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Level 2

Eight billionaires as rich as half the world

18th January, 2017

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170118-income-inequality-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 <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170118-income-inequality-2.html>

The world's eight richest men are as rich as half the world. The charity Oxfam said the billionaires have as much money as the 3.6 billion poorest people. Six of the men are from the USA. The richest is Microsoft founder Bill Gates, who is worth \$75 billion. The founders of Amazon and Facebook are both worth around \$45 billion. The report is called 'An Economy for the 99 Per Cent'. Oxfam said: "It shows that the gap between rich and poor is far greater than had been feared." It added that the "super-rich" create income inequality by avoiding tax.

Oxfam said it was shocking for so few people to have so much wealth. One in 10 people survive on less than \$2 a day. Inequality traps hundreds of millions in poverty. Oxfam added that: "Across the world, people are being left behind. Their wages are [not going up] yet corporate bosses take home million-dollar bonuses." It said governments only care about big business and a "wealthy elite". An economist said the report was unfair because Oxfam was attacking rich people. He said Oxfam should focus on ways to increase growth instead of complaining about the rich.

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/business-38613488>
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/income-inequality-oxfam_us_58792e6ee4b0b3c7a7b13616
<https://www.oxfam.org/en/pressroom/pressreleases/2017-01-16/just-8-men-own-same-wealth-half-world>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170118-income-inequality-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. The world's eight | a. been feared |
| 2. as rich | b. people |
| 3. the 3.6 billion poorest | c. tax |
| 4. Microsoft | d. rich and poor |
| 5. the gap between | e. inequality |
| 6. far greater than had | f. as half the world |
| 7. income | g. richest men |
| 8. avoiding | h. founder Bill Gates |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. One in 10 people survive on | a. "wealthy elite" |
| 2. Inequality traps hundreds of | b. behind |
| 3. people are being left | c. about the rich |
| 4. Their wages are not | d. millions in poverty |
| 5. corporate bosses take home | e. growth |
| 6. big business and a | f. going up |
| 7. focus on ways to increase | g. less than \$2 a day |
| 8. complaining | h. million-dollar bonuses |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170118-income-inequality-2.html>

The world's (1) _____ are as rich as half the world. The charity Oxfam said the billionaires (2) _____ money as the 3.6 billion poorest people. Six of the men are from the USA. The richest is Microsoft founder Bill Gates, (3) _____ \$75 billion. The founders of Amazon and Facebook (4) _____ around \$45 billion. The report is called 'An Economy for the 99 Per Cent'. Oxfam said: "It shows that the gap between rich and poor (5) _____ than had been feared." It added that the "super-rich" create income inequality (6) _____.

Oxfam said it was shocking for so few people (7) _____ wealth. One in 10 people survive on less than \$2 a day. Inequality traps hundreds of (8) _____. Oxfam added that: "Across the world, people are (9) _____. Their wages are [not going up] yet corporate bosses take home (10) _____." It said governments only care about big business and (11) _____. An economist said the report was unfair because Oxfam was attacking rich people. He said Oxfam should focus on ways to increase (12) _____ complaining about the rich.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170118-income-inequality-2.html>

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WEALTH SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1701/170118-income-inequality-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about wealth 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) _____

