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## **Level 1**

# **Britain says yes to 3-parent babies**

**6th February, 2015**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1502/150206-3-parent-babies-1.html>

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1502/150206-3-parent-babies-1.html>

In the U.K. there will soon be babies that come from the DNA of three different people. British lawmakers voted to allow three-person babies. This will stop a disease passing from a mother to her newborn baby. The first three-person baby could be born as early as next year. There could be 150 a year. The technique will help stop an incurable disease that affects about one in 6,500 children around the world.

The technique combines DNA from the parents and a female donor who does not have the disease. Doctors swap unhealthy DNA in the mother's egg with healthy DNA from the donor. About 0.1 per cent of the baby's DNA will be from the donor. Doctors say this is "light at the end of a dark tunnel" for many families. Britain's leader said parents who want a healthy baby could now have one. Critics say this is bad and could lead to "designer babies".

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/health-31069173>  
<http://www.scotsman.com/news/health/three-parent-babies-could-be-born-next-year-1-3678635>  
<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/britain-votes-to-allow-world-s-first-3-parent-ivf-babies/>

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1502/150206-3-parent-babies-1.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1. the DNA of three                     | a. next year            |
| 2. stop a disease passing from a mother | b. an incurable disease |
| 3. The first three-                     | c. 150 a year           |
| 4. as early as                          | d. the world            |
| 5. There could be                       | e. to her newborn baby  |
| 6. The technique will help stop         | f. in 6,500 children    |
| 7. affects about one                    | g. different people     |
| 8. around                               | h. person baby          |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                |                        |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. a female donor who does not | a. this is bad         |
| 2. unhealthy DNA               | b. from the donor.     |
| 3. healthy DNA                 | c. a dark tunnel       |
| 4. About 0.1 per cent          | d. babies              |
| 5. light at the end of         | e. have the disease    |
| 6. parents who want a          | f. of the baby's DNA   |
| 7. Critics say                 | g. in the mother's egg |
| 8. designer                    | h. healthy baby        |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1502/150206-3-parent-babies-1.html>

In the U.K. (1) \_\_\_\_\_ be babies that come from the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ different people. British lawmakers voted to allow three-person babies. This (3) \_\_\_\_\_ passing from a mother to her newborn baby. The first three-person baby could (4) \_\_\_\_\_ as next year. There could be 150 a year. The technique (5) \_\_\_\_\_ an incurable disease that affects about one in 6,500 children (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

The technique (7) \_\_\_\_\_ from the parents and a female donor who (8) \_\_\_\_\_ the disease. Doctors swap unhealthy DNA in the mother's egg with healthy DNA from the donor. About (9) \_\_\_\_\_ the baby's DNA will be from the donor. Doctors say (10) \_\_\_\_\_ the end (11) \_\_\_\_\_ for many families. Britain's leader said parents who want a healthy baby could now have one. Critics say this is bad and could lead to "(12) \_\_\_\_\_".

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1502/150206-3-parent-babies-1.html>

In the U.K. there will soon be babies that come from the DNA of three different people. British lawmakers voted to allow three-person babies. This will stop a disease passing from a mother to her newborn baby. The first three-person baby could be born as early as next year. There could be 150 a year. The technique will help stop an incurable disease that affects about one in 6,500 children around the world. The technique combines DNA from the parents and a female donor who does not have the disease. Doctors swap in healthy DNA in the mother's egg with healthy DNA from the donor. About 0.1 percent of the baby's DNA will be from the donor. Doctors say this is "light at the end of a dark tunnel" for many families. Britain's leader said parents who want a healthy baby could now have one. Critics say this is bad and could lead to "designer babies".

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

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b)

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c)

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d)

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e)

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f)

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g)

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h)

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*Britain says yes to 3-parent babies – 6th February, 2015*  
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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

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b)

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c)

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d)

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e)

---

f)

---

g)

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h)

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