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Level 0 – 9th November 2023

265-year-old love letters opened for first time

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231109-love-letters-0.html>

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Please try Levels 1, 2 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231109-love-letters-0.html>

Researchers just studied 104 letters that were unopened for 265 years. The letters were written to French sailors. Their warship was taken by Britain in 1758. The sailors could not open and read their mail because the letters were taken to London. They gathered dust for two and a half centuries. Many of the letters were love letters.

Researchers studied the letters. They gave a rare look at history. The writers were lovers, parents, sisters and wives. They all had different writing abilities. The letters showed how we live in things like pandemics and wars. The messages were like those people write today. They were about caring for people, and passion.

Sources: <https://edition.cnn.com/2023/11/06/world/french-letters-national-archives-scn/index.html>
<https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20231107-confiscated-french-love-letters-finally-opened-after-265-years>
<https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/world/raunchy-love-letters-from-250-years-ago-are-making-us-want-to-loosen-our-corsets/ar-AA1juN4y>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231109-love-letters-0.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Researchers just | a. half centuries |
| 2. unopened | b. French sailors |
| 3. The letters were written to | c. dust |
| 4. Their warship was | d. studied 104 letters |
| 5. the letters | e. love letters |
| 6. They gathered | f. were taken to London |
| 7. for two and a | g. for 265 years |
| 8. Many of the letters were | h. taken by Britain |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Researchers studied | a. for people |
| 2. They gave a rare | b. and wives |
| 3. The writers were | c. and wars |
| 4. parents, sisters | d. the letters |
| 5. They all had different writing | e. people write today |
| 6. things like pandemics | f. lovers |
| 7. The messages were like those | g. abilities |
| 8. They were about caring | h. look at history |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231109-love-letters-0.html>

Researchers just studied 104 (1) _____
unopened for 265 years. The letters (2) _____
French sailors. Their warship (3) _____ Britain in
1758. The sailors could not (4) _____ their mail
because the letters were taken to London. They gathered
(5) _____ and a half centuries. Many of the
letters (6) _____.

Researchers studied the letters. They (7) _____
look at history. The writers (8) _____, sisters
and wives. They all had (9) _____. The letters
showed how we live (10) _____ pandemics and
wars. The messages (11) _____ people write
today. They were about (12) _____, and passion.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231109-love-letters-0.html>

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Manyoftheletterswereloveletters.Researchersstudiedtheletters.The

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wives.Theyallhaddifferentwritingabilities.Thelettersshowedhowwelli

veinthingslikepandemicsandwars.Themessageswerelikethosepeopl

ewritetoday.Theywereaboutcaringforpeople,andpassion.

LOVE LETTERS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2311/231109-love-letters-0.html>

Write five GOOD questions about love letters 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) _____

