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Level 5

Nearly 600 volunteer to be absent father

10th January, 2018

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1801/180110-absent-fathers-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1801/180110-absent-fathers-5.html>

A school in the USA was surprised after being swamped by volunteers to be absent fathers. The school is in the city of Dallas. It asked for 50 male volunteers to be substitute fathers in an event called "Breakfast with Dads". Organizers were flooded with replies. They were shocked after nearly 600 men responded and turned up at the event. The school's very first "Breakfast with Dads" event was to improve community spirit. Most of the children come from low-income families. Many of them did not have a father who could go to the breakfast.

The school said the breakfast event was part of a plan to improve its academic position. Community leaders and local organizations combined in various projects to increase test scores. There has been some improvement at the school because of their efforts. A local pastor said: "When a young person sees someone other than their teacher take interest in them, it inspires them." A school liaison officer commented on the success of the event. She said: "The look of awe, even disbelief, in students' eyes as they made their way through the crowd of "Dads" was astonishing."

Sources: <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/billy-earl-dade-middle-school-dallas-breakfast-with-dads-asks-50-volunteers-600-a8146291.html>
<http://www.sltrib.com/news/nation-world/2018/01/07/a-school-sought-50-men-to-stand-in-for-absent-fathers-at-breakfast-with-dads-nearly-600-showed-up/>
<https://www.dallasnews.com/news/dallas-isd/2017/12/07/male-mentors-needed-eat-breakfast-south-dallas-middle-schooler-dads-event>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1801/180110-absent-fathers-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. surprised after being swamped | a. spirit |
| 2. It asked for 50 | b. breakfast |
| 3. Organizers were | c. turned up |
| 4. 600 men responded and | d. by volunteers |
| 5. improve community | e. have a father |
| 6. come from low- | f. male volunteers |
| 7. Many of them did not | g. flooded with replies |
| 8. go to the | h. income families |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. improve its academic | a. of the event |
| 2. combined in various projects to | b. eyes |
| 3. There has been some | c. position |
| 4. someone other | d. the crowd |
| 5. commented on the success | e. improvement |
| 6. The look of | f. than their teacher |
| 7. disbelief in students' | g. awe |
| 8. made their way through | h. increase test scores |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1801/180110-absent-fathers-5.html>

A school in the USA was surprised after (1) _____ volunteers to be absent fathers. The school is in the city of Dallas. It asked for 50 (2) _____ be substitute fathers in an event called "Breakfast with Dads". Organizers were (3) _____. They were shocked after nearly 600 men responded and (4) _____ the event. The school's very first "Breakfast with Dads" event was to improve (5) _____. Most of the children come (6) _____ families. Many of them did not have a father who could go to the breakfast.

The school said the breakfast (7) _____ of a plan to improve its academic position. Community leaders and local organizations combined in (8) _____ increase test scores. There has been some improvement at the school because (9) _____. A local pastor said: "When a young person sees someone other than their teacher (10) _____ them, it inspires them." A school liaison officer commented on the success of the event. She said: "The (11) _____, even disbelief, in students' eyes as they made their way through the crowd of "Dads" (12) _____."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1801/180110-absent-fathers-5.html>

AschoolintheUSAwassurprisedafterbeingswampedbyvolunteerstob
eabsentfathers.TheschoolisinthecityofDallas.Itaskedfor50malevolu
nteerstobesubstitutefathersinaneventcalled"BreakfastwithDads".O
rganizerswerefloodedwithreplies.Theywereshockedafternearly600
menrespondedandturnedupattheevent.Theschool'sveryfirst"Breakf
astwithDads"eventwastoimprovecommunityspirit.Mostofthechildre
ncomefromlow-incomefamilies.Manyofthemdidnothaveafatherwho
couldgotothebreakfast.Theschoolsaidthebreakfasteventwaspato
plantoimproveitsacademicposition.Communityleadersandlocalorga
nizationscombinedinvariousprojectstoincreasetestscores.Therehas
beensomeimprovementattheschoolbecauseoftheirefforts.Alocalpas
torsaid:"Whenayoungpersonseessomeoneotherthantheirteacherta
keinterestinthem,itinspiresthem."Aschoolliaisonofficercommented
onthesuccessoftheevent.Shesaid:"Thelookofawe,evendisbelief,in
udents'eyesasthey madetheirwaythroughthecrowdof"Dads"wasast
onishing."

FATHERS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1801/180110-absent-fathers-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about fathers 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/1801/180110-absent-fathers-5.html>

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