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Level 0

Why do children go to school?

3rd September, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160903-school-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 <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160903-school-0.html>

People in the USA have different ideas about what school is for. A poll found that 45 per cent of Americans said the main goal was for students to take exams. Around a quarter of people said it was for kids to get a job. Just over 26 per cent of Americans said the biggest reason for school was to teach citizenship.

A writer once said the purpose of school is, "to ask questions of the universe." Students had different ideas about school. Elena Brankov, 15, said it was to teach creativity and share ideas. Lyndon Bailey, also 15, said school, "is just to make poor kids into robots who work and make rich people richer".

Sources: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/answer-sheet/wp/2016/08/29/why-do-kids-go-to-school-americans-are-divided-on-the-answer-a-new-poll-shows/>
<http://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2016-08-29/confusion-over-purpose-of-us-education-system>
<https://edsource.org/2016/national-poll-shows-differing-views-about-focus-of-public-education/568712>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160903-school-0.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. People in the USA | a. quarter of people |
| 2. the main | b. reason |
| 3. students to take | c. have different ideas |
| 4. Around a | d. to get a job |
| 5. it was for kids | e. citizenship |
| 6. Just over 26 per cent | f. exams |
| 7. the biggest | g. goal |
| 8. school was to teach | h. of Americans |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. A writer | a. teach creativity |
| 2. the purpose | b. kids into robots |
| 3. ask | c. once said... |
| 4. Students had different | d. richer |
| 5. it was to | e. of school |
| 6. share | f. questions of the universe |
| 7. make poor | g. ideas |
| 8. make rich people | h. ideas about school |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160903-school-0.html>

People in the USA have different (1) _____
school is for. A (2) _____ 45 per cent of
Americans said (3) _____ was for students to
take exams. Around (4) _____ people said it
was for kids (5) _____. Just over 26 per cent of
Americans said the (6) _____ for school was to
teach citizenship.

A writer (7) _____ purpose of school is, "to ask
questions (8) _____." Students had different
(9) _____. Elena Brankov, 15, said it was to
teach creativity (10) _____. Lyndon Bailey, also
15, said school, "(11) _____ poor kids into
robots who work and make (12) _____".

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160903-school-0.html>

People in the USA have different ideas about what school is for. A poll found that 45 percent of Americans said the main goal was for students to take exams. Around a quarter of people said it was for kids to get a job. Just over 26 percent of Americans said the biggest reason for school was to teach citizenship. A writer once said the purpose of school is, "to ask questions of the universe." Students had different ideas about school. Elena Brankov, 15, said it was to teach creativity and share ideas. Lyndon Bailey, also 15, said school, "is just to make poor kids into robots who work and make rich people richer".

SCHOOL SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160903-school-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about school 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) _____

