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Level 4

Mechanic works 75 years to break record

21st July, 2017

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1707/170721-mechanic-4.html>

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Please try Levels 5 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1707/170721-mechanic-4.html>

A worker has broken the world record for the longest-serving airline mechanic. Azriel Blackman, 91, started work in 1942, aged 16 and has worked for 75 years. His starting salary was 50 cents an hour. He works five days a week at JFK International Airport. His age means he can't do some tasks for safety reasons. He can't climb up ladders, drive on the runways or use certain tools. He is responsible for checking the maintenance the airplanes need.

Mr Blackman has been recognized for his work. American Airlines painted his signature on the front of a Boeing 777. The 91-year-old received a standing ovation from his colleagues. Reporters asked him about the secret behind his record. He said: "I'm proud to be a mechanic....When you like what you do, it's not work." When reporters asked him about retirement, he said: "That's not up to me. That's up to the man upstairs."

Sources: <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-40659421>
<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/07/17/nyregion/for-airline-mechanic-91-the-sky-is-one-of-many-limits.html>
<https://www.dallasnews.com/business/american-airlines/2017/07/18/75-years-job-american-airlines-mechanic-still-showingup-early-work>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1707/170721-mechanic-4.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. A worker has broken | a. 75 years |
| 2. the longest-serving | b. in 1942 |
| 3. started work | c. for safety reasons |
| 4. worked for | d. was 50 cents an hour |
| 5. His starting salary | e. the airplanes need |
| 6. He works five | f. the world record |
| 7. he can't do some tasks | g. days a week |
| 8. checking the maintenance | h. airline mechanic |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Mr Blackman has been recognized | a. his record |
| 2. received a standing | b. to me |
| 3. the secret behind | c. ovation |
| 4. I'm proud | d. it's not work |
| 5. When you like what you do, | e. man upstairs |
| 6. reporters asked him about | f. for his work |
| 7. That's not up | g. to be a mechanic |
| 8. That's up to the | h. retirement |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1707/170721-mechanic-4.html>

A worker (1) _____ world record for the longest-serving airline mechanic. Azriel Blackman, 91, (2) _____ 1942, aged 16 and has worked for 75 years. His starting salary (3) _____ hour. He works five days a week at JFK International Airport. (4) _____ he can't do some tasks for safety reasons. He can't (5) _____, drive on the runways or use certain tools. He is responsible (6) _____ maintenance the airplanes need.

Mr Blackman has been recognized (7) _____. American Airlines painted (8) _____ the front of a Boeing 777. The 91-year-old received (9) _____ from his colleagues. Reporters asked him about the secret behind his record. He said: "I'm (10) _____ mechanic....When you like what you do, it's not work." When reporters (11) _____ retirement, he said: "That's not up to me. (12) _____ man upstairs."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1707/170721-mechanic-4.html>

A worker has broken the world record for the longest-serving airline mechanic. Azriel Blackman, 91, started working in 1942, aged 16 and has worked for 75 years. His starting salary was 50 cents an hour. He works five days a week at JFK International Airport. His age means he can't do some tasks for safety reasons. He can't climb ladders, drive on the runways or use certain tools. He is responsible for checking the maintenance the airplane needs. Mr Blackman has been recognized for his work. American Airlines painted his signature on the front of a Boeing 777. The 91-year-old received a standing ovation from his colleagues. Reporters asked him about the secret behind his record. He said: "I'm proud to be a mechanic.... When you like what you do, it's not work." When reporters asked him about retirement, he said: "That's not up to me. That's up to the man upstairs."

WORKING AGE SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1707/170721-mechanic-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about working age 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) _____

