

# Breaking News English.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

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

[breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html](http://breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html)

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

[www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean\\_banville\\_lessons.html](http://www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html)

**Level 5 – 18th January, 2019**

## **Denmark is the best country to raise kids**

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids-5.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 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.**

**Twitter**



[twitter.com/SeanBanville](https://twitter.com/SeanBanville)

**Facebook**



[www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176](https://www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176)

# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids-5.html>

Scandinavia is the best place in the world to raise children. The top three places on the annual U.S. News & World Report's list of "The Best Countries for Raising Kids" are Nordic nations. The list is compiled in collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania. Denmark topped the list, Sweden was runner-up, and Norway edged out Canada for third place. This is not surprising as the three nations ranked highest on the list for 2019. A spokeswoman said these countries tended to have "generous" paternal and maternal leave, free preschool and good overall public education systems.

The report also included the "Best Countries" list. Researchers used "a global perceptions-based" approach in looking at data from the World Bank and the attitudes of 20,000 people in the Americas, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and Africa. They checked countries using 65 different metrics and "country attributes". These included income equality, quality public education and healthcare systems, human rights, gender equality, safety, family friendliness and levels of perceived happiness. Switzerland once again topped the "Best Countries" list. Canada and Japan were in the top three.

Sources: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/best-country-for-kids-the-list-of-the-best-countries-in-the-world-to-raise-kids-has-been-released-america/>  
<https://edition.cnn.com/2020/01/15/health/best-country-to-raise-child-wellness/index.html>  
<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-7890051/Revealed-BEST-countries-world-raise-child-Britain-ranks-11th.html>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                            |                      |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. The top                 | a. surprising        |
| 2. Nordic                  | b. compiled          |
| 3. The list is             | c. education systems |
| 4. Norway edged out Canada | d. nations           |
| 5. This is not             | e. three places      |
| 6. these countries tended  | f. leave             |
| 7. paternal and maternal   | g. for third place   |
| 8. good overall public     | h. to                |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                          |                     |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. a global perceptions- | a. in the top three |
| 2. looking               | b. friendliness     |
| 3. the attitudes         | c. at data          |
| 4. 65 different          | d. happiness        |
| 5. income                | e. metrics          |
| 6. family                | f. based approach   |
| 7. levels of perceived   | g. equality         |
| 8. Canada and Japan were | h. of 20,000 people |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids-5.html>

Scandinavia is the (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the world to raise children. The top three places (2) \_\_\_\_\_ U.S. News & World Report's list of "The Best Countries for Raising Kids" are Nordic nations. The (3) \_\_\_\_\_ in collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania. Denmark topped the list, Sweden was runner-up, and (4) \_\_\_\_\_ Canada for third place. This is not surprising as the three nations (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the list for 2019. A spokeswoman said these countries tended to have "generous" (6) \_\_\_\_\_ leave, free preschool and good overall public education systems.

The (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the "Best Countries" list. Researchers used "a global perceptions-based" (8) \_\_\_\_\_ at data from the World Bank and the attitudes of 20,000 people in the Americas, Asia, Europe, the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ Africa. They checked countries using (10) \_\_\_\_\_ and "country attributes". These included income equality, (11) \_\_\_\_\_ and healthcare systems, human rights, gender equality, safety, family friendliness and (12) \_\_\_\_\_ happiness. Switzerland once again topped the "Best Countries" list. Canada and Japan were in the top three.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids-5.html>

Scandinavia is the best place in the world to raise children. The top three places on the annual U.S. News & World Report's list of "The Best Countries for Raising Kids" are Nordic nations. The list is compiled in collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania. Denmark topped the list, Sweden was runner-up, and Norway edged out Canada for third place. This is not surprising as the three nations ranked highest on the list for 2019. A spokeswoman said these countries tended to have "generous" paternal and maternal leave, free preschool and good overall public education systems. The report also included the "Best Countries" list. Researchers used "a global perceptions-based" approach in looking at data from the World Bank and the attitudes of 20,000 people in the Americas, Asia, Europe, the Middle East and Africa. They checked countries using 65 different metrics and "country attributes". These included income equality, quality of public education and health care systems, human rights, gender equality, safety, family friendliness and level of perceived happiness. Switzerland once again topped the "Best Countries" list. Canada and Japan were in the top three.

# RAISING KIDS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2001/200118-raising-kids-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about raising kids 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*Denmark is the best country to raise kids – 18th January, 2019*  
More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://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) \_\_\_\_\_

