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## **Level 5**

### **Height may be the key to a happy marriage**

**7th December, 2015**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1512/151207-tall-men-5.html>

## **Contents**

The Reading	2
Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
Survey	5
Discussion	6
Writing	7

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

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1512/151207-tall-men-5.html>

Researchers have found what they think is a key to a happy marriage. The secret ingredient for marital bliss could be a difference in height between the two partners. South Korea's professor Kitae Sohn said the taller a woman's husband is, the happier she is. Mr Sohn said: "A greater height difference in a couple was positively related to the wife's happiness." However, he said the attraction of a tall husband did not last forever and diminishes over time. He said he was surprised that it took around 18 years of marriage for this appeal to disappear.

Professor Sohn was intrigued as to why women preferred taller men. He said: "Although it has been known that women prefer tall men in mating for evolutionary reasons, no study has investigated whether a taller husband makes his wife happier." He analysed data from 7,850 Indonesian women. They did not know why they preferred a taller mate. Sohn wrote: "Women simply like tall men....This is similar to people favoring fatty, salty and sugary foods without knowing exactly why." However, the BBC noted that shorter men can be more stable, better husbands.

Sources: <http://www.myfoxboston.com/story/30670636/a-tall-husband-may-be-the-key-to-a-happy-marriage>  
<http://mic.com/articles/129663/science-says-women-care-quite-a-bit-about-their-partners-height#.WC13q53Ui>  
<http://voicetelegraph.com/2015/12/04/the-secret-to-a-happy-marriage-its-all-in-your-height.html>

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1512/151207-tall-men-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1. a key to a happy                     | a. happiness          |
| 2. he taller a woman's husband is,      | b. was surprised      |
| 3. A greater height                     | c. marriage           |
| 4. positively related to the wife's     | d. of marriage        |
| 5. the attraction of a tall husband did | e. the happier she is |
| 6. diminishes over                      | f. not last forever   |
| 7. He said he                           | g. difference         |
| 8. around 18 years                      | h. time               |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 1. Professor Sohn was intrigued              | a. salty and sugary foods       |
| 2. evolutionary                              | b. why                          |
| 3. a taller husband makes                    | c. reasons                      |
| 4. They did not know why                     | d. better husbands              |
| 5. Women simply                              | e. his wife happier             |
| 6. This is similar to people favoring fatty, | f. as to why                    |
| 7. without knowing exactly                   | g. like tall men                |
| 8. shorter men can be more stable,           | h. they preferred a taller mate |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1512/151207-tall-men-5.html>

Researchers have found what they (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to a happy marriage. The secret ingredient (2) \_\_\_\_\_ could be a difference in height between the two partners. South Korea's professor Kitae Sohn (3) \_\_\_\_\_ a woman's husband is, the happier she is. Mr Sohn said: "A greater height difference (4) \_\_\_\_\_ positively related to the wife's happiness." However, he said the attraction of a tall husband did (5) \_\_\_\_\_ and diminishes over time. He said he was surprised that it took around 18 years of marriage for this (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

Professor Sohn was (7) \_\_\_\_\_ why women preferred taller men. He said: "Although it has been known that women (8) \_\_\_\_\_ mating for evolutionary reasons, no study has investigated (9) \_\_\_\_\_ husband makes his wife happier." He analysed data from 7,850 Indonesian women. They did not know why they (10) \_\_\_\_\_ mate. Sohn wrote: "Women simply like tall men....This is similar to people favoring fatty, (11) \_\_\_\_\_ foods without knowing exactly why." However, the BBC noted that shorter men (12) \_\_\_\_\_, better husbands.

# MARRIAGE SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1512/151207-tall-men-5.html>

Write five GOOD questions about marriage 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*Height may be the key to a happy marriage – 7th December, 2015*  
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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) \_\_\_\_\_

