

Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

**"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"**

breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html

**Thousands more free lessons
from Sean's other websites**

www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html

Level 1 – 4th March, 2020

Parents angry as COVID-19 shuts schools for a month

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2003/200304-covid-19-1.html>

Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

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

Twitter



twitter.com/SeanBanville

Facebook



www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176

THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2003/200304-covid-19-1.html>

Japan closed its elementary, junior-high and high schools. It wants to protect children from the COVID-19 virus. Schools will stay closed until April the 8th. Parents are worried about the school closures. They have to think about how to look after their children. Grandparents will look after some children while their parents work. Many children have no grandparents or extended family nearby, so parents may have to pay for childcare fees.

Japan's schools shut after a meeting of an anti-virus task force. Japan wants to lower the risk of children getting infected. The next two weeks are important to stop the virus spreading. The government will ask companies to help parents take time off work to look after children. An angry mother said it was not OK to leave children at home alone. She asked: "What's the point of closing schools if parents are still [going to work] in packed trains?"

Sources: <http://www.asahi.com/ajw/articles/13172009>
<https://english.kyodonews.net/news/2020/02/b341be1ebf20-breaking-news-children-should-stay-home-while-schools-closed-over-virus-japan-govt.html>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-51639488>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2003/200304-covid-19-1.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. It wants to protect | a. after some children |
| 2. stay closed until | b. pay |
| 3. school | c. April the 8th |
| 4. They have to think | d. fees |
| 5. look | e. children |
| 6. extended | f. about how |
| 7. parents may have to | g. family |
| 8. childcare | h. closures |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. a meeting of an anti- | a. at home alone |
| 2. Japan wants to lower | b. trains |
| 3. children getting | c. spreading |
| 4. stop the virus | d. of closing schools |
| 5. take time off | e. infected |
| 6. OK to leave children | f. virus task force |
| 7. the point | g. work |
| 8. packed | h. the risk |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2003/200304-covid-19-1.html>

Japan (1) _____, junior-high and high schools. It wants to protect children from the COVID-19 virus. Schools will (2) _____ April the 8th. Parents are worried about the school closures. They have to (3) _____ to look after their children. Grandparents will (4) _____ children while their parents work. Many children have no grandparents (5) _____ nearby, so parents may have to pay (6) _____.

Japan's schools shut after a meeting of an anti-(7) _____. Japan wants to (8) _____ of children getting infected. The next two weeks are important to stop (9) _____. The government will ask companies to help parents take time off work (10) _____ children. An angry mother said it was not OK to leave children (11) _____. She asked: "What's the point of closing schools if parents are still [going to work] (12) _____?"

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2003/200304-covid-19-1.html>

Japan closed its elementary, junior-high and high schools. It wants to protect children from the COVID-19 virus. Schools will stay closed until April the 8th. Parents are worried about the school closures. They have to think about how to look after their children. Grandparents will look after some children while their parents work. Many children have no grandparents or extended family nearby, so parents may have to pay for childcare fees. Japan's schools shut after a meeting of an anti-virus task force. Japan wants to lower the risk of children getting infected. The next two weeks are important to stop the virus spreading. The government will ask companies to help parents take time off work to look after children. An angry mother said it was not OK to leave children at home alone. She asked: "What's the point of closing schools if parents are still [going to work] in packed trains?"

CORONAVIRUS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2003/200304-covid-19-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Coronavirus 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) _____

Parents angry as COVID-19 shuts schools for a month – 4th March, 2020
More free lessons at breakingnewsenglish.com

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

