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Level 2 – 29th April, 2020

Google Meet video conferencing platform improved

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet-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 <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet-2.html>

Google has improved its video conferencing platform Meet to be able to compete with other platforms. One new feature is that users can now see 16 people on their screen. Previously, there were only four people on their screen at one time. Meet's new gallery view comes at a time when more people around the world are using video conferencing services. Many people are speaking to family and friends during lockdown; companies are having meetings online; and schools and universities changed from classroom teaching to online teaching.

Google said Meet would help millions around the world in lockdown. It wrote: "Remote work has become increasingly necessary for public safety and wellbeing - which makes staying connected, even while we're apart, more important than ever." Rapidly growing numbers of people are using Meet. Google says they now have the features they need "to share and be productive". Google will introduce more features like blocking out background noise from keystrokes when people type. Users will also be able to improve video quality if the lighting in their room is not good enough.

Sources: <https://www.techradar.com/uk/news/google-meet-update-takes-the-fight-to-zoom>
<https://www.theverge.com/2020/4/22/21231294/google-meet-gallery-tiled-view-roll-out-globally-zoom>
<https://cloud.google.com/blog/products/productivity-collaboration/introducing-tiled-view-and-other-top-requested-features-in-google-meet>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. improved its video conferencing | a. on their screen |
| 2. be able to compete with | b. view |
| 3. users can now see 16 people | c. and friends |
| 4. Previously, there were only | d. other platforms |
| 5. Meet's new gallery | e. four people |
| 6. more people around | f. platform |
| 7. speaking to family | g. online |
| 8. companies are having meetings | h. the world |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. millions around the world | a. be productive |
| 2. staying connected, even while | b. noise |
| 3. Rapidly growing numbers | c. in lockdown |
| 4. they need to share and | d. video quality |
| 5. Google will introduce more | e. of people |
| 6. blocking out background | f. good enough |
| 7. Users will also be able to improve | g. we're apart |
| 8. the lighting in their room is not | h. features |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet-2.html>

Google (1) _____ video conferencing platform Meet to be able to compete (2) _____. One new feature is that users can now see 16 people on their screen. Previously, there were only four people on their screen (3) _____. Meet's new gallery view comes at a time when more people around the (4) _____ video conferencing services. Many people are speaking to family and (5) _____; companies are having meetings online; and schools and universities changed from classroom teaching (6) _____.

Google said Meet (7) _____ around the world in lockdown. It wrote: "Remote work has become increasingly necessary for public (8) _____ - which makes staying connected, even while we're apart, more important than ever." (9) _____ of people are using Meet. Google says they now have the (10) _____ "to share and be productive". Google will introduce more features like blocking out (11) _____ keystrokes when people type. Users will also be able to improve video quality if the lighting in their room is (12) _____.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet-2.html>

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VIDEO CONFERENCING SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about video conferencing 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) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2004/200429-google-meet-2.html>

Write about **video conferencing** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.
