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**Level 1 – 18th June, 2019**

**Smartphone use could be changing shape of our skulls**

**FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:**

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190618-skull-shape-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/1906/190618-skull-shape-1.html>

Smartphones are changing the shape of our skulls. A small bump is appearing on the head of some smartphone users. It is big enough to feel by pressing it. A scientist at a university in Australia told the BBC about the bump. He has been a doctor for 20 years. He said in the past ten years he has found more patients with the bump. It is more frequent among 18 to 30-year-olds. They spend many hours a day bent over their smartphones.

A study looked at the smartphone use of 1,200 people aged 18 to 86. Younger people had more skull bumps. The bumps will be more common if people bend their necks while looking at our phones. People bend their neck at an angle to look at their phone. This can strain the neck. Doctors call this strain "text neck". They say the skull bump rarely causes health problems. They told people to change their sitting position if their neck hurts.

Sources: <https://www.livescience.com/65711-humans-growing-bony-skull-spikes.html>  
<https://www.insider.com/smartphone-use-could-be-changing-our-skull-shape-scientists-find-2019-6>  
<https://www.fudzilla.com/news/mobile/48880-humans-evolving-a-spike-on-the-back-of-the-head>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190618-skull-shape-1.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                 |                        |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Smartphones are changing the | a. smartphone users    |
| 2. A small bump is              | b. a day               |
| 3. on the head of some          | c. with the bump       |
| 4. It is big enough to feel     | d. appearing           |
| 5. He has been a doctor         | e. 18 to 30-year-olds  |
| 6. he has found more patients   | f. shape of our skulls |
| 7. It is more frequent among    | g. for 20 years        |
| 8. They spend many hours        | h. by pressing it      |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                   |                           |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. the smartphone use of 1,200    | a. at an angle            |
| 2. The bumps will be more         | b. their sitting position |
| 3. bend their necks while looking | c. common                 |
| 4. People bend their neck         | d. hurts                  |
| 5. Doctors call this strain       | e. at our phones          |
| 6. the skull bump rarely causes   | f. "text neck"            |
| 7. They told people to change     | g. people aged 18 to 86   |
| 8. if their neck                  | h. health problems        |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190618-skull-shape-1.html>

Smartphones are changing the shape of our skulls. A small bump (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the head of some smartphone users. It is big enough to (2) \_\_\_\_\_ it. A scientist at a university in Australia told the BBC (3) \_\_\_\_\_. He has been a doctor for 20 years. He said in the (4) \_\_\_\_\_ he has found more patients with the bump. It (5) \_\_\_\_\_ among 18 to 30-year-olds. They spend many hours a (6) \_\_\_\_\_ their smartphones.

A study looked at the smartphone use of 1,200 (7) \_\_\_\_\_ to 86. Younger people had more skull bumps. The bumps will be (8) \_\_\_\_\_ people bend their necks while looking at our phones. People bend their neck at (9) \_\_\_\_\_ look at their phone. This can strain the neck. Doctors call this (10) \_\_\_\_\_. They say the skull bump (11) \_\_\_\_\_ problems. They told people to change their (12) \_\_\_\_\_ their neck hurts.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190618-skull-shape-1.html>

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# THE SKULL SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1906/190618-skull-shape-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about the skull 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*Smartphone use could be changing shape of our skulls – 18th June, 2019*  
More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://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) \_\_\_\_\_

