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**Level 2** – 17th August, 2019

## Full stop seen as rude in text messages

**FREE** online quizzes, mp3 listening and more for this lesson here:

<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190817-full-stop-2.html>

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

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# THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190817-full-stop-2.html>

A language expert says ending sentences in text messages with a full stop can look rude. In American English, a full stop is called a period. The expert says more people think ending messages with a full stop is rude. She said this is most common in younger people who use instant messaging apps like Twitter. She added that people prefer to send a completely new message instead of ending a sentence with a full stop. She said: "If you're a young person and you're sending a message to someone, the default way to break up your thoughts is to send each thought as a new message."

The full stop goes back 2,300 years. It is an essential part of writing. Teachers can put comments in red ink on a student's writing if he or she forgets the full stop. However, technology is changing how we write. Most people now use abbreviations, acronyms, emojis or emoticons :-). People might use the acronym 'LOL' instead of 'laugh out loud,' or the abbreviation 'fyi' rather than 'for your information'. Not using the full stop in text messages helps the writer save time. The expert said a full stop can also make the writer look a little aggressive.

Sources: <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-49182824>  
<https://www.thesun.co.uk/tech/9630409/whatsapp-full-stops-rude-text-meaning/>  
<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/article-7309543/Internet-linguist-reveals-using-stops-text-messages-make-look-passive-aggressive.html>

# PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190817-full-stop-2.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. a language            | a. new message       |
| 2. text                  | b. way               |
| 3. this is most common   | c. expert            |
| 4. use instant messaging | d. a new message     |
| 5. send a completely     | e. messages          |
| 6. the default           | f. up your thoughts  |
| 7. break                 | g. apps              |
| 8. send each thought as  | h. in younger people |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                           |                        |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. The full stop goes     | a. how we write        |
| 2. It is an essential     | b. forgets             |
| 3. comments in red        | c. a little aggressive |
| 4. if he or she           | d. 'laugh out loud'    |
| 5. technology is changing | e. ink                 |
| 6. acronyms, emojis       | f. back 2,300 years    |
| 7. 'LOL' instead of       | g. or emoticons        |
| 8. make the writer look   | h. part of writing     |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190817-full-stop-2.html>

A (1) \_\_\_\_\_ ending sentences in text messages with a full stop (2) \_\_\_\_\_. In American English, a full stop is called a period. The expert says more people think ending messages with a full stop is rude. She said this (3) \_\_\_\_\_ in younger people who use instant messaging apps like Twitter. She added that people (4) \_\_\_\_\_ a completely new message instead of ending a sentence with a full stop. She said: "If you're a young person and you're (5) \_\_\_\_\_ to someone, the default way to (6) \_\_\_\_\_ thoughts is to send each thought as a new message."

The full (1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2,300 years. It is an essential part of writing. Teachers can put comments (2) \_\_\_\_\_ on a student's writing if he or she forgets the full stop. However, technology is changing how we write. Most people now use abbreviations, acronyms, (3) \_\_\_\_\_ :-). People might use the acronym 'LOL' instead of (4) \_\_\_\_\_ ' or the abbreviation 'fyi' rather than 'for your information'. Not using the full stop (5) \_\_\_\_\_ helps the writer save time. The expert said a full stop can also make the writer look (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190817-full-stop-2.html>

A language expert says sending sentences in text messages with a full stop can look rude. In American English, a full stop is called a period. The expert says more people think ending messages with a full stop is rude. She said it is the most common in younger people who use instant messaging apps like Twitter. She added that people prefer to send a completely new message instead of ending a sentence with a full stop. She said: "If you're a young person and you're sending a message to someone, the default way to break up your thoughts is to send each thought as a new message." The full stop goes back 2,300 years. It is an essential part of writing. Teachers can put comments in red ink on a student's writing if he or she forgets the full stop. However, technology is changing how we write. Most people now use abbreviations, acronyms, emojis and emoticons: -) People might use the acronym 'LOL' instead of 'laugh out loud', or the abbreviation 'fyi' rather than 'for your information'. Not using the full stop in text messages helps the writer save time. The expert said a full stop can also make the writer look a little aggressive.

# THE FULL STOP SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190817-full-stop-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about the full stop 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) \_\_\_\_\_

*Full stop seen as rude in text messages – 17th August, 2019*  
More free lessons at [breakingnewsenglish.com](http://breakingnewsenglish.com)

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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) \_\_\_\_\_

# WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/1908/190817-full-stop-2.html>

Write about **the full stop** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner’s paper.

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