can come across as if you're quite cross or annoyed." She added that full stops are being used to emphasise single words.

FULL STOP SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200827-full-stop-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about full stop 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) _____

