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Level 5

Students sell bodies and gamble to survive

3rd July, 2015

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1507/150703-students-5.html>

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Please try Level 4 (easier) and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1507/150703-students-5.html>

British university students are having a hard time making ends meet. They are turning to desperate measures, including gambling, taking out high-interest loans and selling their body to cover their living costs. The website Save the Student (StS) questioned 1,900 students about their finances. It found that the average student got \$750 a month in the form of a student loan. However, average living expenses were \$1,170 a month. This leaves a monthly shortfall of \$420. Students make up the difference in a variety of ways, some of which would cause parents a lot of concern.

The StS poll found that 71 per cent of students got extra money from parents, while 65 per cent worked part-time. Around 46 per cent had a bank overdraft. Seven per cent of the students said that they had "sold their body" to earn additional cash. Others took part in medical trials. Twelve per cent of students said they had gambled to supplement their income. Three per cent took out loans with extortionate interest rates. One student said: "It's frustrating when you're already paying off multiple credit cards at 19." StS said the government was "out of touch with...student needs".

Sources: <https://www.timeshighereducation.co.uk/news/students-sell-body-and-gamble-make-ends-meet>
http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/2015/06/30/students-gambling-selling-bodies-meet-university-costs_n_7694292.html
<http://www.mirror.co.uk/money/personal-finance/skint-students-forced-use-rip-off-5976499>

MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1507/150703-students-5.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. having a hard | a. costs |
| 2. making ends | b. lot of concern |
| 3. turning to desperate | c. student |
| 4. taking out high- | d. time |
| 5. cover their living | e. measures |
| 6. the average | f. shortfall of \$420 |
| 7. This leaves a monthly | g. meet |
| 8. cause parents a | h. interest loans |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. 65 per cent worked | a. their income |
| 2. bank | b. part-time |
| 3. earn additional | c. credit cards |
| 4. Others took part | d. overdraft |
| 5. supplement | e. with student needs |
| 6. extortionate | f. in medical trials |
| 7. paying off multiple | g. interest rates |
| 8. out of touch | h. cash |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1507/150703-students-5.html>

British university students are (1) _____ making ends meet. They are turning to (2) _____, including gambling, taking out high-interest loans and selling their (3) _____ their living costs. The website Save the Student (StS) questioned 1,900 students about their finances. It found that (4) _____ got \$750 a month in the form of a student loan. However, average living expenses were \$1,170 a month. This leaves (5) _____ of \$420. Students make up the difference in a (6) _____, some of which would cause parents a lot of concern.

The StS poll found that 71 per cent of students (7) _____ from parents, while 65 per cent worked part-time. Around 46 per cent had a (8) _____. Seven per cent of the students said that they had "sold their body" to (9) _____. Others took part in medical trials. Twelve per cent of students said they had gambled to (10) _____. Three per cent took out loans with extortionate interest rates. One student said: "It's frustrating when you're already paying off (11) _____ at 19." StS said the government was "out of (12) _____ needs".

STUDENTS SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1507/150703-students-5.html>

Write five GOOD questions about students 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)

g)

h)

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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)

g)

h)

