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**Level 4** – 18th October, 2021

## Peru wins first ever Balloon World Cup

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

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2110/211018-balloon-world-cup-4.html>

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Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2110/211018-balloon-world-cup-4.html>

A new fixture has been added to the global sporting calendar - the Balloon World Cup. We all know the "sport" of keepy-uppy ballooning. This is keeping a balloon in the air without letting it touch the floor. Spanish soccer star Gerard Pique loved this so much he made it into an international event. The first Balloon World Cup was held on Thursday. Peru's Francesco de la Cruz is the first world champion. He beat Germany's Jan Spiess 6-2 in the final.

Mr Pique got the idea from TikTok videos. He watched clips of an American family playing the game during the COVID-19 lockdown. This developed into a local league. Pique then made the game global. Teams from 32 countries took part. The contests took place on a court full of living room furniture as obstacles. Pique said: "Sometimes you have to get out of your comfort zone and try new things." There are hopes it could become an Olympics event.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/sport/58922689>  
<https://www.espn.com/soccer/blog-the-toe-poke/story/4497731/barcelonas-gerard-pique-organises-inaugural-balloon-world-cup>  
<https://www.sportbible.com/football/football-news-reactions-gerard-pique-lays-into-his-team-mates-after-baracas-abject-defeat-20211003>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2110/211018-balloon-world-cup-4.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                            |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. A new fixture has been  | a. of keepy-uppy   |
| 2. the global sporting     | b. the final       |
| 3. We all know the "sport" | c. this so much    |
| 4. keeping a balloon       | d. calendar        |
| 5. without letting it      | e. champion        |
| 6. Pique loved             | f. touch the floor |
| 7. the first world         | g. added           |
| 8. 6-2 in                  | h. in the air      |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                               |                       |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Mr Pique got the idea      | a. things             |
| 2. This developed into a      | b. obstacles          |
| 3. Teams from 32 countries    | c. an Olympics event  |
| 4. The contests took place on | d. took part          |
| 5. living room furniture as   | e. from TikTok videos |
| 6. get out of your comfort    | f. local league       |
| 7. try new                    | g. zone               |
| 8. it could become            | h. a court            |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2110/211018-balloon-world-cup-4.html>

A (1) \_\_\_\_\_ been added to the global sporting calendar - the Balloon World Cup. (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the "sport" of keepy-uppy ballooning. This is keeping a balloon (3) \_\_\_\_\_ without letting it (4) \_\_\_\_\_. Spanish soccer star Gerard Pique loved this so much he made (5) \_\_\_\_\_ international event. The first Balloon World Cup was held on Thursday. Peru's Francesco de la Cruz is the (6) \_\_\_\_\_. He beat Germany's Jan Spiess 6-2 in the final.

Mr Pique (7) \_\_\_\_\_ from TikTok videos. He watched clips of an American family playing (8) \_\_\_\_\_ the COVID-19 lockdown. This developed into (9) \_\_\_\_\_. Pique then made the game global. Teams from 32 (10) \_\_\_\_\_. The contests took place on a court (11) \_\_\_\_\_ room furniture as obstacles. Pique said: "Sometimes you have to get out of (12) \_\_\_\_\_ and try new things." There are hopes it could become an Olympics event.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2110/211018-balloon-world-cup-4.html>

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# INSECTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2110/211018-balloon-world-cup-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about balloons 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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More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

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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) \_\_\_\_\_

