

www.**Breaking News English**.com

Ready-to-Use English Lessons by Sean Banville

**"1,000 IDEAS & ACTIVITIES
FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS"**

www.breakingnewsenglish.com/book.html

**Thousands more free lessons
from Sean's other websites**

www.freeeslmaterials.com/sean_banville_lessons.html

Level 2

Why do children go to school?

3rd September, 2016

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160903-school-2.html>

Contents

The Reading	2
Phrase Matching	3
Listening Gap Fill	4
No Spaces	5
Survey	6
Writing and Speaking	7
Writing	8

Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

Twitter



twitter.com/SeanBanville

Facebook



www.facebook.com/pages/BreakingNewsEnglish/155625444452176

Google +



<https://plus.google.com/+SeanBanville>

THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160903-school-2.html>

What is school for? It's an easy question, but a poll in the USA shows people have different opinions on school. The poll is called the 'Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools'. It is from a worldwide group of teachers called PDK International. PDK asked Americans to name the biggest purpose of school. Just 45 per cent of people said the main goal was to prepare students to pass exams. Around a quarter of people said it was to get kids ready to find a job. Just over 26 per cent of Americans said the biggest reason for school was to teach children about citizenship.

Joshua Starr, CEO of PDK, said the poll questioned whether schools were doing the right thing and if they were, "what the public wants". He quoted from author James Baldwin, who said in 1963 that the purpose of school is "to ask questions of the universe and learn to live with those questions." Students had different ideas about school. Elena Brankov, 15, said it was to teach children to be creative, to share ideas and to use technology to make the world a better place. Lyndon Bailey, also 15, said school, "is just to make poor kids into robots who work and make rich people richer".

Sources: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/answer-sheet/wp/2016/08/29/why-do-kids-go-to-school-americans-are-divided-on-the-answer-a-new-poll-shows/>
<http://www.usnews.com/news/articles/2016-08-29/confusion-over-purpose-of-us-education-system>
<https://edsources.org/2016/national-poll-shows-differing-views-about-focus-of-public-education/568712>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160903-school-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. What is school for? | a. group of teachers |
| 2. people have different | b. about citizenship |
| 3. It is from a worldwide | c. students to pass exams |
| 4. name the biggest purpose | d. opinions |
| 5. the main goal was to prepare | e. of school |
| 6. Around a quarter | f. to find a job |
| 7. get kids ready | g. It's an easy question. |
| 8. teach children | h. of people |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. questioned whether schools were | a. questions of the universe |
| 2. He quoted from | b. better place |
| 3. school is to ask | c. richer |
| 4. Students had different ideas | d. doing the right thing |
| 5. teach children | e. robots |
| 6. make the world a | f. about school |
| 7. just to make poor kids into | g. to be creative |
| 8. make rich people | h. an author |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160903-school-2.html>

What is school for? It's (1) _____, but a poll in the USA shows people have (2) _____ school. The poll is called the 'Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools'. It is from a worldwide (3) _____ called PDK International. PDK asked Americans to name the (4) _____ school. Just 45 per cent of people said the main goal was to prepare students to pass exams. Around (5) _____ people said it was to get kids ready to find a job. Just over 26 per cent of Americans said the (6) _____ school was to teach children about citizenship.

Joshua Starr, CEO of PDK, said the (7) _____ schools were doing (8) _____ and if they were, "what the public wants". He (9) _____ James Baldwin, who said in 1963 that the purpose of school is "to ask questions of the universe and (10) _____ those questions." Students had different ideas about school. Elena Brankov, 15, said it was to teach children to be creative, to share ideas and to use technology (11) _____ a better place. Lyndon Bailey, also 15, said school, "is just to make poor kids into robots (12) _____ rich people richer".

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160903-school-2.html>

What is school for? It's a simple question, but a poll in the USA shows people have different opinions on school. The poll is called the 'Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools'. It is from a worldwide group of teachers called PDK International. PDK asked American students the biggest purpose of school. Just 45 percent of people said the main goal was to prepare students to pass exams. Around a quarter of people said it was to get kids ready to find a job. Just over 26 percent of Americans said the biggest reason for school was to teach children about citizenship. Joshua Starr, CEO of PDK, said the poll questioned whether schools were doing the right thing and if they were, "what the public wants". He quoted from author James Baldwin, who said in 1963 that the purpose of school is "to ask questions of the universe and learn to live with those questions." Students had different ideas about school. Elena Brankov, 15, said it was to teach children to be creative, to share ideas and to use technology to make the world a better place. Lyndon Bailey, also 15, said school, "is just to make poor kids into robots who work and make rich people richer".

SCHOOL SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160903-school-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about school 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) _____

Why do children go to school? – 3rd September, 2016
More free lessons at www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

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

a) _____

b) _____

c) _____

d) _____

e) _____

f) _____

WRITING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1609/160903-school-2.html>

Write about **school** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.
