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## Level 5

### Chinese couples asked to take divorce exam

5th June, 2018

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180605-china-divorce-5.html>

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Please try Levels 4 and 6. They are (a little) harder.

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180605-china-divorce-5.html>

China is looking at a new way of stopping the country's increasing divorce rate. Couples who file for divorce are being asked to take an exam to find out how much they love each other and whether the marriage can be saved. Up to half of Chinese marriages between those born in the 1980s have ended in divorce. People say the rising divorce rate is because of there being more working women. They are more financially independent and less in need of a partner. The rise of social media and dating apps has added to the problem. Now there are more extramarital affairs.

The divorce test has had a mixed reaction. A marriage-registration office said the test was aimed at reducing the divorce rate and preventing "impulsive divorces". It said: "Only the harmony of millions of family units can achieve the harmony of an entire society." Other Chinese people were less enthusiastic about the 15-question test. One post on social media asked: "So if you remember your wedding anniversary you can't divorce? Divorce isn't a case of amnesia." Another wrote: "They are adults and they have the right to divorce. This is interference in domestic affairs."

Sources: <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/06/02/warring-chinese-couples-take-divorce-exams-reflect-marriage/>  
<http://www.businessinsider.com/china-makes-couples-take-exam-before-divorce-allowed-2018-5>  
<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/05/30/world/asia/china-divorce-quiz.html>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180605-china-divorce-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                           |                    |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. couples who file       | a. of social media |
| 2. find out how much they | b. rate            |
| 3. the rising divorce     | c. affairs         |
| 4. more financially       | d. for divorce     |
| 5. less in need of        | e. love each other |
| 6. The rise               | f. apps            |
| 7. dating                 | g. independent     |
| 8. extramarital           | h. a partner       |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. mixed                | a. of amnesia        |
| 2. preventing impulsive | b. media             |
| 3. the harmony of       | c. domestic affairs  |
| 4. social               | d. divorces          |
| 5. wedding              | e. reaction          |
| 6. Divorce isn't a case | f. to divorce        |
| 7. they have the right  | g. anniversary       |
| 8. interference in      | h. an entire society |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180605-china-divorce-5.html>

China is looking at a new (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the country's increasing divorce rate. Couples who (2) \_\_\_\_\_ are being asked to take an exam to find out how much they love each other and whether the marriage (3) \_\_\_\_\_. Up to half of Chinese marriages between those born in the 1980s (4) \_\_\_\_\_ divorce. People say the rising divorce rate is because of there being more working women. They are more financially independent and (5) \_\_\_\_\_ of a partner. The rise of social media and dating apps has added to the problem. Now there (6) \_\_\_\_\_ affairs.

The divorce test has had (7) \_\_\_\_\_. A marriage-registration office said the test was (8) \_\_\_\_\_ the divorce rate and preventing "impulsive divorces". It said: "Only the harmony of millions of family units can (9) \_\_\_\_\_ of an entire society." Other Chinese people (10) \_\_\_\_\_ about the 15-question test. One post on social media asked: "So if you remember your wedding anniversary you can't divorce? Divorce isn't a (11) \_\_\_\_\_." Another wrote: "They are adults and they have the right to divorce. This is interference (12) \_\_\_\_\_."

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180605-china-divorce-5.html>

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# DIVORCE TESTS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1806/180605-china-divorce-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about divorce tests 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) \_\_\_\_\_

