

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 3 – 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.html>

Contents

The Article	2	Discussion (Student-Created Qs)	15
Warm-Ups	3	Language Work (Cloze)	16
Vocabulary	4	Spelling	17
Before Reading / Listening	5	Put The Text Back Together	18
Gap Fill	6	Put The Words In The Right Order	19
Match The Sentences And Listen	7	Circle The Correct Word	20
Listening Gap Fill	8	Insert The Vowels (a, e, i, o, u)	21
Comprehension Questions	9	Punctuate The Text And Add Capitals	22
Multiple Choice - Quiz	10	Put A Slash (/) Where The Spaces Are	23
Role Play	11	Free Writing	24
After Reading / Listening	12	Academic Writing	25
Student Survey	13	Homework	26
Discussion (20 Questions)	14	Answers	27

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

Twitter



twitter.com/SeanBanville

Facebook



www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176

THE ARTICLE

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

Japan and Hong Kong have closed their elementary, junior-high and high schools until April. Governments say they want to protect children from the COVID-19 coronavirus. Schools in Japan will remain closed until April the 8th, which is the start of the new school year. Children in Hong Kong will return to school on April the 20th at the earliest. Parents are now worried about the school closures. Working parents have to think about how to care for younger children. Grandparents will look after many children while their parents go to work. However, many children have no grandparents or extended family who live nearby. Parents may have to pay for expensive childcare fees.

Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe shut the country's schools after a meeting of Japan's anti-virus task force. He said the next two weeks are critical to control the spread of COVID-19. He wants to "stem the risk of many children and teachers becoming infected through gathering for long hours every day". The government said it would urge public services and private companies to make it easier for people to take time off work to look after their children. An angry mother said: "I wonder if the government thinks it is OK to leave children at home alone for long hours." She asked: "What's the point of closing schools if parents are still commuting in packed trains in which passengers may have COVID-19?"

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>

WARM-UPS

1. CORONAVIRUS: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about coronavirus. 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?

elementary school / protect / coronavirus / school / closures / grandparents / fees / meeting / virus / task force / spread / public services / angry / mother / commuting

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

3. SELF-QUARANTINE: Students A **strongly** believe we should all self-quarantine for two weeks; Students B **strongly** believe this is too much. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

4. HYGIENE: How dangerous could these things be? What can we avoid COVID-19 with these things? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How Dangerous?	What Can We Do?
Taps		
Toilets		
Public transport		
Shops		
The street		
Schools		

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

6. AVOIDING COVID-19: Rank these with your partner. Put the best things to avoid COVID-19 at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- self-quarantine
- hand-washing
- wearing a mask
- avoid people
- don't touch things
- alcohol spray
- don't touch your face
- listen to WHO advice

VOCABULARY MATCHING

Paragraph 1

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. elementary school | a. Keep safe from harmful people or things. |
| 2. protect | b. The action of shutting something for a long time, or forever (like a shop, school, road, etc.). |
| 3. remain | c. Go back to a place or person. |
| 4. return | d. Stay as it is. |
| 5. closure | e. A place where children aged between five and ten go to learn and make friends. |
| 6. extended family | f. Money paid to a professional for advice or services. |
| 7. fees | g. The people you are related to outside of your parents, brothers and sisters. |

Paragraph 2

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 8. task force | h. Try hard to get someone to do something. |
| 9. critical | i. A group of people that makes decisions about important things, usually in an emergency. |
| 10. spread | j. Affected with a disease-causing organism. |
| 11. stem | k. Very, very, very full and crowded. |
| 12. infected | l. Move to a larger and larger area. |
| 13. urge | m. Stop something from happening. |
| 14. packed | n. Very, very, very, very important for the future of something. |

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

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

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

- a. Japan, Hong Kong and China have closed their high schools. **T / F**
- b. Schools in Hong Kong will stay closed until April the 20th at the earliest. **T / F**
- c. Parents are not at all worried about the school closures. **T / F**
- d. Japan has said childcare will be free in March for working parents. **T / F**
- e. An anti-task virus force met in Japan. **T / F**
- f. The next two weeks are important to stop the spread of the virus. **T / F**
- g. Japan wants companies to help workers who have children. **T / F**
- h. A mother questioned the closures when people use crowded trains. **T / F**

2. SYNONYM MATCH: (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| 1. closed | a. safeguard |
| 2. protect | b. acceptable |
| 3. remain | c. charges |
| 4. worried | d. stay |
| 5. fees | e. important |
| 6. force | f. concerned |
| 7. critical | g. encourage |
| 8. urge | h. shut |
| 9. OK | i. crowded |
| 10. packed | j. group |

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

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. they want to protect | a. of closing schools |
| 2. Schools in Japan will | b. family |
| 3. worried about the school | c. children |
| 4. grandparents or extended | d. force |
| 5. Parents may have to pay for expensive | e. infected |
| 6. a meeting of Japan's anti-virus task | f. remain closed |
| 7. control the spread | g. in packed trains |
| 8. children and teachers becoming | h. closures |
| 9. the point | i. childcare fees |
| 10. parents are still commuting | j. of COVID-19 |

GAP FILL

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

Japan and Hong Kong have (1) _____ their elementary, junior-high and high schools until April. Governments say they want to (2) _____ children from the COVID-19 coronavirus. Schools in Japan will (3) _____ closed until April the 8th, which is the start of the new school year. Children in Hong Kong will return to school on April the 20th at the (4) _____. Parents are now worried about the school closures. Working parents have to think about how to (5) _____ for younger children. Grandparents will look after many children while their parents go to (6) _____. However, many children have no grandparents or extended family who live (7) _____. Parents may have to pay for expensive childcare (8) _____.

remain
care
fees
closed
nearby
earliest
protect
work

Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe shut the country's schools after a meeting of Japan's anti-virus task (9) _____. He said the next two weeks are critical to control the (10) _____ of COVID-19. He wants to "stem the (11) _____ of many children and teachers becoming infected through (12) _____ for long hours every day". The government said it would (13) _____ public services and private companies to make it easier for people to take time off work to look after their children. An (14) _____ mother said: "I wonder if the government thinks it is OK to leave children at home (15) _____ for long hours." She asked: "What's the point of closing schools if parents are still commuting in (16) _____ trains in which passengers may have COVID-19?"

gathering
spread
packed
urge
force
alone
risk
angry

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

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

- 1) Governments say they want to _____
 - a. protects children
 - b. protect children
 - c. protective children
 - d. protected children
- 2) Children in Hong Kong will return to school on April the 20th _____
 - a. at the earlies
 - b. at the earlier
 - c. at the earliest
 - d. at the early
- 3) Grandparents will look after many children while _____
 - a. their parents gone
 - b. their parents go
 - c. their parents goer
 - d. their parents goes
- 4) many children have no grandparents or extended family _____
 - a. who live nearby
 - b. who live nearly
 - c. who lives nearby
 - d. who live near bye
- 5) Parents may have to pay for expensive _____
 - a. childcare flees
 - b. childcare fleas
 - c. childcare frees
 - d. childcare fees
- 6) Abe shut the country's schools after a meeting of Japan's anti-_____
 - a. rivals task force
 - b. viral task force
 - c. vines task force
 - d. virus task force
- 7) He said the next two weeks are critical to _____
 - a. control the speared
 - b. control the spread
 - c. control the spreads
 - d. control the spade
- 8) He wants to "stem the risk of many children and teachers _____
 - a. becoming infect it
 - b. becoming in fact it
 - c. becoming infant it
 - d. becoming infected
- 9) urge public services and private companies to make it easier for people to take _____
 - a. timed off work
 - b. time off work
 - c. timer off work
 - d. thyme off work
- 10) What's the point of closing schools if parents are still commuting _____
 - a. impact trains
 - b. in pact trains
 - c. in pack trains
 - d. in packed trains

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

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

Japan and Hong Kong have closed their elementary, junior-high and high schools until April. Governments say they (1) _____ children from the COVID-19 coronavirus. Schools in Japan (2) _____ until April the 8th, which is the start of the new school year. Children in Hong Kong will return to school on April the 20th (3) _____. Parents are now worried about the school closures. Working parents have to think about how (4) _____ younger children. Grandparents will look after many children while their parents go to work. However, many children have no grandparents or extended family (5) _____. Parents may have to pay for (6) _____.

Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe shut the country's schools after a meeting of Japan's anti-(7) _____. He said the next two weeks are critical to control the spread of COVID-19. He wants to "(8) _____ of many children and teachers becoming infected through gathering for long hours every day". The government said (9) _____ public services and private companies to make it easier for people to (10) _____ work to look after their children. An angry mother said: "I wonder if the government thinks it is OK to leave children (11) _____ for long hours." She asked: "What's the point of closing schools if parents are still commuting (12) _____ in which passengers may have COVID-19?"

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

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

1. How many countries have closed schools?
2. Until when will schools in Japan stay closed?
3. What did the article say parents are now worried about?
4. Who do many children not have living nearby besides grandparents?
5. What might parents have to pay?
6. What task force met in Japan?
7. What are the next two weeks critical to control?
8. Who should make things easier for workers besides private companies?
9. What action did a mother question the point of?
10. What did the mother say people were packed into?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

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

- 1) How many countries have closed schools?
 - a) two
 - b) three
 - c) four
 - d) five
- 2) Until when will schools in Japan stay closed?
 - a) April the 18th
 - b) April the 20th
 - c) April the 8th
 - d) April the 28th
- 3) What did the article say parents are now worried about?
 - a) children being lazy
 - b) exam grades
 - c) getting to work
 - d) school closures
- 4) Who do many children not have living nearby besides grandparents?
 - a) teachers
 - b) extended family
 - c) people with the virus
 - d) friends
- 5) What might parents have to pay?
 - a) childcare fees
 - b) a heavy price
 - c) a fee for lunches
 - d) a high cost
- 6) What task force met in Japan?
 - a) a school task force
 - b) a home tuition task force
 - c) a study task force
 - d) an anti-virus task force
- 7) What are the next two weeks critical to control?
 - a) children studying
 - b) school closures
 - c) the spread of COVID-19
 - d) university exams
- 8) Who should make things easier for workers besides private companies?
 - a) the government
 - b) public services
 - c) hospitals
 - d) doctors
- 9) What action did a mother question the point of?
 - a) face masks
 - b) the government
 - c) closing schools
 - d) the virus
- 10) What did the mother say people were packed into?
 - a) schools
 - b) trains
 - c) cities
 - d) offices

ROLE PLAY

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

Role A – Hand-Washing

You think hand-washing is the best thing to avoid COVID-19. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): self-quarantine, wearing a mask or alcohol spray.

Role B – Self-Quarantine

You think self-quarantine is the best thing to avoid COVID-19. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): hand-washing, wearing a mask or alcohol spray.

Role C – Wear A Mask

You think wearing a mask is the best thing to avoid COVID-19. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): self-quarantine, hand-washing or alcohol spray.

Role D – Alcohol Spray

You think alcohol spray is the best thing to avoid COVID-19. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least effective of these (and why): self-quarantine, wearing a mask or hand-washing.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

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

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

virus	pandemic
--------------	-----------------

- 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">• junior• remain• start• closures• care• pay	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• shut• control• risk• urge• wonder• still
---	---

CORONAVIRUS SURVEY

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

COVID-19 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 'virus'?
3. What do you know about COVID-19?
4. What should we do to reduce the risk of catching the virus?
5. What do you think of the news coverage of COVID-19?
6. What do you think of the school closures?
7. What else should governments close?
8. What is your government doing about COVID-19?
9. How can students keep up with their studies?
10. What should parents do if they have to go to work all day?

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

COVID-19 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 'pandemic'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. How worried are you about the coronavirus?
15. Have you changed your daily routine because of the coronavirus?
16. What would you do about COVID-19 if you were your country's leader?
17. What will the COVID-19 situation be like in a year's time?
18. Is it right to leave children at home alone?
19. Is there a point to closing schools if commuters pack trains?
20. What questions would you like to ask coronavirus scientists?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

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

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

Copyright © breakingnewsenglish.com 2020

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/2003/200304-covid-19.html>

Japan and Hong Kong have (1) _____ their elementary, junior-high and high schools until April. Governments say they want to (2) _____ children from the COVID-19 coronavirus. Schools in Japan will remain closed (3) _____ April the 8th, which is the start of the new school year. Children in Hong Kong will return to school on April the 20th at the (4) _____. Parents are now worried about the school closures. Working parents have to think about how to care for younger children. Grandparents will look (5) _____ many children while their parents go to work. However, many children have no grandparents or extended family who live nearby. Parents may have to pay for expensive childcare (6) _____.

Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe shut the country's schools after a meeting of Japan's anti-virus (7) _____ force. He said the next two weeks are critical to control the spread of COVID-19. He wants to "stem the (8) _____ of many children and teachers becoming infected through gathering for long hours every day". The government said it would (9) _____ public services and private companies to make it easier for people to take time (10) _____ work to look after their children. An angry mother said: "I wonder if the government thinks it is OK to leave children at home (11) _____ for long hours." She asked: "What's the point of closing schools if parents are still commuting in (12) _____ trains in which passengers may have COVID-19?"

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

- | | | | | |
|-----|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) cloistered | (b) closeted | (c) closed | (d) closed |
| 2. | (a) protect | (b) protective | (c) protection | (d) protected |
| 3. | (a) until | (b) since | (c) as | (d) up |
| 4. | (a) earliest | (b) earlies | (c) early | (d) earl |
| 5. | (a) upon | (b) after | (c) to | (d) up to |
| 6. | (a) fleas | (b) flees | (c) frees | (d) fees |
| 7. | (a) tsk | (b) tusk | (c) task | (d) tacks |
| 8. | (a) riskily | (b) risky | (c) risqué | (d) risk |
| 9. | (a) urge | (b) purge | (c) surge | (d) merge |
| 10. | (a) on | (b) off | (c) up | (d) on |
| 11. | (a) along | (b) alone | (c) lone | (d) loneliness |
| 12. | (a) sucked | (b) docked | (c) packed | (d) licked |

SPELLING

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

Paragraph 1

1. mlyteneare, junior-high and high schools
2. ctrpeot children from the COVID-19 coronavirus
3. merina closed until April the 8th
4. worried about the school sseuolcr
5. grandparents or ntxeeedd family
6. expensive childcare efse

Paragraph 2

7. Japan's anti-virus task corfe
8. laircitic to control the spread
9. children and teachers becoming nfdeceit
10. it would uegr public services
11. parents are still imgomctun in packed trains
12. asresnegsp may have COVID-19

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

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

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () parents have to think about how to care for younger children. Grandparents will look
- () "What's the point of closing schools if parents are still commuting in packed trains in which passengers may have COVID-19?"
- () return to school on April the 20th at the earliest. Parents are now worried about the school closures. Working
- () closed until April the 8th, which is the start of the new school year. Children in Hong Kong will
- () virus task force. He said the next two weeks are critical to control the spread of COVID-19. He wants to "stem the risk
- () of many children and teachers becoming infected through gathering for long hours every
- () if the government thinks it is OK to leave children at home alone for long hours." She asked:
- () easier for people to take time off work to look after their children. An angry mother said: "I wonder
- (**1**) Japan and Hong Kong have closed their elementary, junior-high and high schools until
- () April. Governments say they want to protect children from the COVID-19 coronavirus. Schools in Japan will remain
- () after many children while their parents go to work. However, many children have no grandparents
- () day". The government said it would urge public services and private companies to make it
- () or extended family who live nearby. Parents may have to pay for expensive childcare fees.
- () Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe shut the country's schools after a meeting of Japan's anti-

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

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

1. to protect children COVID-19 . Governments want from
2. now are about closures . worried the Parents school
3. care Think younger children . how for about to
4. or nearby . family extended Grandparents live who
5. have expensive pay to may childcare fees . Parents
6. a meeting task force . After of Japan's anti-virus
7. control COVID-19 . the to of Critical spread
8. off Easier take to people for work . time
9. home leave children It's at to alone . OK
10. trains . packed are still commuting in Parents

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

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

Japan and Hong Kong have *closed* / *closeted* their elementary, junior-high and high schools until April. Governments say they want to *protective* / *protect* children from the COVID-19 coronavirus. Schools in Japan will remain *closure* / *closed* until April the 8th, which is the *begin* / *start* of the new school year. Children in Hong Kong will return *to* / *at* school on April the 20th at the *earliest* / *early*. Parents are now worried about the school closures. Working parents have to think about *how* / *what* to care for younger children. Grandparents will look *before* / *after* many children while their parents go to work. However, many children have *no* / *none* grandparents or extended family who live nearby. Parents may have to pay for expensive childcare *fee* / *fees*.

Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe *shut* / *shutter* the country's schools after a meeting of Japan's anti-virus task *farce* / *force*. He said the next two weeks are *critical* / *critically* to control the spread of COVID-19. He wants to "stem the *risky* / *risk* of many children and teachers becoming *infection* / *infected* through gathering for long hours every day". The government said it would *urge* / *purge* public services and private companies to make it easier for people to take time off work to look *before* / *after* their children. An angry mother said: "I *wander* / *wonder* if the government thinks it is OK to leave children at home *alone* / *lone* for long hours." She asked: "What's the point of closing schools if parents are still *commuting* / *computing* in packed trains in which passengers may have COVID-19?"

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/2003/200304-covid-19.html>

J_p_n _n_d H_n_g K_n_g h_v_ c_l_s_d th__ r_l_m_n
t_r_y, j_n__ r-h_g_h _n_d h_g_h s_ch__ l_s _n_t_l A
p_r_l. G_v_r_n_m_n_t_s s_y th_y w_n_t t_ p_r_t_c_t
c_h_l_d_r_n f_r_m th_ C_O_V_I_D-19 c_r_n_v_r_s. S
c_h__ l_s _n J_p_n w_l_l r_m__ n c_l_s_d _n_t_l A p
r_l th_ 8_t_h, w_h_c_h _s th_ s_t_r_t _f th_ n_w
s_c_h__ l_y__ r. C_h_l_d_r_n _n H_n_g K_n_g w_l_l
r_t_r_n t_ s_c_h__ l _n A_p_r_l th_ 20_t_h _t th_
__ r_l__ s_t. P_r_n_t_s _r_n_w w_r_r__ d _b__ t th_
s_c_h__ l c_l_s_r_s. W_r_k_n_g p_r_n_t_s h_v_ t_ t
h_n_k _b__ t h_w t_ c_r_ f_r y__ n_g_r c_h_l_d_r_n.
G_r_n_d_p_r_n_t_s w_l_l l__ k _f_t_r m_n_y c_h_l_d_r_n
w_h_l_ th__ r p_r_n_t_s g_ t_ w_r_k. H_w_v_r, m_n
y c_h_l_d_r_n h_v_ n_ g_r_n_d_p_r_n_t_s _r _x_t_n_d_d
f_m_l_y w_h_ l_v_ n__ r_b_y. P_r_n_t_s m_y h_v_ t_
p_y f_r _x_p_n_s_v_ c_h_l_d_c_r_ f__ s.

J_p_n 's P_r_m_ M_n_s_t_r S_h_n_z_ A_b_ s_h_t th_
c__ n_t_r_y 's s_c_h__ l_s _f_t_r _ m__ t_n_g _f J_p_n '
s _n_t_-v_r_s t_s_k f_r_c_. H_ s__ d th_ n_x_t t
w_ w__ k_s _r_ c_r_t_c_l t_ c_n_t_r_l th_ s_p_r__ d _f
C_O_V_I_D-19. H_ w_n_t_s t_ "s_t_m th_ r_s_k _f
m_n_y c_h_l_d_r_n _n_d t__ c_h_r_s b_c_m_n_g _n_f_c
t_d th_r__ g_h g_t_h_r_n_g f_r l_n_g h__ r_s _v_r_y
d_y". Th_ g_v_r_n_m_n_t s__ d _t w__ l_d _r_g_ p_b
l_c s_r_v_c_s _n_d p_r_v_t_ c_m_p_n__ s t_ m_k_ _t
__ s__ r f_r p__ p_l_ t_ t_k_ t_m_ _f_f w_r_k t_ l__
k _f_t_r th__ r c_h_l_d_r_n. A_n _n_g_r_y m_t_h_r
s__ d: "I w_n_d_r _f th_ g_v_r_n_m_n_t t_h_n_k_s
_t _s O_K t_ l__ v_ c_h_l_d_r_n _t h_m_ _l_n_ f_r
l_n_g h__ r_s." S_h__ s_k_d: "W_h_t 's th_ p__ n_t
_f c_l_s_n_g s_c_h__ l_s _f p_r_n_t_s _r_ s_t_l_l c_m
m_t_n_g _n p_c_k_d t_r__ n_s _n w_h_c_h p_s_s_n_g_r
s m_y h_v_ C_O_V_I_D-19?"

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

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

japan and hong kong have closed their elementary juniorhigh and high schools until april governments say they want to protect children from the covid19 coronavirus schools in japan will remain closed until april the 8th which is the start of the new school year children in hong kong will return to school on april the 20th at the earliest parents are now worried about the school closures working parents have to think about how to care for younger children grandparents will look after many children while their parents go to work however many children have no grandparents or extended family who live nearby parents may have to pay for expensive childcare fees

japans prime minister shinzo abe shut the countrys schools after a meeting of japans antiviral task force he said the next two weeks are critical to control the spread of covid19 he wants to stem the risk of many children and teachers becoming infected through gathering for long hours every day the government said it would urge public services and private companies to make it easier for people to take time off work to look after their children an angry mother said i wonder if the government thinks it is ok to leave children at home alone for long hours she asked whats the point of closing schools if parents are still commuting in packed trains in which passengers may have covid19

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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

Japan and Hong Kong have closed their elementary, junior-high and high schools until April. Governments say they want to protect children from the COVID-19 coronavirus. Schools in Japan will remain closed until April the 8th, which is the start of the new school year. Children in Hong Kong will return to school on April the 20th at the earliest. Parents are now worried about the school closures. Working parents have to think about how to care for younger children. Grandparents will look after many children while their parents go to work. However, many children have no grandparents or extended family who live nearby. Parents may have to pay for expensive childcare fees. Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe shut the country's schools after a meeting of Japan's anti-virus task force. He said the next two weeks are critical to control the spread of COVID-19. He wants to "stem the risk of many children and teachers becoming infected through gathering for long hours every day". The governments said it would urge public services and private companies to make it easier for people to take time off work to look after their children. An angry mother said: "I wonder if the government thinks it is OK to leave children at home alone for long hours." She asked: "What's the point of closing schools if parents are still commuting in packed trains in which passengers may have COVID-19?"

ACADEMIC WRITING

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

It is essential we all self-quarantine to combat COVID-19. Discuss.

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 story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. CORONAVIRUS: Make a poster about coronavirus. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. SELF-QUARANTINE: Write a magazine article about everybody in the world self-quarantining to help combat the COVID-19 coronavirus. 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 coronavirus. Ask him/her three questions about it. Give him/her three of your ideas on how to avoid it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. e 2. a 3. d 4. c 5. b 6. g 7. f
8. i 9. n 10. l 11. m 12. j 13. h 14. k

TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

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

SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. h	2. a	3. d	4. f	5. c
6. j	7. e	8. g	9. b	10. i

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

- Two
- April the 8th
- School closures
- Extended family
- Expensive childcare fees
- An anti-virus task force
- The spread of COVID-19
- Public services
- Closing schools
- Trains

WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.20)

- Governments want to protect children from COVID-19.
- Parents are now worried about the school closures.
- Think about how to care for younger children.
- Grandparents or extended family who live nearby.
- Parents may have to pay expensive childcare fees.
- After a meeting of Japan's anti-virus task force.
- Critical to control the spread of COVID-19.
- Easier for people to take time off work.
- It's OK to leave children at home alone.
- Parents are still commuting in packed trains.

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

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

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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