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Level 1

Chinese women spend \$30 million on virtual boyfriends

5th February, 2018

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180205-dating-app-1.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180205-dating-app-1.html>

A dating app in China is popular with young women. They spend \$30 million a month on it. It is a little different because the men on the app aren't real men. They are virtual boyfriends. Users buy "Purple Diamonds" from the app. They spend these in the app to go on dates and keep their relationships going. The app is called Love and Producer. It now makes the most money on Apple's China App Store.

The app has two million daily active users. Most users are women in their early 20s. They love the romance and fun. A 19-year-old student explained why she liked the app: "It's like a romantic novel with...voices. It's more real than reading a novel." She loved the "delicate drawings". Another young woman said: "I don't have a boyfriend, so I'm happy to have a relationship with a "paper partner". She liked getting messages from her virtual boyfriends.

Sources: <https://qz.com/1193912/love-and-producer-chinas-female-gamers-are-spending-millions-of-dollars-on-virtual-boyfriends/>
<http://www.scmp.com/news/china/society/article/2127116/chinas-women-gamers-take-centre-stage-virtual-boyfriend-game-love>
<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/02/02/asia-pacific/social-issues-asia-pacific/gaming-women-blooms-china-virtual-beau-captures-hearts/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180205-dating-app-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. dating | a. aren't real |
| 2. popular with | b. dates |
| 3. They spend \$30 million | c. money |
| 4. the men on the app | d. app |
| 5. Users buy "Purple Diamonds" | e. a month |
| 6. go on | f. going |
| 7. keep their relationships | g. young women |
| 8. It now makes the most | h. from the app |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| 1. The app has two million daily | a. she liked the app |
| 2. women in their | b. a novel |
| 3. They love the romance | c. have a relationship |
| 4. A 19-year-old student explained why | d. and fun |
| 5. It's like a romantic | e. active users |
| 6. It's more real than reading | f. novel |
| 7. I'm happy to | g. messages |
| 8. She liked getting | h. early 20s |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180205-dating-app-1.html>

A (1) _____ China is popular with young women. They spend \$30 million a (2) _____. It is a little different because the (3) _____ app aren't real men. They are virtual boyfriends. Users buy "Purple Diamonds" from the app. They (4) _____ n the app to go on dates (5) _____ relationships going. The app is called Love and Producer. It now makes the (6) _____ Apple's China App Store.

The app has two million (7) _____. Most users are women in their early 20s. They (8) _____ and fun. A 19-year-old student explained why she (9) _____: "It's like a romantic novel with...voices. It's more (10) _____ a novel." She loved the "delicate drawings". Another young woman said: "I don't have a boyfriend, so I'm (11) _____ a relationship with a "paper partner". She (12) _____ from her virtual boyfriends.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180205-dating-app-1.html>

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DATING APPS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180205-dating-app-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about dating apps 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) _____

