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Palm surgery to change your future

19th July, 2013

http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1307/130719-palm_reading.html

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THE ARTICLE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130719-palm_reading.html

People in Japan are having surgery on their hands to change their future. The Japanese are big believers in palm reading. They spend a lot of money on visiting palm readers. A cheaper palm reading costs around \$70. Many people are unhappy with the lines on their palms. They think some of the lines mean a part of their future will be bad. They are having an operation to change the length and shape of the lines because they hope this will give them a brighter future. The operation takes just 15 minutes and costs about \$1,000. The doctor uses an electric scalpel to burn a line on the palm of the hand. It leaves a scar that takes a month to heal. The line looks like a money-luck line, happiness line or love line.

There are many doctors who say changing the lines on your palm does not work. They say it cannot change your future because it isn't natural. Subodh Gupta, a palm reader from London, agrees. He said: "I read about this surgery and I was very surprised. Even by having surgery, the lines cannot be changed." He added: "If you want to improve your fortune, take physical actions. So if you want greater health, do some exercise." However, people who have had the surgery say it has changed their life. A Tokyo surgeon said he gave a female patient a wedding line and she got married soon after. He said two other patients won the lottery after he made their fortune line longer.

Sources: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-2363917/Palm-surgery-rise-Japan-people-seek-alter-lines-improve-fortune.html>
<http://www.medicaldaily.com/articles/17451/20130716/japanese-palm-surgeries-fortune-fate-japan-trend.htm>

WARM-UPS

1. PALM READING: Students walk around the class and talk to other students about palm reading. Change partners often and share your findings.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

surgery / hands / palm reading / a brighter future / scalpel / a scar / heal / happiness / doctors / natural / surprised / improve / exercise / wedding / won the lottery / fortune

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. CHANGE: What do you want to change? Complete this table and share what you wrote with your partner(s). Change partners often.

	How is it now?	Changes?	Why?
Love			
Work			
English			
My town			
The world			
My looks			

4. PALM READING: Students A **strongly** believe palm reading works; Students B **strongly** believe it's rubbish. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. THE FUTURE: Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the ones that can tell our future at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- palm reading
- computers
- holy books
- Nostradamus
- crystal balls
- statistics
- priests
- other _____

6. SURGERY: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word 'surgery'. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130719-palm_reading.html

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- | | |
|--|-------|
| a. People are having operations on their hands to change their life. | T / F |
| b. An expensive palm reading costs about \$70. | T / F |
| c. People are changing the length but not the shape of their palm lines. | T / F |
| d. The lines from the surgery take four weeks to heal. | T / F |
| e. Doctors and a palm reader don't think the surgery can work. | T / F |
| f. A palm reader said only taking action can change your future. | T / F |
| g. A surgeon said none of the lives of any of his patients have changed. | T / F |
| h. Two people bought lottery tickets but didn't win the lottery. | T / F |

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. surgery | a. better |
| 2. brighter | b. scooped |
| 3. just | c. resembles |
| 4. heal | d. get results |
| 5. looks like | e. doctor |
| 6. work | f. boost |
| 7. natural | g. an operation |
| 8. improve | h. normal |
| 9. surgeon | i. only |
| 10. won | j. recover |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. having surgery on their hands | a. a brighter future |
| 2. big believers | b. fortune |
| 3. they hope this will give them | c. to heal |
| 4. It leaves | d. because it isn't natural |
| 5. takes a month | e. in palm reading |
| 6. it cannot change your future | f. lottery |
| 7. I read about this surgery and I | g. to change their future |
| 8. improve your | h. do some exercise |
| 9. if you want greater health, | i. a scar |
| 10. won the | j. was very surprised |

GAP FILL

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130719-palm_reading.html

People in Japan are having (1) _____ on their hands to change their future. The Japanese are big (2) _____ in palm reading. They spend a lot of money on visiting palm readers. A cheaper palm reading costs (3) _____ \$70. Many people are unhappy with the lines on their palms. They think some of the lines mean a part of their future will be bad. They are having an operation to change the length and (4) _____ of the lines because they hope this will give them a (5) _____ future. The operation takes just 15 minutes and costs about \$1,000. The doctor uses an electric (6) _____ to burn a line on the palm of the hand. It leaves a (7) _____ that takes a month to (8) _____. The line looks like a money-luck line, happiness line or love line.

scalpel
shape
scar
believers
heal
surgery
brighter
around

There are many doctors who say (9) _____ the lines on your palm does not work. They say it cannot change your future because it isn't (10) _____. Subodh Gupta, a palm (11) _____ from London, agrees. He said: "I read about this surgery and I was very surprised. Even by having surgery, the lines cannot be changed." He added: "If you want to (12) _____ your fortune, take physical actions. So if you want greater health, do some (13) _____." However, people who have had the surgery say it has changed their life. A Tokyo (14) _____ said he gave a female (15) _____ a wedding line and she got married soon after. He said two other patients won the (16) _____ after he made their fortune line longer.

improve
patient
reader
lottery
changing
surgeon
natural
exercise

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130719-palm_reading.html

- 1) having surgery on their hands to _____
 - a. charge their future
 - b. change the future
 - c. change their future
 - d. change their futures
- 2) _____ reading costs around \$70
 - a. A cheapest palm
 - b. A cheapo palm
 - c. A cheaper palm
 - d. A cheaper palm
- 3) change the length and shape of the lines because they hope this will give them _____
 - a. a bright air future
 - b. a brighter future
 - c. the brighter future
 - d. a brightly future
- 4) The doctor uses an electric scalpel to _____ the palm
 - a. burnt a line on
 - b. burn a line on
 - c. burns a line on
 - d. burning a line on
- 5) It leaves a scar that takes a _____
 - a. month to heal
 - b. month to feel
 - c. month to heel
 - d. month to heals
- 6) They say it cannot change your future because _____
 - a. it isn't natural
 - b. it isn't unnatural
 - c. it isn't naturally
 - d. it isn't naturals
- 7) I read about this surgery and I _____
 - a. was very surprising
 - b. was very surprised
 - c. was very unsurprised
 - d. was very unsurprising
- 8) So if you want greater health, _____
 - a. do some exercise
 - b. do sum exercise
 - c. do same exercise
 - d. do seem exercise
- 9) he gave a female patient a wedding line and she got _____
 - a. married soon after
 - b. married soon then
 - c. married soonish after
 - d. marriage soon after
- 10) He said two other patients _____
 - a. won a lottery
 - b. won the lottery
 - c. won this lottery
 - d. won them lottery

LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130719-palm_reading.html

People in Japan are having surgery (1) _____ change their future. The Japanese are (2) _____ palm reading. They spend a lot of money on visiting palm readers. A cheaper palm reading costs around \$70. Many people (3) _____ lines on their palms. They think some of the lines mean (4) _____ future will be bad. They are having an operation to change the length and shape of the lines because they hope this will give them (5) _____. The operation takes just 15 minutes and costs about \$1,000. The doctor uses an electric scalpel (6) _____ the palm of the hand. It leaves a scar that takes a month to heal. The line looks like a money-luck line, happiness line or love line.

There are many doctors who say changing the lines on your palm does not work. They say it cannot change your future (7) _____. Subodh Gupta, a palm reader from London, agrees. He said: "I read about this surgery and I (8) _____. Even by having surgery, the lines cannot be changed." He added: "If (9) _____ your fortune, (10) _____. So if you want greater health, do some exercise." However, people who have had the surgery say it has changed their life. A Tokyo surgeon said he (11) _____ a wedding line and she got married soon after. He said two other patients (12) _____ after he made their fortune line longer.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130719-palm_reading.html

1. What do many Japanese people believe in?

2. What do Japanese people spend lot of money on?

3. What are people unhappy about?

4. How long does the operation take?

5. What takes four weeks to heal?

6. Why do some people say it doesn't work?

7. How did a London palm reader feel about palm surgery?

8. What did a palm reader suggest to become healthier?

9. What happened after a woman got a new wedding palm line?

10. What did a surgeon do for two patients to win money?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130719-palm_reading.html

1. What do many Japanese people believe in?
 - a) palm reading
 - b) love at first sight
 - c) God
 - d) themselves
2. What do Japanese people spend lot of money on?
 - a) operations
 - b) their hands
 - c) palm readers
 - d) believing
3. What are people unhappy about?
 - a) the future
 - b) lines on their palms
 - c) palm readers
 - d) themselves
4. How long does the operation take?
 - a) about an hour
 - b) 45 minutes
 - c) 25 minutes
 - d) 15 minutes
5. What takes four weeks to heal?
 - a) the scar
 - b) the memory
 - c) the spirit
 - d) the pain
6. Why do some people say it doesn't work?
 - a) it's rubbish
 - b) we cannot change our destiny
 - c) they tried it
 - d) it isn't natural
7. How did a London palm reader feel about palm surgery?
 - a) hurt
 - b) surprised
 - c) amused
 - d) shocked
8. What did a palm reader suggest to become healthier?
 - a) look after your palms
 - b) eat good food
 - c) read more
 - d) exercise
9. What happened after a woman got a new wedding palm line?
 - a) her wedding was cancelled
 - b) she got divorced
 - c) she got married
 - d) she got a job as a wedding arranger
10. What did a surgeon do for two patients to win money?
 - a) bought them lottery tickets
 - b) gave them a longer fortune line
 - c) gave them advice
 - d) told them to be palm readers

ROLE PLAY

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130719-palm_reading.html

Role A – Palm surgeon

You are totally sure that palm surgery can change people's life. Tell the others three reasons why. People who say palm reading is rubbish do not know what they are talking about. They do not understand the power of palm reading. Tell them about it. Ask them to have an operation.

Role B – Palm reader

Palm reading works. Tell the others three reasons why. Palm surgery doesn't work. Tell the others three reasons why. You think palm surgery is a way to get a lot of money from people who want to change their lives. You think palm surgeons are not honest. They know it doesn't work.

Role C – Happy patient

You had palm surgery twice. You know it works. Tell the others three reasons why. You had your fortune line changed and you became rich. Then you had your wedding line changed and married the perfect partner. You are sure you would not be happy now without the operations.

Role D – Unhappy patient

You've had palm surgery 20 times. You hate it. Tell the others three reasons why. Before your operations, you were rich, married to a wonderful person, and very happy. Now you are poor, divorced and miserable. You spent all your money on operations and your partner divorced you.

AFTER READING / LISTENING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130719-palm_reading.html

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'palm' and 'read'.

palm	read
-------------	-------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• having• spend• part• brighter• takes• looks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• work• natural• surprised• improve• however• won
--	--

PALM READING SURVEY

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130719-palm_reading.html

Write five GOOD questions about palm reading 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.

PALM READING DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'palm reading'?
- c) Do you believe in palm reading?
- d) What do you know about the lines on your palm?
- e) Is there anything that can tell us about our future?
- f) What do you think about palm surgery?
- g) How could it be that new lines on your palm will change your life?
- h) What do you want to know about your future?
- i) If you changed part of your future, what would you change?
- j) What do you think of the \$1,000 cost of palm surgery?

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PALM READING DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) Do you think palm surgery will become popular around the world?
- c) What do people do in your country to find out about their future?
- d) Do you want to know about your future?
- e) What do you think of the advice of the palm reader in the article?
- f) What do you think of people who say palm surgery changed their life?
- g) Do you believe in fate?
- h) Do you think men or women visit palm readers most? Why?
- i) What advice would you give someone about to have palm surgery?
- j) What questions would you like to ask a palm surgeon?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

MULTIPLE CHOICE - LANGUAGE

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130719-palm_reading.html

People in Japan are (1) _____ surgery on their hands to change their future. The Japanese are big (2) _____ in palm reading. They spend a lot of money on visiting palm readers. A cheaper palm reading costs around \$70. Many people are unhappy with the lines on their palms. They think some of the lines (3) _____ a part of their future will be bad. They are having an operation to change the length and shape of the lines because they hope this will give them a (4) _____ future. The operation takes just 15 minutes and costs about \$1,000. The doctor uses an electric scalpel to (5) _____ a line on the palm of the hand. It leaves a scar that takes a month to (6) _____. The line looks like a money-luck line, happiness line or love line.

There are many doctors who say (7) _____ the lines on your palm does not work. They say it cannot change your future because it isn't natural. Subodh Gupta, a palm reader from London, (8) _____. He said: "I read about this surgery and I was very surprised. Even (9) _____ having surgery, the lines cannot be changed." He added: "If you want to (10) _____ your fortune, take physical actions. So if you want greater health, do some exercise." However, people who have had the surgery say it has changed their life. A Tokyo (11) _____ said he gave a female patient a wedding line and she got married soon after. He said two other patients (12) _____ the lottery after he made their fortune line longer.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. | (a) doing | (b) cutting | (c) having | (d) being |
| 2. | (a) believers | (b) beliefs | (c) believes | (d) believs |
| 3. | (a) nasty | (b) mean | (c) define | (d) tight |
| 4. | (a) tighter | (b) whiter | (c) writer | (d) brighter |
| 5. | (a) paint | (b) dig | (c) burn | (d) beat |
| 6. | (a) feel | (b) heal | (c) heel | (d) fail |
| 7. | (a) changing | (b) changes | (c) changed | (d) change |
| 8. | (a) thinks | (b) says | (c) thinks | (d) agrees |
| 9. | (a) that | (b) so | (c) by | (d) at |
| 10. | (a) disprove | (b) improve | (c) reprove | (d) prove |
| 11. | (a) psychologist | (b) surgeon | (c) analyst | (d) dentist |
| 12. | (a) won | (b) achieved | (c) earned | (d) obtained |

SPELLING

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130719-palm_reading.html

Paragraph 1

1. big everbils in palm reading
2. change the lenhtg and shape of the lines
3. a birtrgeh future
4. The ortpaoine takes just 15 minutes
5. The doctor uses an cecrietl scalpel
6. snhppisea line

Paragraph 2

7. it isn't aulrtna
8. I was very rrsidsupe
9. If you want to pomervi
10. do some secereix
11. A Tokyo noeursg
12. he made their tonrufe line longer

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130719-palm_reading.html

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () costs around \$70. Many people are unhappy with the lines on their palms. They think some of the lines
- () mean a part of their future will be bad. They are having an operation to change the length and shape
- () life. A Tokyo surgeon said he gave a female patient a wedding line and she got married soon
- () I was very surprised. Even by having surgery, the lines cannot be changed." He added:
- () exercise." However, people who have had the surgery say it has changed their
- () "If you want to improve your fortune, take physical actions. So if you want greater health, do some
- () just 15 minutes and costs about \$1,000. The doctor uses an electric scalpel to burn a line on the palm of the hand. It leaves a
- (**1**) People in Japan are having surgery on their hands to change their future. The Japanese are big
- () There are many doctors who say changing the lines on your palm does not work. They say it cannot change your future
- () of the lines because they hope this will give them a brighter future. The operation takes
- () believers in palm reading. They spend a lot of money on visiting palm readers. A cheaper palm reading
- () after. He said two other patients won the lottery after he made their fortune line longer.
- () because it isn't natural. Subodh Gupta, a palm reader from London, agrees. He said: "I read about this surgery and
- () scar that takes a month to heal. The line looks like a money-luck line, happiness line or love line.

PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130719-palm_reading.html

1. hands in having their People are on Japan surgery.

2. believers The in Japanese palm are reading big.

3. money on visiting palm readers They spend a lot of.

4. the change to operation An lines the of shape and length.

5. a scar that takes a month to heal It leaves.

6. work on the does your lines not palm Changing.

7. your it change because natural cannot future isn't It.

8. surgery and I was very surprised I read about this.

9. do some exercise So if you want greater health ,.

10. two lottery other patients He won said the.

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130719-palm_reading.html

People in Japan are having *surgeon* / *surgery* on their hands to change their future. The Japanese are big *believers* / *beliefs* in palm reading. They spend a lot of money *on* / *at* visiting palm readers. A cheaper palm reading costs around \$70. Many people are unhappy *but* / *with* the lines on their palms. They think some of the lines mean a *partner* / *part* of their future will be bad. They are having an *operational* / *operation* to change the length and shape of the lines because they hope this will give them a *brighten* / *brighter* future. The operation *takes* / *taking* just 15 minutes and costs about \$1,000. The doctor uses an electric scalpel to *burn* / *burnt* a line on the palm of the hand. It leaves a scar that takes a month to *heel* / *heal*. The line looks like a money-luck line, happiness line or love line.

There are many doctors who say *challenging* / *changing* the lines on your palm does not work. They say it cannot *change* / *charge* your future because it isn't *naturally* / *natural*. Subodh Gupta, a palm reader from London, agrees. He said: "I read about this surgery and I was very *surprising* / *surprised*. Even by *having* / *had* surgery, the lines cannot be changed." He added: "If you want to improve your *fortunately* / *fortune*, take physical actions. So if you want *greater* / *greatness* health, do some exercise." However, people who have had the surgery *says* / *say* it has changed their life. A Tokyo surgeon said he gave a female *patience* / *patient* a wedding line and she got married soon after. He said two other patients *won* / *win* the lottery after he made their fortune line longer.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130719-palm_surgery.html

P__pl_ _n J_p_n _r_ h_v_ng s_rg_ry _n th__r h_nds t_ ch_ng_ th__r f_t_r_. Th_ J_p_n_s_ _r_ b_g b_l__v_rs _n p_lm r__d_ng. Th_y sp_nd _ l_t _f m_n_y _n v_s_t_ng p_lm r__d_rs. _ ch__p_r p_lm r__d_ng c_sts _r__nd \$70. M_ny p__pl_ _r_ _nh_ppy w_th th_ l_n_s _n th__r p_lms. Th_y th_nk s_m_ _f th_ l_n_s m__n _p_rt _f th__r f_t_r_ w_ll b_ b_d. Th_y _r_ h_v_ng _n _p_r_t__n t_ ch_ng_ th_ l_ngth _nd sh_p_ _f th_ l_n_s b_c__s_ th_y h_p_ th_s w_ll g_v_ th_m _ br_ght_r f_t_r_. Th_ _p_r_t__n t_k_s j_st 15 m_n_t_s _nd c_sts _b__t \$1,000. Th_ d_ct_r _s_s _n _l_ctr_c sc_lp_l_t_ b_rn _l_n_ _n th_ p_lm _f th_ h_nd. _t l__v_s _ sc_r th_t t_k_s _ m_nth t_ h__l. Th_ l_n_ l_k_s l_k_ _m_n_y-l_ck l_n_, h_pp_n_ss l_n_ _r l_v_ l_n_.

Th_r_ _r_ m_ny d_ct_rs wh_ s_y ch_ng_ng th_ l_n_s _n y__r p_lm d__s n_t w_rk. Th_y s_y _t c_nn_t ch_ng_ y__r f_t_r_ b_c__s_ _t _sn't n_t_r_l. S_b_dh G_pt_, _p_lm r__d_r fr_m L_nd_n, _gr__s. H_ s__d: "_r__d _b__t th_s s_rg_ry _nd _ w_s v_ry s_rpr_s_d. _v_n by h_v_ng s_rg_ry, th_ l_n_s c_nn_t b_ ch_ng_d." H_ _dd_d: "_f y__ w_nt t_ _mpr_v_ y__r f_rt_n_, t_k_ phys_c_l _ct__ns. S_ _f y__ w_nt gr__t_r h__lth, d_s_m_ _x_rc_s_." H_w_v_r, p__pl_ wh_ h_v_ h_d th_ s_rg_ry s_y _t h_s ch_ng_d th__r l_f_. _ T_ky_ s_rg__n s__d h_ g_v_ _ f_m_l_ p_t__nt _ w_dd_ng l_n_ _nd sh_ g_t m_rr__d s__n _ft_r. H_ s__d tw_ _th_r p_t__nts w_n th_ l_tt_ry _ft_r h_ m_d_ th__r f_rt_n_ l_n_ l_ng_r.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1307/130719-palm_reading.html

people in japan are having surgery on their hands to change their future the japanese are big believers in palm reading they spend a lot of money on visiting palm readers a cheaper palm reading costs around \$70 many people are unhappy with the lines on their palms they think some of the lines mean a part of their future will be bad they are having an operation to change the length and shape of the lines because they hope this will give them a brighter future the operation takes just 15 minutes and costs about \$1000 the doctor uses an electric scalpel to burn a line on the palm of the hand it leaves a scar that takes a month to heal the line looks like a money-luck line happiness line or love line

there are many doctors who say changing the lines on your palm does not work they say it cannot change your future because it isn't natural subodh gupta a palm reader from london agrees he said "i read about this surgery and i was very surprised even by having surgery the lines cannot be changed" he added "if you want to improve your fortune take physical actions so if you want greater health do some exercise" however people who have had the surgery say it has changed their life a tokyo surgeon said he gave a female patient a wedding line and she got married soon after he said two other patients won the lottery after he made their fortune line longer

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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People in Japan are having surgery on their hands to change their future. The Japanese are big believers in palm reading. They spend a lot of money on visiting palm readers. A cheap palm reading costs around \$70. Many people are unhappy with the lines on their palms. They think some of the lines mean a part of their future will be bad. They are having an operation to change the length and shape of the lines because they hope this will give them a brighter future. The operation takes just 15 minutes and costs about \$1,000. The doctor uses an electric scalpel to burn a line on the palm of the hand. It leaves a scar that takes a month to heal. The line looks like a money-luck line, happiness line or love line. There are many doctors who say changing the lines on your palm does not work. They say it cannot change your future because it is not natural. Subodh Gupta, a palm reader from London, agrees. He said: "I read about this surgery and I was very surprised. Even by having surgery, the lines cannot be changed." He added: "If you want to improve your fortune, take physical actions. So if you want greater health, do some exercise." However, people who have had the surgery say it has changed their life. A Tokyo surgeon said he gave a female patient a wedding line and she got married soon after. He said two other patients won the lottery after he made their fortune line longer.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about palm reading. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. PALM READING: Make a poster about palm reading. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. PALM SURGERY: Write a magazine article about palm surgery. Include imaginary interviews with people who think it works and people who think it doesn't work.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to a palm surgeon. Ask him/her three questions about palm surgery. Give him/her three of your opinions on it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a T b F c F d T e T f T g F h F

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 1. surgery | a. better |
| 2. brighter | b. scooped |
| 3. just | c. resembles |
| 4. heal | d. get results |
| 5. looks like | e. doctor |
| 6. work | f. boost |
| 7. natural | g. an operation |
| 8. improve | h. normal |
| 9. surgeon | i. only |
| 10. won | j. recover |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Palm reading
2. Visiting palm readers
3. The lines on their hands
4. 15 minutes
5. The scar
6. It isn't natural
7. Surprised
8. Exercise
9. She got married
10. He gave them a longer fortune line

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. a 2. c 3. b 4. d 5. a 6. d 7. b 8. d 9. c 10. b

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)