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Level 3

Baby talk is a world language

15th October, 2017

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171015-baby-talk.html>

Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	14
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	15
Before Reading / Listening	4	Spelling	16
Gap Fill	5	Put The Text Back Together	17
Match The Sentences And Listen	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	18
Listening Gap Fill	7	Circle The Correct Word	19
Comprehension Questions	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	20
Multiple Choice - Quiz	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	21
Role Play	10	Put A Slash (/) Where The Spaces Are	22
After Reading / Listening	11	Free Writing	23
Student Survey	12	Academic Writing	24
Discussion (20 Questions)	13	Homework	25
		Answers	26

Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).

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THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171015-baby-talk.html>

A new study has found that mothers all over the world speak to their babies in the same way. The research is from the Baby Lab at Princeton University in the USA. The researchers who did the study said "motherese" is a universal language. They said baby talk is not just lots of cute noises and coo-coos. The words and sounds that mothers say to their babies are quite complex. They form a special form of communication that mothers use in the same way across the world. These sounds are very important in helping the language development in infants. Dr Elise Piazza, co-author of the research, said baby talk is a lot more important than we thought. She said: "It is not something to be embarrassed about at all."

The researchers recorded 24 different mothers talking to their babies. The babies were aged between seven months and one year. The mothers spoke to their children in 10 different native languages, including English, Spanish, Mandarin, Russian and Hebrew. Dr Piazza said: "We basically brought mothers into the lab and had them play with and read to their own babies, just like they would at home." She added: "We found that mothers [change the] basic quality of their voices when speaking to infants, and they do so in a [very similar] way across many diverse languages." The study didn't look at fathers' talk, but Piazza said that it is likely fathers would also speak in a similar way across the world.

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/science/2017/oct/12/coo-coo-why-baby-talk-is-more-sophisticated-than-you-might-think>
<https://www.news-medical.net/news/20171013/Timbre-shifting-is-a-new-attribute-of-e2809cbaby-talk-e2809d-found-in-all-languages-study-reveals.aspx>
<http://www.ctvnews.ca/sci-tech/the-science-of-baby-talk-motherese-is-a-universal-language-study-confirms-1.3631028>

WARM-UPS

1. BABY TALK: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about baby talk. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

study / mothers / baby / language / coo-coo / communication / embarrassed / researchers / native languages / lab / home / quality / diverse languages / similar

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. ONE LANGUAGE: Students A **strongly** believe the world should only have one language; Students B **strongly** believe the opposite. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. LANGUAGE: How do we speak to these different people? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How?	Why?
Babies		
Parents		
Police officers		
Strangers		
Kings		
English teachers		

5. SPEAK: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "speak". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

6. BABIES: Rank these with your partner. Put the best things about babies at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- their laugh
- their smile
- sleeping
- first steps
- first words
- when they cry
- play time
- food time

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171015-baby-talk.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. Princeton University has a Baby Lab. **T / F**
- b. Researchers said there is a universal language called "motherese". **T / F**
- c. Researchers said the term "coochy coo" is not part of baby talk. **T / F**
- d. A researcher said baby talk is embarrassing. **T / F**
- e. Researchers recorded 240 different mothers. **T / F**
- f. The researchers observed mothers and their babies in their homes. **T / F**
- g. Mothers change the quality of their voices when talking to babies. **T / F**
- h. The researchers didn't look at how fathers talked to their babies. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH:

Match the following synonyms. The words in **bold** are from the news article.

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1. found | a. separate |
| 2. way | b. difficult |
| 3. universal | c. various |
| 4. complex | d. manner |
| 5. embarrassed | e. comparable |
| 6. different | f. discovered |
| 7. basically | g. standard |
| 8. quality | h. ashamed |
| 9. diverse | i. fundamentally |
| 10. similar | j. global |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. in the same | a. sounds |
| 2. words and | b. than we thought |
| 3. language | c. into the lab |
| 4. a lot more important | d. languages |
| 5. It is not something to be embarrassed | e. development |
| 6. The researchers recorded | f. a similar way |
| 7. We basically brought mothers | g. would at home |
| 8. just like they | h. way |
| 9. many diverse | i. 24 different mothers |
| 10. fathers would also speak in | j. about at all |

GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171015-baby-talk.html>

A new study has found that mothers all over the world speak to their babies in the same (1) _____. The research is from the Baby Lab at Princeton University in the USA. The researchers who did the study said "motherese" is a (2) _____ language. They said baby talk is not just lots of (3) _____ noises and coo-coos. The words and sounds that mothers say to their babies are quite (4) _____. They form a special (5) _____ of communication that mothers use in the same way across the world. These (6) _____ are very important in helping the language development in (7) _____. Dr Elise Piazza, co-author of the research, said baby talk is a lot more important than we thought. She said: "It is not something to be (8) _____ about at all."

universal
sounds
form
embarrassed
way
infants
cute
complex

The researchers (9) _____ 24 different mothers talking to their babies. The babies were (10) _____ between seven months and one year. The mothers spoke to their children in 10 different (11) _____ languages, including English, Spanish, Mandarin, Russian and Hebrew. Dr Piazza said: "We (12) _____ brought mothers into the lab and had them play with and read to their (13) _____ babies, just like they would at home." She added: "We found that mothers [change the] (14) _____ quality of their voices when speaking to infants, and they do so in a [very similar] way across many (15) _____ languages." The study didn't look at fathers' talk, but Piazza said that it is likely fathers would also speak in a (16) _____ way across the world.

diverse
aged
basically
similar
recorded
basic
native
own

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171015-baby-talk.html>

- 1) A new study has found that mothers all over the world speak to their babies in _____
 - a. the sane way
 - b. the same way
 - c. the same ways
 - d. the sane ways
- 2) The researchers who did the study said "motherese" is a _____
 - a. universally language
 - b. uni verse all language
 - c. you knee verse all language
 - d. universal language
- 3) The words and sounds that mothers say to their babies are _____
 - a. quite complex
 - b. quiet complex
 - c. quit complex
 - d. quieten complex
- 4) These sounds are very important in helping the language development _____
 - a. infants
 - b. in fence
 - c. in fancy
 - d. in infants
- 5) It is not something to be embarrassed _____
 - a. about at tall
 - b. about at all
 - c. about a all
 - d. about at a tall
- 6) The researchers recorded 24 different mothers talking _____
 - a. too their babies
 - b. to there babies
 - c. to their babies
 - d. two their babies
- 7) The mothers spoke to their children in 10 different _____
 - a. natives language
 - b. native languages
 - c. natives languages
 - d. native language
- 8) Dr Piazza said: "We basically brought mothers _____"
 - a. into the lab
 - b. into a lab
 - c. into then lab
 - d. into thee lab
- 9) We found that mothers change the basic quality _____
 - a. off their voices
 - b. from their voices
 - c. if their voices
 - d. of their voices
- 10) speaking to infants, and they do so in a very similar way across many _____
 - a. diversity languages
 - b. dive ears languages
 - c. di verse languages
 - d. diverse languages

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171015-baby-talk.html>

A new study (1) _____ mothers all over the world speak to their babies in the same way. The research is from the Baby Lab at Princeton University in the USA. The researchers who did the study said "motherese" (2) _____ language. They said baby talk is not just lots of cute noises and coo-coos. The (3) _____ that mothers say to their babies are quite complex. They form (4) _____ of communication that mothers use in the same way across the world. These sounds are very (5) _____ the language development in infants. Dr Elise Piazza, co-author of the research, said baby talk is a lot more important (6) _____. She said: "It is not something to be embarrassed about at all."

The researchers (7) _____ mothers talking to their babies. The babies were aged between seven months and one year. The mothers spoke to their children in 10 different (8) _____, including English, Spanish, Mandarin, Russian and Hebrew. Dr Piazza said: "(9) _____ mothers into the lab and had them play with and read to their own babies, just like they would at home." She added: "We found that mothers [change the] (10) _____ their voices when speaking to infants, and they do so in a [very similar] way across many (11) _____." The study didn't look at fathers' talk, but Piazza said that it is likely fathers would also speak (12) _____ across the world.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171015-baby-talk.html>

1. What is the name of the department at Princeton University?
2. What did researchers call the baby talk language?
3. What word that mothers use to their baby was in the article?
4. What do the sounds mothers make help develop in babies?
5. What did a doctor say we should not be when using baby talk?
6. How many mothers did the researchers record?
7. How old were the babies?
8. How many different languages did the women speak?
9. What do mothers change when they speak to their babies?
10. What did the researchers not look at?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171015-baby-talk.html>

- 1) What is the name of the department at Princeton University?
 - a) the Baby Talker
 - b) the Baby Lab
 - c) the Baby Rub
 - d) the Lab Baby
- 2) What did researchers call the baby talk language?
 - a) Motheric
 - b) Motherish
 - c) Motherian
 - d) Motherese
- 3) What word that mothers use to their baby was in the article?
 - a) coochy-coo
 - b) gaga
 - c) goo-goo
 - d) ma-ma-ma-ma
- 4) What do the sounds mothers make help develop in babies?
 - a) height
 - b) intelligence
 - c) language
 - d) vocabulary
- 5) What did a doctor say we should not be when using baby talk?
 - a) confused
 - b) embarrassed
 - c) angry
 - d) loud
- 6) How many mothers did the researchers record?
 - a) 22
 - b) 23
 - c) 24
 - d) 21
- 7) How old were the babies?
 - a) 12-18 months
 - b) 2-7 months
 - c) 3-6 months
 - d) 7-12 months
- 8) How many different languages did the women speak?
 - a) 10
 - b) 8
 - c) 6
 - d) 4
- 9) What do mothers change when they speak to their babies?
 - a) their voice quality
 - b) their diapers
 - c) their bibs
 - d) their attitude
- 10) What did the researchers not look at?
 - a) reading
 - b) fathers' talk
 - c) writing
 - d) baby mistakes

ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171015-baby-talk.html>

Role A – Laughter

You think laughter is the best thing about babies. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least fun of these (and why): sleeping, first words or play time.

Role B – Sleeping

You think sleeping is the best thing about babies. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least fun of these (and why): laughter, first words or play time.

Role C – First Words

You think first words is the best thing about babies. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least fun of these (and why): sleeping, laughter or play time.

Role D – Play Time

You think play time is the best thing about babies. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least fun of these (and why): sleeping, first words or laughter.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171015-baby-talk.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'baby' and 'talk'.

baby	talk
-------------	-------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• over• universal• cute• special• helping• something	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 24• 7• 10• read• basic• fathers
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

BABY TALK SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171015-baby-talk.html>

Write five GOOD questions about baby talk 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.

BABY TALK DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'baby'?
3. What do you think of babies?
4. How do mothers talk to their babies?
5. What does 'motherese' sound like in your language?
6. Do you think all babies understand the same language?
7. Should there be only one language in the world?
8. How do babies learn languages?
9. If babies could talk, what would they say?
10. Is talking to babies embarrassing?

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BABY TALK DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'talk'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What's the best thing to talk to babies about?
15. Do you like talking to babies?
16. What do you think babies talk to each other about?
17. Should parents teach babies two or more languages?
18. What would it be like if we could understand baby language?
19. How do mothers and fathers talk differently to babies?
20. What questions would you like to ask the researchers?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171015-baby-talk.html>

A new study has (1) _____ that mothers all over the world speak to their babies in the same (2) _____. The research is from the Baby Lab at Princeton University in the USA. The researchers who did the study said "motherese" is a (3) _____ language. They said baby talk is not just lots of cute noises and coo-coos. The words and sounds that mothers say to their babies are (4) _____ complex. They form a special form of communication that mothers use in the same way across the world. These sounds are very important (5) _____ helping the language development in infants. Dr Elise Piazza, co-author of the research, said baby talk is a lot more (6) _____ than we thought. She said: "It is not something to be embarrassed about at all."

The researchers (7) _____ 24 different mothers talking to their babies. The babies were aged between seven months and one year. The mothers spoke to their children (8) _____ 10 different native languages, including English, Spanish, Mandarin, Russian and Hebrew. Dr Piazza said: "We (9) _____ brought mothers into the lab and had them play (10) _____ and read to their own babies, just like they would at home." She added: "We found that mothers [change the] basic quality of their voices (11) _____ speaking to infants, and they do so in a [very similar] way across many diverse languages." The study didn't look at fathers' talk, but Piazza said that it is (12) _____ fathers would also speak in a similar way across the world.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. | (a) find | (b) found | (c) finds | (d) finding |
| 2. | (a) why | (b) way | (c) whey | (d) weight |
| 3. | (a) universe | (b) universality | (c) universal | (d) universally |
| 4. | (a) quilt | (b) quite | (c) quit | (d) quiet |
| 5. | (a) to | (b) of | (c) on | (d) in |
| 6. | (a) importance | (b) importantly | (c) important | (d) import |
| 7. | (a) recorded | (b) recording | (c) recorder | (d) records |
| 8. | (a) on | (b) of | (c) in | (d) at |
| 9. | (a) basicity | (b) basics | (c) basic | (d) basically |
| 10. | (a) with | (b) at | (c) on | (d) of |
| 11. | (a) when | (b) why | (c) what | (d) where |
| 12. | (a) likely | (b) liken | (c) likelihood | (d) likeable |

SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171015-baby-talk.html>

Paragraph 1

1. a narluvsie language
2. babies are quite lxemcop
3. a psaelci form of communication
4. helping the language development in nniftas
5. co-author of the racerehs
6. not something to be rbaseramsde about

Paragraph 2

7. The researchers ddoercer 24 different mothers
8. 10 different tnevai languages
9. We byallasic brought mothers into the lab
10. the basic ltaqyui of their voices
11. across many eridesv languages
12. speak in a lmsiari way

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171015-baby-talk.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () use in the same way across the world. These sounds are very important in helping the language
- (**1**) A new study has found that mothers all over the world speak to their babies in the same
- () development in infants. Dr Elise Piazza, co-author of the research, said baby talk is a lot more important than we
- () way. The research is from the Baby Lab at Princeton University in the USA. The researchers who did the study said "motherese"
- () is a universal language. They said baby talk is not just lots of cute noises and coo-chy-coos. The words and
- () thought. She said: "It is not something to be embarrassed about at all."
- () sounds that mothers say to their babies are quite complex. They form a special form of communication that mothers
- () months and one year. The mothers spoke to their children in 10 different native languages, including English, Spanish,
- () The researchers recorded 24 different mothers talking to their babies. The babies were aged between seven
- () basic quality of their voices when speaking to infants, and they do so in a [very similar]
- () likely fathers would also speak in a similar way across the world.
- () way across many diverse languages." The study didn't look at fathers' talk, but Piazza said that it is
- () Mandarin, Russian and Hebrew. Dr Piazza said: "We basically brought mothers into the lab and had them play
- () with and read to their own babies, just like they would at home." She added: "We found that mothers [change the]

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171015-baby-talk.html>

1. lots is cute and of not Baby coo-coos just talk noises .
2. to are Sounds say babies complex mothers their quite that .
3. language the helping in Important infants in development .
4. we talk lot than Baby a important thought is more .
5. about It something embarrassed all not be at is to .
6. mothers The recorded different talking researchers 24 .
7. they like just , babies own their to Read home at would .
8. quality basic the change Mothers voices their of .
9. diverse similar languages way In across a many very .
10. in a similar way It is likely fathers would also speak .

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171015-baby-talk.html>

A new study has found that mothers all *over / under* the world speak to their babies in the same *weigh / way*. The research is from the Baby Lab *to / at* Princeton University in the USA. The researchers who did the study said "motherese" is a *universal / universally* language. They said baby talk is not just lots of *cuteness / cute* noises and coo-ooos. The words and sounds that mothers say to their babies are *quite / quiet* complex. They form a special form of communication that mothers use *on / in* the same way across the world. These sounds are very *importance / important* in helping the language development in infants. Dr Elise Piazza, co-author of the research, said baby talk is a lot *more / most* important than we thought. She said: "It is not something to be embarrassed about at *every / all*."

The researchers *recorded / recording* 24 different mothers talking to their babies. The babies were *aging / aged* between seven months and one year. The mothers *spoken / spoke* to their children in 10 different *naive / native* languages, including English, Spanish, Mandarin, Russian and Hebrew. Dr Piazza said: "We *basically / basic* brought mothers into the *lob / lab* and had them play with and read to their *owner / own* babies, just like they would at home." She added: "We found that mothers [change the] basic *qualify / quality* of their voices when speaking to infants, and they do so in a [very similar] way across many *diverse / diversity* languages." The study didn't look at fathers' talk, but Piazza said that it is likely fathers would also speak in a *similarity / similar* way across the world.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171015-baby-talk.html>

_ n _ w _ s t _ d y _ h _ s _ f _ _ n d _ t h _ t _ m _ t h _ r s _ _ l l _ v _ r _ t h _ w _ r l d _
s p _ k _ t _ t h _ r _ b _ b _ s _ _ n _ t h _ s _ m _ w _ y . T h _ r _ s _ r c h _
_ s _ f r _ m _ t h _ B _ b y _ L _ b _ t _ P r _ n c _ t _ n _ _ n _ v _ r _ s _ t y _ _ n _ t h _
_ S _ . T h _ r _ s _ r c h _ r s _ w h _ d _ d _ t h _ s t _ d y _ s _ d _
" m _ t h _ r _ s _ " _ s _ _ n _ v _ r _ s _ l _ l _ n g _ _ g _ . T h _ y _ s _ d _ b _ b y _
t _ l k _ s _ n _ t _ j _ s t _ l _ t _ s _ _ f _ c _ t _ n _ _ s _ s _ _ n d _ c _ _ c h y _ c _ _ s .
T h _ w _ r d s _ _ n d _ s _ _ n d s _ t h _ t _ m _ t h _ r s _ s _ y _ t _ t h _ r _
b _ b _ s _ _ r _ q _ _ t _ c _ m p l _ x . T h _ y _ f _ r m _ _ s p _ c _ _ l _ f _ r m _
_ f _ c _ m m _ n _ c _ t _ _ n _ t h _ t _ m _ t h _ r s _ _ s _ _ n _ t h _ s _ m _ w _ y _
_ c r _ s s _ t h _ w _ r l d . T h _ s _ s _ _ n d s _ r _ v _ r y _ _ m p _ r t _ n t _ _ n _
h _ l p _ n g _ t h _ l _ n g _ _ g _ _ d _ v _ l _ p m _ n t _ _ n _ _ n f _ n t s . D r _
_ l _ s _ P _ _ z z _ , _ c _ - _ t h _ r _ _ f _ t h _ r _ s _ _ r c h , _ s _ d _ b _ b y _
t _ l k _ s _ _ l _ t _ m _ r _ _ m p _ r t _ n t _ t h _ n _ w _ t h _ _ g h t . S h _
s _ d : " _ t _ s _ n _ t _ s _ m _ t h _ n g _ t _ b _ _ m b _ r r _ s s _ d _ b _ t _
_ t _ l l . "

T h _ r _ s _ _ r c h _ r s _ r _ c _ r d _ d _ 24 _ d _ f f _ r _ n t _ m _ t h _ r s _ t _ l k _ n g _
t _ t h _ r _ b _ b _ s . T h _ b _ b _ s _ w _ r _ _ g _ d _ b _ t w _ _ n _ s _ v _ n _
m _ n t h s _ _ n d _ _ n _ y _ _ r . T h _ m _ t h _ r s _ s p _ k _ t _ t h _ r _
c h _ l d r _ n _ _ n _ 10 _ d _ f f _ r _ n t _ n _ t _ v _ l _ n g _ _ g _ s , _ n c l _ d _ n g _
_ n g l _ s h , S p _ n _ s h , M _ n d _ r _ n , R _ s s _ _ n _ _ n d _ H _ b r _ w . D r _
P _ _ z z _ s _ d : " W _ b _ s _ c _ l l y _ b r _ _ g h t _ m _ t h _ r s _ _ n t _ t h _
l _ b _ _ n d _ h _ d _ t h _ m _ p l _ y _ w _ t h _ _ n d _ r _ _ d _ t _ t h _ r _ _ w n _
b _ b _ s , _ j _ s t _ l _ k _ t h _ y _ w _ _ l d _ _ t _ h _ m _ . " S h _ _ d _ d _ :
" W _ f _ _ n d _ t h _ t _ m _ t h _ r s _ [c h _ n g _ t h _] _ b _ s _ c _ q _ _ l _ t y _ _ f _
t h _ r _ v _ _ c _ s _ w h _ n _ s p _ _ k _ n g _ t _ _ n f _ n t s , _ _ n d _ t h _ y _ d _ s _
_ n _ _ [v _ r y _ s _ m _ l _ r] _ w _ y _ _ c r _ s s _ m _ n y _ d _ v _ r _ s _
l _ n g _ _ g _ s . " T h _ s t _ d y _ d _ d n ' t _ l _ k _ t _ f _ t h _ r s ' _ t _ l k , _ b _ t _
P _ _ z z _ s _ d _ t h _ t _ t _ s _ l _ k _ l y _ f _ t h _ r s _ w _ _ l d _ l s _ s p _ _ k _
_ n _ _ s _ m _ l _ r _ w _ y _ _ c r _ s s _ t h _ w _ r l d .

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171015-baby-talk.html>

a new study has found that mothers all over the world speak to their babies in the same way the research is from the baby lab at princeton university in the usa the researchers who did the study said "motherese" is a universal language they said baby talk is not just lots of cute noises and coo-coos the words and sounds that mothers say to their babies are quite complex they form a special form of communication that mothers use in the same way across the world these sounds are very important in helping the language development in infants dr elise piazza co-author of the research said baby talk is a lot more important than we thought she said "it is not something to be embarrassed about at all"

the researchers recorded 24 different mothers talking to their babies the babies were aged between seven months and one year the mothers spoke to their children in 10 different native languages including english spanish mandarin russian and hebrew dr piazza said "we basically brought mothers into the lab and had them play with and read to their own babies just like they would at home" she added "we found that mothers [change the] basic quality of their voices when speaking to infants and they do so in a [very similar] way across many diverse languages" the study didn't look at fathers' talk but piazza said that it is likely fathers would also speak in a similar way across the world

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1710/171015-baby-talk.html>

A new study has found that mothers all over the world speak to their babies in the same way. The research is from the Baby Lab at Princeton University in the USA. The researchers who did the study said "motherese" is a universal language. They said baby talk is not just lots of cute noises and coo-hy-coos. The words and sounds that mothers say to their babies are quite complex. They form a special form of communication that mothers use in the same way across the world. These sounds are very important in helping the language development in infants. Dr Elise Piazza, co-author of this research, said baby talk is a lot more important than we thought. She said: "It is not something to be embarrassed about at all." The researchers recorded 24 different mothers talking to their babies. The babies were aged between seven months and one year. The mothers spoke to their children in 10 different native languages, including English, Spanish, Mandarin, Russian and Hebrew. Dr Piazza said: "We basically brought mothers into the lab and had them play with and read to their own babies, just like they would at home." She added: "We found that mothers [change the] basic quality of their voices when speaking to infants, and they do so in a [very similar] way across many diverse languages." The study didn't look at fathers' talk, but Piazza said that it is likely fathers would also speak in a similar way across the world.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about this news. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. BABY TALK: Make a poster about baby talk. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. COOCHY COO: Write a magazine article about starting lessons in baby talk so adults can speak to babies better. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to an expert on baby talk. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your opinions on it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a T b T c F d F e F f F g T h T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. found | a. discovered |
| 2. way | b. manner |
| 3. universal | c. global |
| 4. complex | d. difficult |
| 5. embarrassed | e. ashamed |
| 6. different | f. separate |
| 7. basically | g. fundamentally |
| 8. quality | h. standard |
| 9. diverse | i. various |
| 10. similar | j. comparable |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. The Baby Lab
2. Motherese
3. Coochy-coo
4. Language
5. Embarrassed
6. 24
7. Seven months to a year
8. 10
9. The quality of their voice
10. Fathers' talk

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. b 2. d 3. a 4. c 5. b 6. c 7. d 8. a 9. a 10. b

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)