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Level 4

Study shows there are two divorce seasons

25th August, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1608/160825-divorce-season-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/1608/160825-divorce-season-4.html>

Couples should think more about their marriage just before March and August each year. Sociologists found the number of divorces increased sharply in these two months. Researchers looked at data for divorces filed in the USA between 2001 and 2015. They found that divorce rates peaked after the summer holidays and after the Christmas and New Year holidays. Researchers said this could be because of money problems caused by the holidays.

Researcher Julie Brines suggested that couples felt down when the holidays were over. She said: "People tend to face the holidays with rising expectations." She added: "[Holidays] represent periods in the year when there's the...opportunity for a new beginning, a new start, something different." Couples spend more time together during holidays. This may actually make tensions between them worse rather than bring them closer together.

Sources: <http://www.sciencealert.com/researchers-find-there-are-2-months-when-couples-are-most-likely-to-get-divorced>
<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/312444.php>
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-3752624/Holidays-BAD-marriage-Divorce-rates-spike-summer-winter-breaks.html>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1608/160825-divorce-season-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. think more | a. in the USA |
| 2. the number of divorces increased | b. be |
| 3. divorces filed | c. peaked |
| 4. They found that divorce rates | d. by the holidays |
| 5. after the | e. sharply |
| 6. Researchers said this could | f. problems |
| 7. money | g. about their marriage |
| 8. caused | h. summer holidays |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. couples felt | a. face the holidays |
| 2. when the holidays | b. time together |
| 3. People tend to | c. new beginning |
| 4. rising | d. were over |
| 5. the opportunity for a | e. them worse |
| 6. Couples spend more | f. down |
| 7. make tensions between | g. together |
| 8. bring them closer | h. expectations |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1608/160825-divorce-season-4.html>

Couples (1) _____ about their marriage just before March and August each year. Sociologists found the (2) _____ increased (3) _____ two months. Researchers (4) _____ divorces filed in the USA between 2001 and 2015. They found that divorce rates (5) _____ summer holidays and after the Christmas and New Year holidays. Researchers said this could be because of money problems (6) _____ holidays.

Researcher Julie Brines suggested that couples (7) _____ the holidays were over. She said: "People (8) _____ the holidays with (9) _____." She added: "[Holidays] represent periods in the year when there's the... (10) _____ new beginning, a new start, something different." Couples (11) _____ together during holidays. This may actually make tensions between them (12) _____ bring them closer together.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1608/160825-divorce-season-4.html>

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DIVORCE SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1608/160825-divorce-season-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about divorce 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 <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1608/160825-divorce-season-4.html>

Write about **divorce** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner’s paper.
