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Level 2

Chinese women spend \$30 million on virtual boyfriends

5th February, 2018

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180205-dating-app-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180205-dating-app-2.html>

A dating app in China is very popular with women. They are spending \$30 million a month on it. It is a little different from usual dating apps because the four single men on the app are virtual boyfriends. Users role-play dating the virtual guys. They buy "Purple Diamonds" from the app and spend them in the app to go on dates and keep their relationships going. The app is called Love and Producer. It is now the biggest money earner on Apple's China App Store. Players spent over 200 million Chinese Yuan (\$30 million) on the app last month.

A research company said the app has over two million daily active users. Most of these are women in their early 20s. They love the idea of romance and fun. A 19-year-old university student explained why she liked the app: "It's like a romantic novel with fascinating voices. It's more real than reading a novel." She loved the "delicate drawings" and the "great voices". Another young woman said: "I don't have a boyfriend, so I'm happy to have a relationship with a "paper partner". She also liked getting e-mail and chat messages from her virtual boyfriends.

Sources: <https://qz.com/1193912/love-and-producer-chinas-female-gamers-are-spending-millions-of-dollars-on-virtual-boyfriends/>
<http://www.scmp.com/news/china/society/article/2127116/chinas-women-gamers-take-centre-stage-virtual-boyfriend-game-love>
<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2018/02/02/asia-pacific/social-issues-asia-pacific/gaming-women-blooms-china-virtual-beau-captures-hearts/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180205-dating-app-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. A dating | a. a month on it |
| 2. very | b. dates |
| 3. They are spending \$30 million | c. from usual |
| 4. a little different | d. the virtual guys |
| 5. four single | e. app |
| 6. role-play dating | f. earner |
| 7. go on | g. popular with women |
| 8. the biggest money | h. men |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. A research | a. their early 20s |
| 2. over two million daily | b. messages |
| 3. women in | c. novel |
| 4. They love the idea | d. company |
| 5. It's like a romantic | e. with a "paper partner" |
| 6. It's more real than reading | f. active users |
| 7. have a relationship | g. a novel |
| 8. chat | h. of romance |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180205-dating-app-2.html>

A (1) _____ China is very popular with women. They are spending \$30 million a month on it. It (2) _____ different from usual dating apps because the four (3) _____ the app are virtual boyfriends. Users role-play dating the virtual guys. They buy "Purple Diamonds" from the app and spend them in the app to (4) _____ and keep their relationships going. The app is called Love and Producer. It is now the (5) _____ on Apple's China App Store. Players spent over 200 million Chinese Yuan (\$30 million) on the (6) _____.

A research company said the app has over (7) _____ active users. Most of these are women in their early 20s. They love the (8) _____ and fun. A 19-year-old university student (9) _____ liked the app: "It's like a romantic novel with fascinating voices. It's more real than (10) _____." She loved the "delicate drawings" and the "great voices". Another young woman said: "I don't have a boyfriend, so I'm happy to have (11) _____ a "paper partner". She also liked getting e-mail (12) _____ from her virtual boyfriends.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180205-dating-app-2.html>

A dating app in China is very popular with women. They are spending \$30 million a month on it. It is a little different from usual dating apps because set here four single men on the app are virtual boyfriends. Users role-play dating the virtual guys. They buy "Purple Diamonds" from the app and spend them in the app to go on dates and keep their relationships going. The app is called Love and Producer. It is now the biggest money earner on Apple's China App Store. Players spent over 200 million Chinese Yuan (\$30 million) on the app last month. A research company said the app has over two million daily active users. Most of these are women in their early 20s. They love the idea of romance and fun. A 19-year-old university student explained why she liked the app: "It's like a romantic novel with fascinating voices. It's more real than reading a novel." She loved the "delicate drawings" and the "great voices". Another young woman said: "I don't have a boyfriend, so I'm happy to have a relationship with a "paper partner". She also liked getting e-mail and chat messages from her virtual boyfriends.

DATING APPS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1802/180205-dating-app-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about Dating apps 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) _____

