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## **Level 4**

### **Brown shoes could mean failed job interview**

**6th September, 2016**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160906-job-interview-4.html>

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

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160906-job-interview-4.html>

People who want to be investment bankers in London could be disappointed if they wear brown shoes. A report shows the investment banking industry follows old rules about how bankers should behave. Researchers found that the industry followed unclear codes of conduct. They wrote: "For men, the wearing of brown shoes with a business suit is generally considered unacceptable...within investment banking."

The report suggested that working class people had to change their behaviour to fit in. One banker said: "I felt like my accent was a bit out of place, so I changed it." The study said the industry discriminated against those who did not go to elite universities. It said: "Bright, working-class kids are being systematically locked out of top jobs....It is shocking...that some...still judge candidates on whether they wear brown shoes...rather than on their skills."

Sources: <http://www.cnbc.com/2016/09/01/wearing-brown-shoes-could-lose-you-a-banking-job-in-uk.html>  
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/09/01/candidates-miss-out-on-financial-jobs-because-they-wear-brown-sh/>  
<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-37244180>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160906-job-interview-4.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                               |                          |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. People who want to         | a. with a business suit  |
| 2. disappointed if            | b. rules                 |
| 3. the investment banking     | c. unacceptable          |
| 4. follows old                | d. they wear brown shoes |
| 5. how bankers should         | e. of conduct            |
| 6. followed unclear codes     | f. industry              |
| 7. the wearing of brown shoes | g. be investment bankers |
| 8. generally considered       | h. behave                |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                  |                  |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. change their behaviour to fit | a. of top jobs   |
| 2. my accent was a bit out       | b. in            |
| 3. the industry discriminated    | c. candidates    |
| 4. elite                         | d. their skills  |
| 5. Bright, working-              | e. of place      |
| 6. systematically locked out     | f. universities  |
| 7. judge                         | g. class kids    |
| 8. rather than on                | h. against those |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160906-job-interview-4.html>

People who want to be investment bankers in London

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ if they wear brown shoes. A report shows the

investment banking industry (2) \_\_\_\_\_ about how bankers

should behave. Researchers (3) \_\_\_\_\_ industry followed

unclear (4) \_\_\_\_\_. They wrote: "For men, the wearing of

brown shoes with (5) \_\_\_\_\_ is generally considered

(6) \_\_\_\_\_ investment banking."

The (7) \_\_\_\_\_ working class people had to change their

behaviour to fit in. One banker said: "I felt (8) \_\_\_\_\_ was

a bit (9) \_\_\_\_\_ I changed it." The study said the industry

discriminated (10) \_\_\_\_\_ did not go to elite universities. It

said: "Bright, working-class kids are being systematically

(11) \_\_\_\_\_ jobs....It is shocking...that some...still judge

candidates on whether they wear brown shoes...

(12) \_\_\_\_\_ their skills."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160906-job-interview-4.html>

People who want to be investment bankers in London could be disappointed if they wear brown shoes. A report shows the investment banking industry follows old rules about how bankers should behave. Researchers found that the industry followed unclear codes of conduct. They wrote: "For men, the wearing of brown shoes with a business suit is generally considered unacceptable... within investment banking." The report suggested that working class people had to change their behaviour to fit in. One banker said: "I felt like my accent was a bit out of place, so I changed it." The study said the industry discriminated against those who did not go to elite universities. It said: "Bright, working-class kids are being systematically locked out of top jobs.... It is shocking... that some... still judge candidates on whether they wear brown shoes... rather than on their skills."

# JOB INTERVIEWS SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160906-job-interview-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about job interviews 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<br>_____ | STUDENT 2<br>_____ | STUDENT 3<br>_____ |
|------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*Brown shoes could mean failed job interview – 6th September, 2016*  
More free lessons at [www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com](http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com)

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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 <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160906-job-interview-4.html>

Write about **job interviews** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.

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