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Level 3

Money does not make children pass exams

8th October, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1410/141008-exams.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/1410/141008-exams.html>

A new report says promising children money to pass exams does not help exam grades. The report says parents could be wasting their money by using cash to get their kids to study more. However, the promise of a trip somewhere nice could encourage students to try harder and do better at school. Researchers from the University of Bristol (in England) and the University of Chicago (in the USA) looked at how promises of cash and tickets to events affected students' studying and learning. Over 10,000 pupils took part in the research throughout the year 2012. There was an improvement in classwork and homework, but this did not result in better test scores.

Lead researcher Dr Simon Burgess suggested the research looked at the wrong areas. He said it had not looked at the things that really got students to increase their effort. He added that: "Clearly, some pupils have a lot of [goals] and believe that education is a way of getting what they want out of life, but there are kids who think that working hard doesn't make a difference." He said these children think exam success is "all in your genes" because of their family background. Education expert Dr Kevan Collins said good teachers were better than promises of rewards to get children to study, especially for children from low-income families. He wrote: "What really makes the difference is how students are taught."

Sources: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-29461681>
<http://www.teachingpersonnel.com/news/2014/10/3/cash-incentives-fail-to-improve-exam-results/>
<http://www.tes.co.uk/article.aspx?storyCode=6444924>

WARM-UPS

1. EXAMS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about exams. 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?

report / promising money / exam grades / try harder / studying / pupils / homework / research / effort / education / make a difference / family background / good teachers

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

3. STUDY HARDER: How can these things help students to study harder? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	Why these will work	Why these won't work
Money		
Job offers		
iPads		
Nice classrooms		
Homework		
Projects in class		

4. MONEY: Students A **strongly** believe money can help students pass exams; Students B **strongly** believe it can't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. SUCCESS: Rank these with your partner. Put the things that lead to exam success at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- money
- homework
- promise of university
- teacher
- practice tests
- afternoon exams
- job offers
- parents' pride

6. GRADES: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "grades". 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/1410/141008-exams.html>

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

- | | | |
|----|---|-------|
| a. | A report says exam scores go down if kids are offered cash to pass. | T / F |
| b. | The report says the promise of a trip could get students to study more. | T / F |
| c. | Researchers looked at over 10,000 students for a one-year period. | T / F |
| d. | An improvement in classwork and homework led to higher test scores. | T / F |
| e. | A researcher said the research looked at the wrong things. | T / F |
| f. | The research said very few kids these days have goals in life. | T / F |
| g. | The report said some children believe exam success is genetic. | T / F |
| h. | The report said good teachers were important for richer children. | T / F |

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

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. pass | a. lead to |
| 2. wasting | b. particularly |
| 3. trip | c. misusing |
| 4. affected | d. specialist |
| 5. result in | e. get through |
| 6. suggested | f. truly |
| 7. pupils | g. influenced |
| 8. expert | h. day out |
| 9. especially | i. students |
| 10. really | j. indicated |

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

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. promising children | a. to try harder |
| 2. parents could be wasting | b. in the research |
| 3. encourage students | c. in better test scores |
| 4. Over 10,000 pupils took part | d. low-income families |
| 5. this did not result | e. of life |
| 6. things that really got students to | f. make a difference |
| 7. a way of getting what they want out | g. money to pass exams |
| 8. working hard doesn't | h. your genes |
| 9. exam success is all in | i. their money |
| 10. especially for children from | j. increase their effort |

GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141008-exams.html>

A new report says (1) _____ children money to pass exams does not help exam grades. The report says parents could be (2) _____ their money by using cash to get their kids to study more. However, the promise of a (3) _____ somewhere nice could encourage students to try harder and do (4) _____ at school. Researchers from the University of Bristol (in England) and the University of Chicago (in the USA) looked at how promises of cash and (5) _____ to events affected students' studying and (6) _____. Over 10,000 pupils took part in the research (7) _____ the year 2012. There was an improvement in classwork and homework, but this did not (8) _____ in better test scores.

learning
trip
result
better
promising
throughout
wasting
tickets

Lead researcher Dr Simon Burgess suggested the research looked at the (9) _____ areas. He said it had not looked at the things that really got students to increase their (10) _____. He added that: "Clearly, some pupils have a lot of [goals] and believe that education is a (11) _____ of getting what they want out of (12) _____, but there are kids who think that working hard doesn't make a difference." He said these children think exam success is "all in your (13) _____ " because of their family background. Education (14) _____ Dr Kevan Collins said good teachers were better than promises of rewards to get children to study, especially for children from low-(15) _____ families. He wrote: "What really makes the difference is how students are (16) _____."

way
life
income
effort
taught
expert
wrong
genes

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141008-exams.html>

- 1) promising children money to pass exams does not _____
 - a. help exam gradients
 - b. help exam grades
 - c. help exam glades
 - d. help exam jades
- 2) The report says parents could be _____
 - a. wasting their money
 - b. washing their money
 - c. way sting their money
 - d. waste in their money
- 3) the promise of a trip somewhere nice could encourage students _____
 - a. to try hard
 - b. to try hard a
 - c. to try hardly
 - d. to try harder
- 4) how promises of cash and tickets to events _____
 - a. infected students
 - b. effected students
 - c. affected students
 - d. reflected students
- 5) ...an improvement in classwork and homework, but this did not result in _____
 - a. better test scores
 - b. better test scores
 - c. better test scores
 - d. better test scores
- 6) He said it had not looked at the things that really got students to _____
 - a. increase their efforts
 - b. increase their effort
 - c. increase their effect
 - d. increase their effects
- 7) believe that education is a way of getting what they _____
 - a. want out from life
 - b. want out of life
 - c. want out for life
 - d. want out this life
- 8) there are kids who think that working hard doesn't _____
 - a. make a different
 - b. make a differences
 - c. make a difference
 - d. make a differ rants
- 9) He said these children think exam success is all _____
 - a. in your jeans
 - b. in your zones
 - c. in your genies
 - d. in your genes
- 10) good teachers were better than _____
 - a. promise is of rewards
 - b. promises of rewards
 - c. promise soft rewards
 - d. promise or rewards

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141008-exams.html>

A new report says promising children (1) _____ does not help exam grades. The report says parents could be (2) _____ by using cash to get their kids to study more. However, the (3) _____ somewhere nice could encourage students to try harder and do better at school. Researchers from the University of Bristol (in England) and the University of Chicago (in the USA) looked at how promises of cash and tickets (4) _____ students' studying and learning. Over 10,000 (5) _____ the research throughout the year 2012. There was an improvement in classwork and homework, but this did not (6) _____ test scores.

Lead researcher Dr Simon Burgess suggested the research looked at the wrong areas. He said it had not looked (7) _____ really got students to increase their effort. He added that: "Clearly, some pupils have a lot of [goals] and believe that education (8) _____ what they want out of life, (9) _____ who think that working hard doesn't make a difference." He said these children think exam success is "(10) _____" because of their family background. Education expert Dr Kevan Collins said good teachers were better than promises of (11) _____ children to study, especially for children from low-income families. He wrote: "What really makes the difference is (12) _____."

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141008-exams.html>

1. What does promising money to children not help?

2. What can encourage students to study more?

3. How many universities took part in this research?

4. How many students took part in this research?

5. What two things in the research improved?

6. What did the lead researcher say the research looked at?

7. What do some students have a lot of?

8. What do some students think is because of your genes?

9. What did an expert say was better than rewards?

10. Which students really need good teachers?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141008-exams.html>

1. What does promising money to children not help?
 - a) universities
 - b) schools
 - c) parents
 - d) exam success
2. What can encourage students to study more?
 - a) music
 - b) trips
 - c) an iPad
 - d) red ink
3. How many universities took part in this research?
 - a) 4
 - b) 3
 - c) 2
 - d) 1
4. How many students took part in this research?
 - a) more than 10,000
 - b) exactly 10,000
 - c) just under 10,000
 - d) 10,000
5. What two things in the research improved?
 - a) maths and English
 - b) test scores and exam grades
 - c) classwork and homework
 - d) discipline and punctuality
6. What did the lead researcher say the research looked at?
 - a) 5 subjects
 - b) the wrong things
 - c) high schools
 - d) teachers
7. What do some students have a lot of?
 - a) time
 - b) problems
 - c) money
 - d) goals
8. What do some students think is because of your genes?
 - a) exam success
 - b) money
 - c) ability at English
 - d) genetics
9. What did an expert say was better than rewards?
 - a) games
 - b) money
 - c) good teachers
 - d) a university place
10. Which students really need good teachers?
 - a) elite students
 - b) poorer students
 - c) high school students
 - d) English students

ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141008-exams.html>

Role A – Money

You think money is the best way to get students to pass exams. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things won't work. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): practice tests, afternoon exams or parents.

Role B – Practice tests

You think practice tests are the best way to get students to pass exams. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things won't work. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): money, afternoon exams or parents.

Role C – Afternoon exams

You think afternoon exams are the best way to get students to pass exams. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things won't work. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): practice tests, money or parents.

Role D – Parents

You think parents are the best way to get students to pass exams. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things won't work. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): practice tests, afternoon exams or money.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141008-exams.html>

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

exam	test
-------------	-------------

- 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">• help• parents• trip• tickets• part• result	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• wrong• lot• hard• success• good• really
---	--

EXAMS SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141008-exams.html>

Write five GOOD questions about exams 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.

EXAMS 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 'exam'?
- 3) Are you good at passing exams?
- 4) What things made you study hard?
- 5) Do you have any regrets about exams?
- 6) What's the most important thing to do to pass exams?
- 7) What do you do the night before an exam?
- 8) How have exams helped you in your life?
- 9) Would money help you get a better exam score?
- 10) What's the saddest you've felt about an exam?

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EXAMS DISCUSSION

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

- 11) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- 12) What's the best way to get kids to study?
- 12) Do children understand how important exams are?
- 14) Is there a better way to test children without exams?
- 15) What exam scores that you got would you like to change?
- 16) Does education help you get what you want out of life?
- 17) Does a person's genes help with exam success?
- 18) Who was the best teacher you ever had?
- 19) What makes a great teacher a great teacher?
- 20) What questions would you like to ask the head researcher?

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/1410/141008-exams.html>

A new report says promising children money to (1) _____ exams does not help exam grades. The report says parents could be (2) _____ their money by using cash to get their kids to study more. However, the promise of a trip somewhere nice could encourage students to try harder and do (3) _____ at school. Researchers from the University of Bristol (in England) and the University of Chicago (in the USA) looked at how promises (4) _____ cash and tickets to events affected students' studying and learning. Over 10,000 pupils took part (5) _____ the research throughout the year 2012. There was an improvement in classwork and homework, but this did not (6) _____ in better test scores.

Lead researcher Dr Simon Burgess suggested the research looked at the (7) _____ areas. He said it had not looked at the things that (8) _____ got students to increase their effort. He added that: "Clearly, some pupils have a lot of [goals] and believe that education is a (9) _____ of getting what they want out of life, but there are kids who think that working hard doesn't make a difference." He said these children think exam success is "(10) _____ in your genes" because of their family background. Education expert Dr Kevan Collins said good teachers were better than promises of rewards (11) _____ get children to study, especially for children from low-income families. He wrote: "What (12) _____ makes the difference is how students are taught."

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. | (a) pass | (b) passed | (c) passing | (d) passes |
| 2. | (a) wasted | (b) wastes | (c) wasting | (d) waste |
| 3. | (a) best | (b) good | (c) better | (d) goodly |
| 4. | (a) for | (b) from | (c) if | (d) of |
| 5. | (a) by | (b) at | (c) in | (d) to |
| 6. | (a) score | (b) result | (c) answer | (d) mark |
| 7. | (a) long | (b) wrong | (c) mistaken | (d) reverse |
| 8. | (a) so | (b) really | (c) such | (d) true |
| 9. | (a) manner | (b) style | (c) way | (d) approach |
| 10. | (a) whole | (b) every | (c) each | (d) all |
| 11. | (a) at | (b) as | (c) for | (d) to |
| 12. | (a) realism | (b) reality | (c) real | (d) really |

SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141008-exams.html>

Paragraph 1

1. gpsrimion children money
2. parents could be naiwtsg their money
3. gaenrocue students to try harder
4. events aecffted students' studying
5. hotuohgrut the year 2012
6. There was an ntipeovemrm

Paragraph 2

7. increase their ftfeor
8. doesn't make a cdeferenfi
9. exam ssecucs is "all in your genes"
10. Education ertpex Dr Kevan Collins
11. promises of adsrerw
12. low-onmeic families

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141008-exams.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () teachers were better than promises of rewards to get children to study, especially for children from low-
- () of Chicago (in the USA) looked at how promises of cash and tickets to events affected students' studying
- () Lead researcher Dr Simon Burgess suggested the research looked at the wrong areas. He said it had not looked
- () at the things that really got students to increase their effort. He added that: "Clearly, some
- () pupils have a lot of [goals] and believe that education is a way of getting what they want out of
- (**1**) A new report says promising children money to pass exams does not help exam
- () more. However, the promise of a trip somewhere nice could encourage students to try harder and do
- () success is "all in your genes" because of their family background. Education expert Dr Kevan Collins said good
- () and learning. Over 10,000 pupils took part in the research throughout the
- () life, but there are kids who think that working hard doesn't make a difference." He said these children think exam
- () income families. He wrote: "What really makes the difference is how students are taught."
- () grades. The report says parents could be wasting their money by using cash to get their kids to study
- () year 2012. There was an improvement in classwork and homework, but this did not result in better test scores.
- () better at school. Researchers from the University of Bristol (in England) and the University

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141008-exams.html>

1. children to exams Promising money pass .

2. wasting by be money cash could their using Parents .

3. and students do to better try harder Encourage .

4. research the in part took pupils 10,000 Over .

5. in This better did test not scores result .

6. suggested looked wrong Burgess research the the at areas .

7. to increase their effort The things that really got students .

8. they want out Education is a way of getting what .

9. Think make that a working difference hard doesn't .

10. low Especially - for income children families from .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141008-exams.html>

A new report says *promising / promised* children money to pass exams does not help exam grades. The report says parents could be *wasted / wasting* their money by using cash *to / for* get their kids to study more. However, the promise of a trip somewhere nice could *encouraging / encourage* students to *try / trial* harder and do better at school. Researchers from the University of Bristol (in England) and the University of Chicago (in the USA) looked at how promises of cash and *tickets / ticket* to events affected students' *studying / studied* and learning. Over 10,000 pupils took *partner / part* in the research throughout the year 2012. There was an improvement *in / on* classwork and homework, but this did not result *in / at* better test scores.

Lead researcher Dr Simon Burgess *suggested / suggestion* the research looked at the wrong *arenas / areas*. He said it had not looked at the things that *real / really* got students to increase their *effort / effortless*. He added that: "Clearly, some pupils have a lot of [goals] and *belief / believe* that education is a way of getting what they want *out / in* of life, but there are kids who think that working hard doesn't make a *difference / different*." He said these children think exam success is "all in your *jeans / genes*" because of their family background. Education expert Dr Kevan Collins said good teachers were better than promises of *forwards / rewards* to get children to study, especially for children from low-income families. He wrote: "What really makes the difference is how students are *teach / taught*."

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/1410/141008-exams.html>

_ n _ w _ r _ p _ r _ t _ s _ y _ s _ p _ r _ m _ s _ n _ g _ c _ h _ l _ d _ r _ n _ m _ n _ y _ t _ p _ s _ s _
_ x _ m _ s _ d _ s _ n _ t _ h _ l _ p _ _ x _ m _ g _ r _ d _ s . Th _ r _ p _ r _ t _ s _ y _ s _
p _ r _ n _ t _ s _ c _ _ l _ d _ b _ w _ s _ t _ n _ g _ th _ _ r _ m _ n _ y _ b _ y _ _ s _ n _ g _ c _ s _ h _
t _ g _ t _ th _ _ r _ k _ d _ s _ t _ s _ t _ d _ y _ m _ r _ . H _ w _ v _ r , th _ p _ r _ m _ s _
_ f _ t _ r _ p _ s _ m _ w _ h _ r _ n _ c _ c _ _ l _ d _ n _ c _ _ r _ g _ s _ t _ d _ n _ t _ s _ t _
t _ r _ y _ h _ r _ d _ r _ _ n _ d _ d _ b _ t _ t _ r _ _ t _ s _ c _ h _ _ l . R _ s _ _ r _ c _ h _ r _ s _ f _ r _ m _
th _ _ n _ v _ r _ s _ t _ y _ _ f _ B _ r _ s _ t _ l _ (_ n _ _ n _ g _ l _ n _ d) _ n _ d _ th _
_ n _ v _ r _ s _ t _ y _ _ f _ C _ h _ c _ g _ (_ n _ th _ _ S _) l _ _ k _ d _ t _ h _ w _
p _ r _ m _ s _ s _ _ f _ c _ s _ h _ _ n _ d _ t _ c _ k _ t _ s _ t _ _ v _ n _ t _ s _ _ f _ f _ c _ t _ d _
s _ t _ d _ n _ t _ s _ ' _ s _ t _ d _ y _ n _ g _ _ n _ d _ l _ _ r _ n _ n _ g . _ v _ r _ 10,000 _ p _ p _ l _ s _
t _ _ k _ p _ r _ t _ _ n _ th _ r _ s _ _ r _ c _ h _ th _ r _ _ g _ h _ _ t _ th _ y _ _ r _ 2012 .
Th _ r _ _ w _ s _ _ n _ _ m _ p _ r _ v _ m _ n _ t _ _ n _ c _ l _ s _ s _ w _ r _ k _ _ n _ d _
h _ m _ w _ r _ k , b _ t _ th _ s _ d _ d _ n _ t _ r _ s _ l _ t _ _ n _ b _ t _ t _ r _ t _ s _ t _
s _ c _ r _ s .

L _ _ d _ r _ s _ _ r _ c _ h _ r _ D _ r _ S _ m _ n _ B _ r _ g _ s _ s _ s _ g _ g _ s _ t _ d _ th _
r _ s _ _ r _ c _ h _ l _ _ k _ d _ t _ th _ w _ r _ n _ g _ _ r _ _ s . H _ s _ _ d _ t _ h _ d _
n _ t _ l _ _ k _ d _ t _ th _ th _ n _ g _ s _ th _ t _ r _ _ l _ l _ y _ g _ t _ s _ t _ d _ n _ t _ s _ t _
_ n _ c _ r _ _ s _ th _ _ r _ _ f _ f _ r _ t . H _ _ d _ d _ th _ t : " C _ l _ _ r _ l _ y , s _ m _
p _ p _ l _ s _ h _ v _ _ _ l _ t _ _ f _ [g _ _ l _ s] _ n _ d _ b _ l _ _ v _ th _ t _
_ d _ c _ t _ n _ s _ _ w _ y _ _ f _ g _ t _ t _ n _ g _ w _ h _ t _ th _ y _ w _ n _ t _ _ t _ f _
l _ f _ , b _ t _ th _ r _ _ r _ k _ d _ s _ w _ h _ th _ n _ k _ th _ t _ w _ r _ k _ n _ g _ h _ r _ d _
d _ _ s _ n ' t _ m _ k _ _ d _ f _ f _ r _ n _ c _ . " H _ s _ _ d _ th _ s _ c _ h _ l _ d _ r _ n _
th _ n _ k _ _ x _ m _ s _ c _ c _ s _ s _ s _ " _ l _ l _ n _ y _ _ r _ g _ n _ s " b _ c _ _ s _ _ f _
th _ _ r _ f _ m _ l _ y _ b _ c _ k _ g _ r _ _ n _ d . _ d _ c _ t _ n _ _ x _ p _ r _ t _ D _ r _ K _ v _ n _
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t _ _ g _ h _ t . "

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141008-exams.html>

a new report says promising children money to pass exams does not help exam grades the report says parents could be wasting their money by using cash to get their kids to study more however the promise of a trip somewhere nice could encourage students to try harder and do better at school researchers from the university of bristol (in england) and the university of chicago (in the usa) looked at how promises of cash and tickets to events affected students' studying and learning over 10000 pupils took part in the research throughout the year 2012 there was an improvement in classwork and homework but this did not result in better test scores

lead researcher dr simon burgess suggested the research looked at the wrong areas he said it had not looked at the things that really got students to increase their effort he added that "clearly some pupils have a lot of [goals] and believe that education is a way of getting what they want out of life but there are kids who think that working hard doesn't make a difference" he said these children think exam success is "all in your genes" because of their family background education expert dr kevan collins said good teachers were better than promises of rewards to get children to study especially for children from low-income families he wrote "what really makes the difference is how students are taught"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1410/141008-exams.html>

A new report says promising children money to pass exams does not help exam grades. The report says parents could be wasting their money by using cash to get their kids to study more. However, the promise of a trip somewhere nice could encourage students to try harder and do better at school. Researchers from the University of Bristol (in England) and the University of Chicago (in the USA) looked at how promises of cash and tickets to events affected students' studying and learning. Over 10,000 pupils took part in the research throughout the year 2012. There was an improvement in classwork and homework, but this did not result in better test scores. Lead researcher Dr Simon Burgess suggested the research looked at the wrong areas. He said it had not looked at the things that really got students to increase their effort. He added that: "Clearly, some pupils have a lot of [goals] and believe that education is a way of getting what they want out of life, but there are kids who think that working hard doesn't make a difference." He said these children think exam success is "all in your genes" because of their family background. Education expert Dr Kevan Collin said good teachers were better than promises of rewards to get children to study, especially for children from low-income families. He wrote: "What really makes the difference is how students are taught."

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 how to pass exams. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. EXAMS: Make a poster about exam success. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. CASH TO STUDY: Write a magazine article about giving children money to pass exams. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

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 exams. Ask him/her three questions about exams. Give him/her three of your ideas on the best way to pass exams. 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 T h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. pass | a. get through |
| 2. wasting | b. misusing |
| 3. trip | c. day out |
| 4. affected | d. influenced |
| 5. result in | e. lead to |
| 6. suggested | f. indicated |
| 7. pupils | g. students |
| 8. expert | h. specialist |
| 9. especially | i. particularly |
| 10. really | j. truly |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Exam success
2. A trip somewhere nice
3. Two
4. Over 10,000
5. Classwork and homework
6. The wrong things
7. Goals
8. Exam success
9. Good teachers
10. Those from low-income families

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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