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## Level 6

### All New York prisoners to get free tablet computer

3rd February, 2018

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180203-tablet-computers.html>

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**Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180203-tablet-computers.html>

All prisoners in the U.S. state of New York are to be given free tablet computers. The freebies are part of a deal struck between a private communications service called JPay and New York's prison service. The lucrative but controversial agreement involves the contractor providing 54,700 convicts with a free tablet. The tablets will not be Internet enabled, but prisoners will be able to get limited, but monitored, online access by plugging their device into approved kiosks at specific times. Inmates will be allowed to email an approved list of family and friends; order certain music, books and videos; and file grievances and reports of abuse. All of this activity will be heavily monitored by prison staff.

Prisoner support services welcomed the free tablet initiative. They called it a "game-changer" and a "huge step forward". A New York State official said the tablets would help prisoners remain closer to their families, and reduce tensions between prisoners and prison guards. However, law enforcement agencies are questioning the wisdom of giving tablets to convicts. Some law enforcement officers described it as a good example of how crime does pay. Top police officer Ed Mullins questioned why prisoners were getting free tablets when other people in society are struggling. He said: "Little is done for the homeless, mentally ill, and hard-working people who can't afford tablets in New York State."

Sources: <http://www.nydailynews.com/new-york/inmates-free-tablets-file-grievances-abuse-article-1.3791849>  
<https://nypost.com/2018/01/31/new-york-is-giving-locked-up-killers-rapists-free-tablets/>  
<http://www.foxnews.com/tech/2018/01/31/inmates-in-new-york-state-prisons-to-receive-free-tablet-computers.html>

# WARM-UPS

**1. PRISONERS:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about prisoners. 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?

prisoners / tablet / private / lucrative / agreement / online / access / family / staff / initiative / huge / tensions / wisdom / crime / society / struggling / homeless / afford

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

**3. TABLETS:** Students A **strongly** believe prisoners should not get free tablet computers; Students B **strongly** believe they should. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. PRISONERS:** What should prisoners have? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	What?	How Much/Many?	Why?
Digital products			
Games			
Stationery			
Clothes			
Free time			
Visits			

**5. DEAL:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "deal". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

**6. FREEBIES:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best freebies at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- tissues
- pens
- drinks
- English lessons
- music
- movie tickets
- chocolate
- deodorant

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 1. freebies      | a. A (business) agreement between two or more people, companies or groups.  |
| 2. deal          | b. Likely to give create a lot of public disagreement; a hot topic.   |
| 3. struck        | c. Making a LOT of money and profit.  |
| 4. lucrative     | d. A thing made for a special purpose, especially a piece of electronic equipment, like a smartphone, printer or computer tablet. |
| 5. controversial | e. Things that are given to people for free (without paying).   |
| 6. monitored     | f. Send a legal document or a complaint somewhere.  |
| 7. file          | g. Look carefully at and check the progress or quality of something or someone over a period of time.                             |

## Paragraph 2

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 8. initiative  | h. Trying really hard to live because of problems and difficulties. |
| 9. remain      | i. A new plan or to resolve a difficulty or improve a situation.    |
| 10. reduce     | j. How good or bad an action or decision is.                        |
| 11. tensions   | k. Have enough money to pay for something.                          |
| 12. wisdom     | l. Make smaller; make lower.  |
| 13. struggling | m. Stresses and bad relationships between people.                   |
| 14. afford     | n. Stay; be.  |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180203-tablet-computers.html>

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

- a. A pharmaceutical company is giving New York prisoners free tables. **T / F**
- b. Just under 55,000 prisoners will be given a free tablet. **T / F**
- c. The prisoners will not have any access to the Internet. **T / F**
- d. The prison staff will not monitor prisoners' use of tablets. **T / F**
- e. Prisoner support services like the idea of the free tablets. **T / F**
- f. Law enforcement agencies are happy about the free tablets. **T / F**
- g. A police officer said the tablets show that crime pays. **T / F**
- h. A police officer questioned why so little was done to help the homeless. **T / F**

## 2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- |                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. <b>deal</b>          | a. particular     |
| 2. <b>lucrative</b>     | b. have money for |
| 3. <b>controversial</b> | c. stay           |
| 4. <b>specific</b>      | d. profitable     |
| 5. <b>grievances</b>    | e. common sense   |
| 6. <b>huge</b>          | f. complaints     |
| 7. <b>remain</b>        | g. agreement      |
| 8. <b>wisdom</b>        | h. be profitable  |
| 9. <b>pay</b>           | i. enormous       |
| 10. <b>afford</b>       | j. contentious    |

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

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1. The freebies are part                          | a. free tablet initiative |
| 2. 54,700   | b. by prison staff        |
| 3. allowed to email an approved                   | c. are struggling         |
| 4. file grievances and                            | d. of a deal              |
| 5. All of this activity will be heavily monitored | e. huge step forward      |
| 6. support services welcomed the                  | f. list of family         |
| 7. a game-changer and a                           | g. does pay               |
| 8. law enforcement                                | h. reports of abuse       |
| 9. a good example of how crime                    | i. agencies               |
| 10. people in society                             | j. convicts               |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180203-tablet-computers.html>

All prisoners in the U.S. (1) \_\_\_\_\_ of New York are to be given free tablet computers. The freebies are (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of a deal struck between a private communications service called JPay and New York's prison service. The (3) \_\_\_\_\_ but controversial agreement involves the contractor providing 54,700 convicts with a free tablet. The tablets will not be Internet (4) \_\_\_\_\_, but prisoners will be able to get limited, but monitored, online (5) \_\_\_\_\_ by plugging their device into approved kiosks at (6) \_\_\_\_\_ times. Inmates will be allowed to email an approved list of family and friends; order certain music, books and videos; and (7) \_\_\_\_\_ grievances and reports of abuse. All of this activity will be (8) \_\_\_\_\_ monitored by prison staff.

*access*  
*part*  
*file*  
*state*  
*heavily*  
*enabled*  
*specific*  
*lucrative*

Prisoner support services welcomed the free tablet (9) \_\_\_\_\_. They called it a "game-changer" and a "huge (10) \_\_\_\_\_ forward". A New York State official said the tablets would help prisoners remain closer to their families, and reduce (11) \_\_\_\_\_ between prisoners and prison guards. However, law enforcement agencies are questioning the (12) \_\_\_\_\_ of giving tablets to convicts. Some law enforcement officers described it as a good (13) \_\_\_\_\_ of how crime does pay. Top police officer Ed Mullins questioned why prisoners were getting free tablets when other people in (14) \_\_\_\_\_ are struggling. He said: "Little is (15) \_\_\_\_\_ for the homeless, mentally ill, and hard-working people who can't (16) \_\_\_\_\_ tablets in New York State."

*tensions*  
*example*  
*wisdom*  
*afford*  
*initiative*  
*done*  
*step*  
*society*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180203-tablet-computers.html>

- 1) ...of New York are to be given free tablet computers. The freebies are \_\_\_\_\_ deal
  - a. partner of a
  - b. party of a
  - c. part of a
  - d. parted of a
- 2) involves the contractor providing 54,700 \_\_\_\_\_ free tablet
  - a. convictions with a
  - b. con wicks with a
  - c. convicts with a
  - d. con victors with a
- 3) Inmates will be allowed to email an \_\_\_\_\_ family
  - a. approval list of
  - b. approving list of
  - c. approved list of
  - d. approves list of
- 4) order certain music, books and videos; and \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. filed grievances
  - b. file grievances
  - c. file grievance
  - d. filed grievance
- 5) All of this activity will be heavily monitored \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. buy prison staff
  - b. by prison staff
  - c. bye prison staff
  - d. byte prison staff
- 6) Prisoner support services welcomed the free \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. tablet initiative
  - b. tablet initiatives
  - c. tablets initiative
  - d. tablets initiatives
- 7) They called it a "game-changer" and a "huge \_\_\_\_\_"
  - a. step for word
  - b. step far ward
  - c. step far word
  - d. step forward
- 8) the tablets would help prisoners remain closer to their families, and \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. reed deuce tensions
  - b. rid deuce tensions
  - c. reduce tensions
  - d. reduce tent shun
- 9) why prisoners were getting free tablets when other people in society \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. are struggle in
  - b. are struggling
  - c. are struggling in
  - d. are struggled
- 10) Little is done for the homeless, mentally ill, and hard-\_\_\_\_\_
  - a. work in people
  - b. working people
  - c. worked in people
  - d. worker people

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180203-tablet-computers.html>

All prisoners in the U.S. state of New York are to be (1) \_\_\_\_\_ computers. The freebies are part of a (2) \_\_\_\_\_ a private communications service called JPay and New York's prison service. (3) \_\_\_\_\_ controversial agreement involves the contractor providing 54,700 convicts with a free tablet. The tablets will not be Internet (4) \_\_\_\_\_ will be able to get limited, but monitored, online access by plugging their device into approved kiosks (5) \_\_\_\_\_. Inmates will be allowed to email an approved list of family and friends; order certain music, books and videos; and file grievances and (6) \_\_\_\_\_. All of this activity will be heavily monitored by prison staff.

Prisoner support services welcomed the (7) \_\_\_\_\_. They called it a "game-changer" and a "(8) \_\_\_\_\_. A New York State official said the tablets would help prisoners remain closer to their families, (9) \_\_\_\_\_ between prisoners and prison guards. However, law enforcement agencies are questioning the (10) \_\_\_\_\_ tablets to convicts. Some law enforcement officers described it as a good example of how crime does pay. Top police officer Ed Mullins questioned why prisoners were (11) \_\_\_\_\_ when other people in society are struggling. He said: "Little is done for the homeless, mentally ill, (12) \_\_\_\_\_ people who can't afford tablets in New York State."



# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180203-tablet-computers.html>

1. What kind of company is the tablet computer provider JPay?
2. How many prisoners will be given a free tablet computer?
3. Where will prisoners have to plug their tablets in to get Internet access?
4. What will prisoners be able to file?
5. Who will monitor the Internet activity of the prisoners?
6. What did support services call the initiative besides a huge step forward?
7. What did a police officer say the tablet giveaway was an example of?
8. What kinds of agencies are questioning the wisdom of the giveaway?
9. What did a police officer say many people in society were doing?
10. What did a police officer say was being done for the homeless?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180203-tablet-computers.html>

- 1) What kind of company is the tablet computer provider JPay?
  - a) a security company
  - b) a tablet maker
  - c) a private communications service
  - d) a pharmaceutical company
- 2) How many prisoners will be given a free tablet computer?
  - a) 54,700
  - b) 45,700
  - c) 57,400
  - d) 47,500
- 3) Where will prisoners have to plug their tablets in to get Internet access?
  - a) the visiting room
  - b) the prison library
  - c) the power supply in their cell
  - d) special kiosks
- 4) What will prisoners be able to file?
  - a) A4 binders
  - b) grievances
  - c) cell bars
  - d) their nails
- 5) Who will monitor the Internet activity of the prisoners?
  - a) the tablet maker
  - b) other prisoners
  - c) prison staff
  - d) JPay
- 6) What did support services call the initiative besides a huge step forward?
  - a) a gamer
  - b) a game-changer
  - c) a game charger
  - d) a game
- 7) What did a police officer say the tablet giveaway was an example of?
  - a) state help
  - b) a good prison service
  - c) charity
  - d) crime paying
- 8) What kinds of agencies are questioning the wisdom of the giveaway?
  - a) health agencies
  - b) law enforcement agencies
  - c) job agencies
  - d) parole agencies
- 9) What did a police officer say many people in society were doing?
  - a) struggling
  - b) committing crimes
  - c) sitting in prisons
  - d) using tablets
- 10) What did a police officer say was being done for the homeless?
  - a) nothing
  - b) many things
  - c) a lot
  - d) little

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180203-tablet-computers.html>

## **Role A – Tissues**

You think tissues are the best freebies. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their freebies. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): pens, English lessons or drinks.

## **Role B – Pens**

You think pens are the best freebies. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their freebies. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): tissues, English lessons or drinks.

## **Role C – English Lessons**

You think English lessons are the best freebies. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their freebies. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): pens, tissues or drinks.

## **Role D – Drinks**

You think drinks are the best freebies. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their freebies. Also, tell the others which is the worst of these (and why): pens, English lessons or tissues.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180203-tablet-computers.html>

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

<b>tablet</b>	<b>computer</b>
---------------	-----------------

- 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"><li>• freebies</li><li>• deal</li><li>• involves</li><li>• able</li><li>• access</li><li>• heavily</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• welcomed</li><li>• huge</li><li>• remain</li><li>• wisdom</li><li>• pay</li><li>• ill</li></ul>
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# PRISONERS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180203-tablet-computers.html>

Write five GOOD questions about prisoners 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.

# PRISONERS DISCUSSION

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

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'tablet'?
3. What do you think of tablet computers?
4. Why should prisoners get free computers?
5. Why do you think the company is providing these tablets for free?
6. How will this initiative help the prisoners?
7. How important are tablets?
8. What are the good and bad things about tablets?
9. Should the prisoners' online access be monitored?
10. What are the purposes of prisons?

*All New York prisoners to get free tablet computer – 3rd February, 2018*  
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# PRISONERS DISCUSSION

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

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'prison'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. Why might the free tablet initiative be a "game-changer"?
15. How much freedom should prisoners have in prison?
16. Does crime pay?
17. Why should prisoners get free tablets when law-abiding people are poor?
18. Should prisoners have things like computer games and TV?
19. How might poor people in New York feel about this news?
20. What questions would you like to ask the prison bosses?

## **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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180203-tablet-computers.html>

All prisoners in the U.S. state of New York are to (1) \_\_\_\_\_ given free tablet computers. The freebies are part of a deal (2) \_\_\_\_\_ between a private communications service called JPay and New York's prison service. The (3) \_\_\_\_\_ but controversial agreement involves the contractor providing 54,700 convicts with a free tablet. The tablets will not be Internet (4) \_\_\_\_\_, but prisoners will be able to get limited, but monitored, online access (5) \_\_\_\_\_ plugging their device into approved kiosks at specific times. Inmates will be allowed to email an approved list of family and friends; order certain music, books and videos; and (6) \_\_\_\_\_ grievances and reports of abuse. All of this activity will be heavily monitored by prison staff.

Prisoner support services welcomed the free tablet initiative. They called it a "game-(7) \_\_\_\_\_" and a "huge step forward". A New York State official said the tablets would help prisoners (8) \_\_\_\_\_ closer to their families, and reduce tensions between prisoners and prison guards. However, law enforcement agencies are (9) \_\_\_\_\_ the wisdom of giving tablets to convicts. Some law enforcement officers described it as a good example of how crime does (10) \_\_\_\_\_. Top police officer Ed Mullins questioned why prisoners were getting free tablets when other people in society are (11) \_\_\_\_\_. He said: "(12) \_\_\_\_\_ is done for the homeless, mentally ill, and hard-working people who can't afford tablets in New York State."

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

- |     |               |                 |                |                |
|-----|---------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1.  | (a) bee       | (b) being       | (c) been       | (d) be         |
| 2.  | (a) punched   | (b) collided    | (c) hit        | (d) struck     |
| 3.  | (a) laxative  | (b) lucrative   | (c) laconic    | (d) lecherous  |
| 4.  | (a) nobility  | (b) capability  | (c) enabled    | (d) energized  |
| 5.  | (a) by        | (b) to          | (c) at         | (d) of         |
| 6.  | (a) file      | (b) staple      | (c) sort       | (d) glue       |
| 7.  | (a) chamber   | (b) chancer     | (c) charmer    | (d) changer    |
| 8.  | (a) remain    | (b) domain      | (c) main       | (d) mainline   |
| 9.  | (a) questions | (b) questioning | (c) questioned | (d) questioner |
| 10. | (a) paid      | (b) payment     | (c) pay        | (d) paying     |
| 11. | (a) struggle  | (b) struggles   | (c) struggling | (d) struggled  |
| 12. | (a) Tiny      | (b) Little      | (c) Small      | (d) Lower      |



# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180203-tablet-computers.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. The ireesfeb are part of a deal
2. The ucvlertai but controversial agreement
3. plugging their cevdei into approved kiosks
4. at iepsfcci times
5. file egsvcneari and reports of abuse
6. heavily oeinmdort by prison staff

## Paragraph 2

7. the free tablet netitiiavi
8. A New York State fciiolfa
9. reduce nsoiesnt
10. law enforcement scangiee
11. other people in octyesi are struggling
12. people who can't rfaofd tablets

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180203-tablet-computers.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) people in society are struggling. He said: "Little is done for the homeless,
- ( ) Prisoner support services welcomed the free tablet initiative. They called it a "game-changer" and a "huge step
- ( ) tensions between prisoners and prison guards. However, law enforcement agencies are questioning
- ( ) access by plugging their device into approved kiosks at specific times. Inmates will be
- ( **1** ) All prisoners in the U.S. state of New York are to be given free tablet computers. The freebies are part
- ( ) grievances and reports of abuse. All of this activity will be heavily monitored by prison staff.
- ( ) of a deal struck between a private communications service called JPay and New York's prison service. The lucrative but
- ( ) allowed to email an approved list of family and friends; order certain music, books and videos; and file
- ( ) be Internet enabled, but prisoners will be able to get limited, but monitored, online
- ( ) pay. Top police officer Ed Mullins questioned why prisoners were getting free tablets when other
- ( ) the wisdom of giving tablets to convicts. Some law enforcement officers described it as a good example of how crime does
- ( ) mentally ill, and hard-working people who can't afford tablets in New York State."
- ( ) forward". A New York State official said the tablets would help prisoners remain closer to their families, and reduce
- ( ) controversial agreement involves the contractor providing 54,700 convicts with a free tablet. The tablets will not

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180203-tablet-computers.html>

1. York . state All prisoners New US of in the
2. freebies part are The a struck . of deal
3. kiosks their Plugging device at times . specific into
4. approved family . to email of list Allowed an
5. All heavily will be of activity monitored . this
6. services the initiative . tablet free Support welcomed
7. to prisoners their closer remain Help families .
8. wisdom The to giving convicts . tablets of
9. getting tablets . prisoners were free why Questioned
10. tablets . people afford who can't Hard-working

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180203-tablet-computers.html>

All prisoners in the U.S. state of New York are to be *giving / given* free tablet computers. The freebies are part of a *dealt / deal* struck between a private communications service called JPay and New York's prison service. The lucrative but *controversially / controversial* agreement involves the contractor *providing / provision* 54,700 convicts *within / with* a free tablet. The tablets will not be Internet *enabled / abled*, but prisoners will be able to get limited, but monitored, online access *as / by* plugging their device into approved kiosks *at / by* specific times. Inmates will be allowed to email an approved list of family and friends; order *certainly / certain* music, books and videos; and file grievances and reports of abuse. All of this activity will be heavily *monitored / monitor* by prison staff.

Prisoner support services welcomed the *freely / free* tablet initiative. They called it a "game-changer" and a "*huge / hugely* step forward". A New York State official said the tablets would help prisoners *remaining / remain* closer to their families, and *reduction / reduce* tensions between prisoners and prison guards. However, *lawyer / law* enforcement agencies are questioning the wisdom of giving tablets *to / by* convicts. Some law enforcement officers described it as a good example of how crime does *pay / paid*. Top police officer Ed Mullins questioned why prisoners were *get / getting* free tablets when other people in society *are / be* struggling. He said: "Little is done for the homeless, mentally ill, and hard-working people who can't *afford / affront* tablets in New York State."

**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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180203-tablet-computers.html>

All pr\_s\_n\_r\_s \_n th\_ U.S. st\_t\_ \_f N\_w  
Y\_rk \_r\_ t\_ b\_ g\_v\_n fr\_\_ t\_b\_l\_t c\_  
mp\_t\_r\_s. Th\_ fr\_\_ b\_\_s \_r\_ p\_r\_t \_f\_ d  
\_ \_l str\_ck b\_tw\_\_n \_ pr\_v\_t\_ c\_m\_m\_n  
\_c\_t\_\_ns s\_rv\_c\_ c\_ll\_d JP\_y \_nd N\_w  
Y\_rk's pr\_s\_n s\_rv\_c\_. Th\_ l\_cr\_t\_v\_  
b\_t c\_ntr\_v\_r\_s \_l \_gr\_\_m\_nt \_nv\_lv\_s  
th\_ c\_ntr\_ct\_r pr\_v\_d\_ng 54,700 c\_nv  
\_cts w\_th \_ fr\_\_ t\_b\_l\_t. Th\_ t\_b\_l\_t\_s  
w\_ll n\_t b\_ Int\_rn\_t \_n\_b\_l\_d, b\_t pr\_  
s\_n\_r\_s w\_ll b\_ \_b\_l\_t\_ g\_t\_l\_m\_t\_d, b\_  
\_t m\_n\_t\_r\_d, \_n\_l\_n\_ \_cc\_ss by pl\_gg  
\_ng th\_ \_r\_d\_v\_c\_ \_nt\_ \_ppr\_v\_d k\_\_sk  
s \_t sp\_c\_f\_c\_t\_m\_s. In m\_t\_s w\_ll b\_  
\_ll\_w\_d t\_ \_m\_\_l \_n \_ppr\_v\_d l\_st \_f  
f\_m\_ly \_nd fr\_\_nds; \_rd\_r\_c\_r\_t\_\_n m\_  
s\_c, b\_\_ks \_nd v\_d\_\_s; \_nd fl\_gr\_\_  
v\_nc\_s \_nd r\_p\_r\_t\_s \_f\_b\_s\_. All \_f\_t  
h\_s \_ct\_v\_t\_y w\_ll b\_ h\_\_v\_ly m\_n\_t\_r  
\_d by pr\_s\_n st\_ff.

Pr\_s\_n\_r\_s \_pp\_r\_t s\_rv\_c\_s w\_l\_c\_m\_d t  
h\_ fr\_\_ t\_b\_l\_t \_n\_t\_\_t\_v\_. Th\_y c\_ll\_  
d \_t\_ "g\_m\_-ch\_ng\_r" \_nd \_ "h\_g\_st  
\_p\_f\_rw\_r\_d". A N\_w Y\_rk St\_t\_ \_ff\_c\_  
\_l\_s\_\_d th\_ t\_b\_l\_t\_s w\_\_ld h\_l\_p pr\_s\_n  
\_rs r\_m\_\_n cl\_s\_r\_t th\_ \_r\_f\_m\_l\_\_s,  
\_nd r\_d\_c\_t\_ns\_\_ns b\_tw\_\_n pr\_s\_n\_  
rs \_nd pr\_s\_n g\_\_rds. H\_w\_v\_r, l\_w\_  
nf\_rc\_m\_nt \_g\_nc\_\_s \_r\_q\_\_st\_\_n\_ng  
th\_ w\_sd\_m \_f\_g\_v\_ng t\_b\_l\_t\_s t\_c\_nv  
\_cts. S\_m\_l\_w \_nf\_rc\_m\_nt \_ff\_c\_rs  
d\_scr\_b\_d \_t\_s \_g\_\_d \_x\_mpl\_ \_f\_h\_  
w\_cr\_m\_d\_\_s\_p\_y. T\_p\_p\_l\_c\_ \_ff\_c\_r  
Ed M\_ll\_ns q\_\_st\_\_n\_d why pr\_s\_n\_r\_s  
w\_r\_g\_t\_t\_ng fr\_\_ t\_b\_l\_t\_s wh\_n th\_r  
p\_\_pl\_ \_n\_s\_c\_\_ty \_r\_str\_ggl\_ng. H\_  
s\_\_d: "L\_ttl\_\_s\_d\_n\_f\_r\_th\_ h\_m\_l\_s  
s, m\_nt\_lly \_ll, \_nd h\_r\_d-w\_rk\_ng p\_\_  
pl\_ wh\_ c\_n't \_ff\_r\_d t\_b\_l\_t\_s \_n N\_w Y  
\_rk St\_t\_."

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180203-tablet-computers.html>

all prisoners in the us state of new york are to be given free tablet computers the freebies are part of a deal struck between a private communications service called jpay and new yorks prison service the lucrative but controversial agreement involves the contractor providing 54700 convicts with a free tablet the tablets will not be internet enabled but prisoners will be able to get limited but monitored online access by plugging their device into approved kiosks at specific times inmates will be allowed to email an approved list of family and friends order certain music books and videos and file grievances and reports of abuse all of this activity will be heavily monitored by prison staff

prisoner support services welcomed the free tablet initiative they called it a gamechanger and a huge step forward a new york state official said the tablets would help prisoners remain closer to their families and reduce tensions between prisoners and prison guards however law enforcement agencies are questioning the wisdom of giving tablets to convicts some law enforcement officers described it as a good example of how crime does pay top police officer ed mullins questioned why prisoners were getting free tablets when other people in society are struggling he said little is done for the homeless mentally ill and hardworking people who cant afford tablets in new york state

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180203-tablet-computers.html>

All prisoners in the U.S. state of New York are to be given free tablet computers. The freebies are part of a deal struck between a private communications service called JPay and New York's prison service. The lucrative but controversial agreement involves the contractor providing 54,700 convicts with a free tablet. The tablets will not be Internet enabled, but prisoners will be able to get limited, but monitored, online access by plugging their device into approved kiosks at specific times. Inmates will be allowed to mail an approved list of family and friends; order certain music, books and videos; and file grievances and reports of abuse. All of this activity will be heavily monitored by prison staff. Prisoner support services welcomed the free tablet initiative. They called it a "game-changer" and a "huge step forward". A New York State official said the tablets would help prisoners remain close to their families, and reduce tensions between prisoners and prison guards. However, law enforcement agencies are questioning the wisdom of giving tablets to convicts. Some law enforcement officers described it as a good example of how crime does pay. Top police officer Ed Mullins questioned why prisoners were getting free tablets when other people in society are struggling. He said: "Little is done for the homeless, mentally ill, and hard-working people who can't afford tablets in New York State."





# ACADEMIC WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180203-tablet-computers.html>

Prisoners should never be given free tablet computers. Discuss.

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# 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 this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. PRISONERS:** Make a poster about prisoners. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. TABLETS:** Write a magazine article about prisoners getting free tablets. 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 prisoners. Ask him/her three questions about them. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to better deal with them. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. e    2. a    3. d    4. c    5. b    6. g    7. f  
8. i    9. n    10. l    11. m    12. j    13. h    14. k

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- a F    b T    c F    d F    e T    f F    g T    h T

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. deal          | a. agreement      |
| 2. lucrative     | b. profitable     |
| 3. controversial | c. contentious    |
| 4. specific      | d. particular     |
| 5. grievances    | e. complaints     |
| 6. huge          | f. enormous       |
| 7. remain        | g. stay           |
| 8. wisdom        | h. common sense   |
| 9. pay           | i. be profitable  |
| 10. afford       | j. have money for |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. A private communications service
2. 54,700
3. At special kiosks
4. Grievances
5. Prison staff
6. A "game-changer"
7. Crime paying
8. Law enforcement agencies
9. Struggling
10. Little

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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