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Level 4 Japanese government to play matchmaker

17th March, 2015

http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1503/150317-matchmaking-4.html

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Please try the harder Level 5 and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).



THE READING

From http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1503/150317-matchmaking-4.html

Japan's government is playing Cupid to get more couples to have babies. Japan has one of the lowest birth rates in the world. It is trying new ways to get people to have children. One of these is matchmaking. Japan will support local government projects for speed dating, matchmaking and other ways to coax couples to get together. There will be big efforts over the next five years to fix this "critical situation". Japan could face serious social problems.

One reason for Japan's falling birth rate is the cost of having children. The government hopes it can help with this. These include plans for free nurseries, help with fertility treatment, and taking paternity leave to 80% by 2020. There are also plans to help families with three or more children. By 2060, nearly 40% of people in Japan will be over 65. They already make up 25%. The birth rate fell from 4.54 children per mother in 1947 to just 1.42 in 2014.

Sources: http://www.bbc.com/news/blogs-news-from-elsewhere-31869981 http://time.com/3744317/japan-birth-rate-matchmaking-paternity-leave/ http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2015/03/13/national/social-issues/government-to-supportmatchmaking-mens-child-rearing-to-raise-birth rate/#.VQRJo2ZX-0f

MATCHING

From http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1503/150317-matchmaking-4.html

PARAGRAPH ONE:

1.	Japan's government is	a.	rates in the world
2	get more couples to	b.	couples
3.	one of the lowest birth	с.	the next five years
4.	It is trying	d.	playing Cupid
5.	local	e.	situation
6.	other ways to coax	f.	new ways
7.	big efforts over	g.	government
8.	fix this critical	h.	have babies

PARAGRAPH TWO:

1.	One reason for Japan's	a.	leave
2	the cost of having	b.	help with this
3.	The government hopes it can	c.	fell
4.	These include plans for free	d.	falling birth rate
5.	fertility	e.	or more children
6.	paternity	f.	children
7.	help families with three	g.	treatment
8.	The birth rate	h.	nurseries

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1503/150317-matchmaking-4.html

Japan's government is playing Cupid (1) to have			
babies. Japan has (2) birth rates in the world. It is			
trying (3) people to have children. One of these is			
matchmaking. Japan will support (4) projects for			
speed dating, matchmaking and other (5) couples			
to get together. There will be big efforts over the next five years to fix this			
"critical situation". Japan (6) social problems.			
One reason for Japan's falling (7) cost of having			
children. The government hopes it (8) These			
include plans for free nurseries, help with (9), and			
taking paternity leave to 80% by 2020. There (10)			
to help families with three or more children. (11) of			
people in Japan will be over 65. They already make up 25%. The birth rate			
fell from 4.54 children per mother in 1947 (12)			

MATCHMAKING SURVEY

From http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1503/150317-matchmaking-4.html

Write five GOOD questions about matchmaking in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.

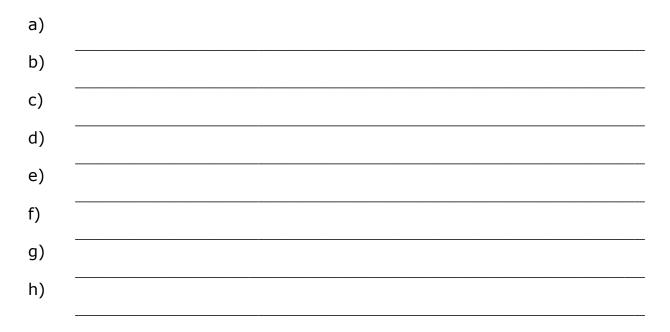
When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	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)

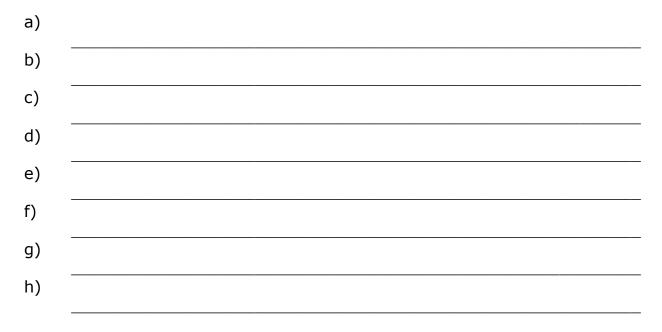
Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).



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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).



FREE WRITING

From http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1503/150317-matchmaking-4.html

Write about **matchmaking** for 10 minutes. Comment on your partner's paper.