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Level 5 – 27th August, 2019

Young people say full stop is intimidating

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200827-full-stop-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200827-full-stop-5.html>

In British English it is the full stop; in American English the period. This punctuation mark has been used for centuries to end sentences. Its use is changing today. A report says the full stop is "intimidating" to young people. They view it as a sign of anger. This is especially so on social media, where many youngsters largely do not use punctuation, except for lots of exclamation marks!!!! A famous linguist said: "Usage of full stops is being 'revised in a really fundamental way'. People simply do not put full stops in, unless they want to make a point."

Linguists studied how technology is changing language. One said: "If you send a text message without a full stop, it's already obvious that you've concluded the message." Young people tend to look at finished text messages with full stops as being insincere. A journalist wrote that a full stop is "simply not necessary". She said: "It's clear when you've finished your thought, so what function does the period fulfill?...Using a period in messaging...can come across as if you're quite cross or annoyed." She added full stops are now being used to emphasise single words.

Sources: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8657089/Full-stop-intimidating-young-people-interpret-sign-anger-linguists-say.html>
<https://www.scotsman.com/read-this/young-people-are-intimidated-full-stops-text-messages-heres-psychology-explained-2951084>
<https://nypost.com/2020/08/24/young-people-dont-trust-anyone-who-use-this-punctuation-mark/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200827-full-stop-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. punctuation | a. so on social media |
| 2. used for centuries to | b. way |
| 3. They view it as a | c. end sentences |
| 4. This is especially | d. make a point |
| 5. lots of exclamation | e. being revised |
| 6. Usage of full stops is | f. mark |
| 7. in a really fundamental | g. sign of anger |
| 8. unless they want to | h. marks |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. how technology is changing | a. the message |
| 2. obvious that you've concluded | b. quite cross |
| 3. look at finished text | c. insincere |
| 4. being | d. words |
| 5. simply not | e. messages |
| 6. It's clear when you've | f. language |
| 7. come across as if you're | g. finished your thought |
| 8. used to emphasise single | h. necessary |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200827-full-stop-5.html>

In British English it is the full stop; in American (1) _____. This punctuation mark has been used for centuries to end sentences. Its use (2) _____. A report says the full stop is "intimidating" to young people. They view it as a (3) _____. This is especially so on social media, where many youngsters (4) _____ use punctuation, except for lots of exclamation marks!!!! A famous linguist said: "Usage of full stops (5) _____ in a really fundamental way'. People simply do not put full stops in, unless they want to (6) _____."

Linguists (7) _____ is changing language. One said: "If you send a text message without a full stop, it's already obvious that you've (8) _____." Young people tend to look at finished text messages with full stops (9) _____. A journalist wrote that a full stop is "simply not necessary". She said: "(10) _____ you've finished your thought, so what function does (11) _____?...Using a period in messaging...can come across as if you're quite (12) _____." She added full stops are now being used to emphasise single words.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200827-full-stop-5.html>

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FULL STOP SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200827-full-stop-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about full stop 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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2008/200827-full-stop-5.html>

Write about **full stop** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.
