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Level 0 – 2nd March 2023

Sensitivity readers edit James Bond and Roald Dahl books

FREE online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2303/230302-sensitivity-readers-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/2303/230302-sensitivity-readers-0.html>

Book companies are worried that words in old books might upset people. They are editing the books. They edited "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" and the James Bond books.

Companies are using "sensitivity readers" to check for language that might upset people. The language is from 50 years ago. It was okay then.

The James Bond books had racist and sexist words about black characters and women. The books now have a warning. This explains that the books have negative words because they are from the 1950s. One edited word is "fat". This changed to "enormous". The UK's prime minister said it was wrong to edit the books.

Sources: <https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/books/news/james-bond-ian-fleming-books-rewritten-b2289747.html>
<https://www.variety.com/2023/film/news/james-bond-novels-edited-racism-1235536164/>
<https://www.rollingstone.com/culture/culture-news/james-bond-novels-reprinted-racist-language-removed-1234687052/>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2303/230302-sensitivity-readers-0.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Book companies are | a. people |
| 2. words in old books might | b. "sensitivity readers" |
| 3. They are | c. then |
| 4. Companies are using | d. language |
| 5. check for | e. years ago |
| 6. that might upset | f. editing the books |
| 7. The language is from 50 | g. worried |
| 8. It was okay | h. upset people |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. racist and | a. "enormous" |
| 2. words about black characters | b. warning |
| 3. The books now have a | c. was wrong |
| 4. the books have negative | d. sexist |
| 5. they are from the | e. books |
| 6. This changed to | f. and women |
| 7. The UK's prime minister said it | g. 1950s |
| 8. edit the | h. words |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2303/230302-sensitivity-readers-0.html>

Book companies (1) _____ words in old books

(2) _____. They (3) _____

books. They edited "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" and the

James Bond books. Companies are using "sensitivity readers"

(4) _____ language that might upset people. The

(5) _____ 50 years ago. It (6) _____.

The James Bond books (7) _____ sexist words

about black (8) _____. The books now have a

warning. (9) _____ the books have negative

words because they are (10) _____. One edited

(11) _____. This changed to "enormous". The

UK's prime minister said it was (12) _____ the

books.

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2303/230302-sensitivity-readers-0.html>

Book companies are worried that words in old books might upset people.

They are editing the books. They edited "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory"

and the James Bond books. Companies are using "sensitivity readers"

to check for language that might upset people. The language is from 50 years ago.

It was okay then. The James Bond books had racist and sexist words about black characters and women.

The books now have a warning. This explains that the books have negative words because they are from the

1950s. One edited word is "fat". This changed to "enormous". The UK's prime ministers said it was wrong to edit the books.

JAMES BOND SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2303/230302-sensitivity-readers-0.html>

Write five GOOD questions about James Bond 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) _____

